

## LEUCHARS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Meeting held in the Community Centre, Leuchars' 3 February 2015

Present: Carroll Finnie (Chair), Trish Graham (Secretary), Mark Sharp (Treasurer), Jim Finnie, Gordon Bruce (Drawdown Chief of Staff), Maj Kev McDowell, Wg Cdr Neville Clayton, Flt Sgt Simon Mitchell, Cllr Bill Connor, Cllr Tim Brett

Item	Action Point
<b>1. Chair's opening remarks:</b> CF welcomed everyone and introduced WPC Suzie Martin to the group.	
WPC Martin spoke to the group about her background and the new community policing arrangements: she works alongside another police officer (Norrie Hill). Together they cover the Taybridgehead area and will provide an 'on-the-beat' presence in Leuchars, Balmullo, Guardbridge, Newport and Wormit. Either she or PC Hill will attend the community council meetings periodically. Contact telephone number is 101.	
<b>2. Apologies:</b> Jillian Russell, Joyce Edmonston, Dave Baxter, Cllr Maggie Taylor	
<b>3. Approval of minutes of 2 December 2014</b> CF approved the minutes; JF seconded..	
<b>4. RAF/Army issues:</b> Wg Cdr Clayton: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The drawdown remains on track. The official handover to the Army is 31.03.15 when there will be a flag change/handover ceremony. This will be a low-key event. More details will be available in March.</li> <li>b. Leuchars will continue to be maintained as a diversionary airfield.</li> <li>c. The RAF is considering making donations locally including to the church.</li> <li>d. CF thanked NC for the donation to the church of the RAF chalice.</li> </ol> Maj K McDowell <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>e. Several families from Germany have visited the area and attended a civic reception hosted by Fife Council. The visit had been very successful.</li> <li>f. Representatives of the NHS, Education etc have visited Germany to ensure a smooth transition for the families.</li> <li>g. A small number of RMP and REME are in post.</li> <li>h. Eight more civilian posts have been advertised today, with another 6 to be advertised locally.</li> <li>i. CF asked about the difficulty of booking the community centre. It was explained this is only temporary during the lead up to the official handover.</li> <li>j. The depth of the plinth for the RAF Leuchars stones needs to be established and whether the stones are attached to the plinth. A brief</li> </ol>	

