**Present:**

Phillip Atkinson, Brendan Burns, Christine Dewar, Mark Johnston, Alex MacDonald, George McLauchlan, Carole-Anne Patterson, Andy Smith, Derek Turnbull, Yvonne Crombie, Anne Smith.

**Attending:**

Cllr. Backhouse, Cllr. Langlands, Cllr. Lesley, Bill Kirkhope (Burgh Buzz), Ian Ralph (Central Burntisland Tenants and Residents Association. CBTRA), 6 members of public.

1. **Chairman’s Opening Remarks and Apologies for Absence:**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2019. A resignation notice was received from Natalie Paul, this was due to other commitments. After discussion it was decided to leave filling the vacancy until April. The vacancy would be advertised giving the opportunity for anyone interested in joining to attend two or three of the forthcoming meetings. A closed session will be held at the end of the public meeting. Apologies for absence were received from John Bruce, Lesley-Anne Cronin, Bruce Stuart, Tim Hailey.

Action- *Alex* to send Burgh Buzz short article on vacancies.

1. **Minutes of previous meeting (14th December 2018):**

The Minutes were proposed by Christine Dewar and seconded by Carole-Anne Paterson.

1. **Secretary’s Report:**
   1. Members were advised that a list of possible funding opportunities provided by Cllr. Langlands was available on the Community Council website. An email sent by a member of the public with regard to litter around the local primary school will be passed on to the school. A range of training courses to be held by Fife Council for Community Councillors is still open, any members wishing to take advantage please contact the Secretary.

*Action- George to pass on e mail to BPS.*

1. **Treasurers Report:**
   1. See Appendix 1
2. **Police Business:**
   1. No report had been received. Bill Kirkhope advised that he had received a comprehensive report for the past three months which showed a considerable reduction in reported crimes compared with the previous year. The past months report will be passed to members when it is received.

*Action- George to pass on any police report to members.*

1. **Environment Report:**
   1. Alex MacDonald read out a report from John Bruce. John had attended a meeting of CBTRA, on 8th January. Concern was raised with regard to the increase of dog mess on certain streets. The possibility of using coloured spray to highlight dog mess was raised. CBTRA said that they had volunteers willing to take on the job. John asked for members’ views. John has also spoken to Paul Dow about creating more ‘Pick’n Fix boxes, and introduce them to further areas.
   2. Discussion of John’s proposals was met with mixed feelings. Everyone agreed that dog fowling was a problem. It was pointed out that it had already been decided that the use of coloured spray was problematic and best avoided. This would be up to CBTRA to decide if they wished to pursue. Ian Ralph said that his group was not promoting vigilante tactics, but only wished to highlight the problem. It was agreed that the installation of further Pick’n Fix boxes would be a good thing, this should be looked into further by John Bruce.
   3. Alex MacDonald suggested that everyone should continue supporting the Wardens and Safer Community officers and encourage members of the public to report problem dog walkers.

*Action-John Bruce to report back on proposed number of Pick’n Fix boxes and locations.*

