

TIM BRETT'S REPORT
LEUCHARS COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday 03 October 2017

I. Matters Arising from Meeting on 5 September

- a. **MOD Housing** – Following the last meeting I have seen a copy of a response to Fife Council from a Richard Souter from DIO. He indicated that he expects the number of surplus houses at Leuchars in Cupar to remain fairly static over the next couple of years. DIO have identified circa 130 surplus properties which includes the 30 properties in Cupar. There had been interest from St Andrews University to lease a number of the houses but the University withdrew their interest at the last moment. As a result, DIO have pursued their original intent to rent out direct to the market and interest has been good and a number of properties have now been let. I understand that the properties are being let to local families albeit at market rates (£495 - £675 per calendar month). I am aware that Fife Council would have been interested in letting the properties if they had been available on a three year short term basis and the Council are now concerned that the present arrangements could lead to homelessness when the tenancies are not renewed.
- b. **Issues at St Michaels** – I have asked for an update on work that was to be done at St Michaels regarding speeding traffic.
- c. **Madras College** – A successful meeting was held with the Rector on 19 September for Elected Members and Mr McClure highlighted a number of issues and concerns.
The Council's Children's and Education Committee are today considering the Educational Consultation response on the new school. 98.5% of respondents supported the site of the new school at Langlands.
We are now awaiting the submission of planning applications.
- d. **Community Council Insurance** – I believe the contact for this is Beth Flynn.

2. New Items

- A. **Drop-off Bay Leuchars Railway Station Car Park** - Transportation Services have suggested that 2 bays close to the station should be designated for drop-off with a maximum of 20 minutes.
- B. **FifePlan** has now been adopted and is available at www.fifedirect.org.uk/fifeplan.
- C. **Street Name Signs** - There is a backlog of nearly 100 street signs that need replacing in North East Fife. Could you let me know of any street name issues in Leuchars?
- D. **North Fife Cycling** - A further meeting of the group was held on 18th September. A survey of local cyclists resulted in 381 responses. My colleague Cllr Jonny Tepp is taking forward issues in relation to the maintenance of roads and the impact on cyclists.
- E. **Our Plan for Fife** - There is an online consultation until the end of October. "For the first time in Fife there is one plan for the future of public services - one plan that the Council and its partners have signed up to and provide a vision for Fife for the next 10 years."
<http://fish.fife/fish/blogs/index.cfm?fuseaction=blogs.blogentry&objectid=02CB2453-D13A-36AB-D1D948774E159E1A>

The plan aims to reduce inequalities, increase employment and tackle climate change”.

- F. **Proposal to extend the 40mph speed limit to beyond the Fordell Hill bend on the A914** - Following representations from a local resident a proposal regarding the above will be submitted to the North East Fife Area Committee.
- G. **Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland Act 2016)** - Elected Members have received a briefing on the impact of the above Act which will be coming into effect in December.
- H. **Universal Credit** - Will be rolled out to all DD6 addresses from the 10th November and all other addresses at the end of the year. If you know of any families who will be affected by this they can attend one of the Council's Job Clubs or seek advice from Citizens Advice and Rights Fife.

Items for Information

- i) North East Fife Ladies Probus Club - meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 10.30 am for 11.00 am in Newport on Tay Church Hall, Blyth Street. New members are welcome.
- ii) I attended the Tay Estuary Forum Annual Conference on Friday 15th September.
- iii) Citizens Advice and Rights Fife held their 20th Anniversary AGM on the 22nd September. In 2016/17 there were over 26,000 active clients accessing their services and 63,500 issues were dealt with on behalf of clients. The financial gain to clients was almost £11.5m and volunteers contributed over 22,000 hours of their time. There were almost 50,000 visits to the CARF website and there were 1,300 multiple debt cases dealt with and over £10.5m of debt. To contact CARF use their website at www.CABfife.org.uk or ring 0345 1400095.
- iv) Freedom Hub Café for women who have been subject to domestic abuse will be holding events in Dunfermline and Kirkcaldy. For more information contact SAJScotland@yahoo.co.uk
- v) I have received a copy of the East Fife Sports Council newsletter.
- vi) Safedrive Stay Alive event Wednesday 8th November, Rothes Halls, Glenrothes from 5.45 pm. In the last 10 years 1,852 people aged between 16 and 25 have been injured and 39 have been killed on Fife's roads. Please help to reduce these numbers.

Councillor Tim Brett
Tuesday 03 October 2017