on the time frame for this should be known for the next CC meeting.	
<b>5. Police issues</b> See note under Chair's opening remarks.	
<b>6. Matters arising:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>War Memorial: the supporting letter from Sir Menzies Campbell is to be sent to the War Memorial Conservation Office with a request for an application form for removing the memorial.</li> <li>The work on the Olde Hotel is now complete.</li> <li>Local Plan – Doocot/Castle Field: Planning has lapsed, however, there are other developers interested. It will be at least two years before any development goes ahead, assuming planning permission is granted.</li> <li>Fife Council budget will be approved 12.2.15. Cllr Brett will be meeting with the manager of St David' Day Care Centre the Leng Resource Centre.</li> <li>There is no more news regarding the Station. Cllr Brett has written again to Network Rail. The landowner has not agreed to the price; Fife Council has started a compulsory purchase order.</li> <li>Heartstart defibrillator situated outside of the GP surgery needs to be checked once a week.</li> </ol>	TG
<b>7. Fife Council issues and action points</b>  Cllr Connor <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heritage pear trees are available. The CC asked for 12 trees for Junction Gardens.</li> <li>Roderick Campbell MSP will hold his surgery in Henderson Hall, Leuchars on 6.2.2 at 14.00.</li> <li>Free 'silver surfers' course in Tayport Library 22.1.15-26.3.15, Thurs pm 13.30-15.30. Call Nick Brown 07932 038041 or Fiona Campbell 03451 555555 ext 456894 for information.</li> <li>Cooking on a budget – Rio Community Centre, Newport, Weds 10-12 noon, 21.1.15-25.3.15. Call Nicki Brown 07932 038041 for information.</li> <li>Charities which meet the water and sewerage exemption scheme requirements and have an income less than £200,000 will no longer need to pay water and sewerage charge. Those with an income between £200,000-£300,000 will pay a reduced rate. Scheme comes into effect 1.4.15, but application can be made now. Further information available at: <a href="http://www.scoltnad.gov.uk/Topics/Business-Industry/waterindustryscot/watercharges">http://www.scoltnad.gov.uk/Topics/Business-Industry/waterindustryscot/watercharges</a></li> <li>The Madras College follow up report was very good.</li> </ol> Cllr Brett <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fife Council is working with local businesses in Leuchars to help alleviate problems arising from the lack of custom they are experiencing during the RAF/Army transition period. Reducing business rates is being considered.</li> <li>Leuchars Consultation Area Appraisal: TB will ask for someone to come to the next meeting to explain this further.</li> <li>Forestry Commission proposals for Tentsmuir and Reres Forest are now out for consultation.</li> <li>There will be new Early Years arrangements in the summer.</li> </ol>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>k. Guidance on community ownership of renewables is available.</li> <li>l. Fire safety checks are available on request.</li> <li>m. The Common Housing List comprises housing availability for Fife Council and all housing associations.</li> <li>n. The CC should send confirmation to Linda Bissett that the CC is in agreement with having two young people attend the CC meetings.</li> </ul>	TG
<p>8. <b>Correspondence:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Update on the three-way temporary traffic lights (to facilitate BT work). Email from Cllr Brett 1.12.14.</li> <li>2. Local Plan: Explanation from Ben Ellis (planner) for the changes within the Proposed Local Development Plan. Emails from Cllr Brett 3.12.14 and email to A Stewart from Cllr Brett 5.12.14.</li> <li>3. Response to enquiry from A Spence about faster broadband. Email from Morag Miller to Cllr Brett 3.3.12 and 15.12.14.</li> <li>4. Local Community Planning Budget Application form changed. Email from C Finnie 6.12.14</li> <li>5. Request to Sir Ming Campbell to support moving of the war memorial to the village. Email from Cllr Brett 22.12.14</li> <li>6. Temporary road closure B95 from St Michaels to Q4 Craigie Jct. Email from Cllr Brett 7.1.15</li> <li>7. Cooption of young people onto Leuchars CC. Email from Linda Bissett 7.1.15</li> <li>8. Fife Cultural Consortium news items. Email from Karen Taylor 9.1.15</li> <li>9. Station Commander Gerry Mayhew presenting the RAF chalice to St Athernase 25.01.15. Email from C Finnie 12.1.15.</li> <li>10. Invitation to meet army families relocating to Leuchars 28.1.15. Email from C Finnie 16.1.15</li> <li>11. Localities Consultation Report published. Email W Welsh 14.01.15</li> <li>12. Carriageway resurfacing B945 St Michaels to Tayport. Email from Cllr Brett 22.1.15</li> <li>13. Guardbridge bridge concrete investigation 3-5 Feb (7.00pm-6.00am). Email A Houliston 21.1.15</li> <li>14. Renewal of community council insurance. Email D Cassells 28.1.15.</li> <li>15. Update on Castle Field as a candidate site in the Local Plan. Email from Robert Richmond 30.01.15</li> <li>16. Leuchars Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan. Email from Cllr Brett 1.2.15</li> </ul> <p>North East Fife Area Committee meeting 21.1.15 agenda &amp; papers North East Fife Area Committee meeting 4.2.15 agenda &amp; papers</p>	
<p><b>A.O.C.B</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. CF: there is planning application for a bungalow at St Michael's Golf Club. There were no objections.</li> <li>b. CF: The planters need emptying and the CC need to decide what is needed for this year. MS confirmed the CC will have a £370 floral grant in due course. This will bring the total funds to £1393.27 (less £30.80 for the memorial wreath). Guardbridge CC would like the old hanging baskets, ie the small hanging baskets previously used outside local businesses.</li> </ul>	

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 3 March 2015 at 7.00pm in The Community Centre**  
**Members of the public are welcome to attend**