1. **Planning:**
   1. Alex MacDonald brought members attention to the refusal of planning permission for the old Cooper Church site on Kirkgate. Anne Smith thought that this may be an opportunity for other organisations to step in and address the problems of the area. Cllr. Langlands suggested that any proposals should wait until the planning appeal process is completed. Meanwhile, Ian Ralph (CBTRA), said that he is pursuing Fife Council to make the area safe.
2. **Burgh Buzz:**
   1. Bill Kirkhope advised members that the copy deadline is Sunday 13th January. Bill also advised that his advertising co-ordinator would be leaving and he is looking for a replacement.
3. **Other Business:**
   1. Tom Courts donation. Alex MacDonald advised members that he had received a cheque for £1000, from Tom Courts, Butcher. Tom asked for donations to be given to two specific organisations and left the remainder to be distributed by the Community Council. Decisions on distribution would be taken in private session.
   2. Docks Area. Anne Smith advised members that a caravan had been parked on waste ground for several months. Cllr. Backhouse said that she had been in contact with Forth Ports regarding this. There had been a number of complaints with regard to Forth Ports closing part of the dock area during unloading of cargo ships. Andy Smith thought that this should not be happening and that the route being a right-of-way, an alternative option should be available. Alex MacDonald said that he would contact Forth Ports to raise our concerns.
   3. Lammerlaws. Anne Smith advised members that she will be meeting with Elspeth Christie the SNH Operations Officer for Forth SSS, to discuss plant life in the area. The meeting will take place on 22nd January at 10.00pm from the beach carpark. Anyone wishing to attend please meet at carpark.
   4. CBTRA. Ian Ralph advised members that his group were pursuing the use of new seagull-proof bins. They were also working with FAB to provide new benches and planters for the central area.
   5. Toll Park Burn. Cllr. Langlands indicated that Fife Council were considering cleaning out the burn. Andy Smith suggested that this needed to be done soon to avoid the start of a new breeding season.
   6. Links Management. Andy Smith has had no further contact with Fife Council regarding the action points from the last meeting. The van currently parked at the Roundhouse car park was to have been moved. Cllr. Langlands said that he was working with representatives of the showmen to remove this. Andy will pursue the outstanding issues with Fife Council.
   7. Community Action Plan. Alex MacDonald said that he was working on producing a update to the Community Action Plan.
   8. Dalgetty Bay Pantomime. Christine Dewar advised members that she had received a number of free tickets to this pantomime on 22nd January, these had been distributed. Christine requested assistance with driving, Cllr Backhouse volunteered.
   9. Change Works. Cllr. Langlands drew members attention to this energy efficiency initiative which has set up on the High Street. This is a follow on from the energy survey conducted last year. An open session is being held at the High Street shop on Tuesday 22nd January, 11am -1230pm. Members were encouraged to attend.
   10. Safe Places. Mark Johnston asked the Community Council to support the Government’s Safe Places Scheme which is supported by Police Scotland. It was agreed that Mark should investigate further and report back to council.

*Action- Cllr Backhouse to report back on caravan at dock area, assisting with taxiing for panto on 22nd. Alex MacDonald to send letter to Forth Ports with regard to public access. Alex to write updated sheet for Community Action Plan. Members reminded of meeting for Lammerlaws on 22nd January and Change Works energy saving scheme again 22nd January. Mark Johnston to report back on proposals for adopting Safer Places Scheme.*

1. **New Business:**

10.1 Community Award 2019. Alex MacDonald informed members that he had great pleasure in informing Willi Henderson of her success in being given this year’s award. The presentation will take place in the Burgh Chambers on Friday 22nd February 2019. Further details will be notified.

1. **Awaiting Update:**
   1. Burgh Chambers. George McLauchlan informed members that he was still awaiting the final report. He hoped that this would be available to members before the next meeting.
   2. Christmas Lights. George McLauchlan informed members that the lights had been dismantled and the tree lights switched of. It was agreed that this year’s lights had been successful and it was hoped to expand the display in the coming year. Carole-Anne Paterson asked members to sign up on the co-op website to support Burntisland Christmas Lights as the Good Cause of choice for the coming year.
   3. Cemetery Signage: George McLauchlan informed members that the stand had been delivered to Fife Council and that the artwork was awaited. A date for unveiling will be arranged in the spring.
   4. Paths Group. Anne Smith informed members that she has been in contact with Fife Council regarding the fence alongside the pathway along the Toll Burn. This is due to be replaced within the next three months. Robbie Blyth from Fife Council is to submit a report on the pathway at the Binn Pond-Gale Slap. This will be passed on to members when available. Anne had reported overflowing dog waste bins over the New Year Christmas period. These had been attended to within a couple of days. It was agreed that there can be a delay in emptying waste bins over the holiday period. Anne pointed out the need for better signage at the tunnel leading to the Beacon Leisure Centre/ promenade. This route is not suitable for disabled access but is not well signposted as such. Perhaps this could be taken up by the Links management group.
2. **Closed Meeting:**

Community Fund. It was agreed that in accordance with Tom Courts wishes, £250 would be given to Burntisland over 70s group and £250 to the Toll Community Centre. The Balance would be added to the Community Fund. Applications would be invited from local groups to apply for small grants in accordance with the rules laid down.

13.0 **Date of Next Meeting**: ***Friday 8th February 2019***

Appendix 1

