

## NORTH GLENROTHES COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 13 January 2011 at Christ's Kirk Church Hall

1. Chairperson Remarks: Ron Welcomed everyone and especially the speaker for the evening Margaret Reilly, Locality Support Team Leader for the whole of Glenrothes area. Margaret is involved in Community Planning, Take a Pride in Glenrothes and Britain in Bloom. She replaces Greig Henderson.
2. Those present were: Ron Page, Margaret Simpson, Mary Wallace, Denise Wallace, Ian Lister, Shaun Jackson, Brian Lumsden, Tony Groundwater, Hugh Bowie, and Cllr Fiona Grant

Apologies: from Jean Archer, Evlyn Allsop, Jim Lewis, Pat McKie, Jim Gouck, George Coyle. Colin Nikolic and Cllrs. Beare, Morrison & Kay

3. Ron continued, mentioning the positives from 2010:-
  - A92 STAG report which is pending and currently with Transport Scotland.
  - Sainsbury's and CIS AXA are 99% in agreement for summer 2011
  - FET (Fife Environmental Trust) has awarded £16,000 for the outdoor gym project which gives £40,000 in total. Alan Bissett will go to tender for contractors.
  - NGCC have 17 members for the coming 4 years. A request was put out for a Minutes Secretary.

The negatives were: -

- Amazon leaving Glenrothes for Dunfermline, although it was pointed out that no jobs were to be lost.
- A change to Community Council finances meant that larger community councils would lose out on some funding when smaller community councils would gain. An office bearers meeting had been held and a response opposing the nature of the new finances was sent to the council. Margaret Reilly had spoken to Linda Purdie regarding this subject and this was her reply :-

"A proposal is out to consultation at present (closing date Friday) to amend the formula for CC grants. This was proposed by a number of smaller CCs as part of the consultation on the review of the Scheme, and on the recommendation of the CC Support Working Group, PFAM agreed to formally consult on the proposal. A report on the outcomes of the consultation will be submitted to the next PFAM meeting.

The proposal is to increase the lump sum which is provided to assist with general administration costs such as the hire of halls for meetings etc, however as there is no

additional money available, the only way to achieve this is to reduce the per capita amount of grant provided. Part of the rationale is that it costs the same to hold 10 meetings a year, produce 10 agendas, minutes etc regardless of whether you have 1000 population or 10,000.

Currently the grant comprises £200 + 18p per head of population (interestingly the highest per capita rate in Scotland) and the proposal is to amend this to £400 + 12p per head of population (still one of the highest rates based on information provided by the Scottish Association of CCs from a couple of years ago - at that time many local authorities only provided 1p or 2p per head of population). Obviously the grants to smaller CCs will increase and the CCs with larger populations will reduce. For Glenrothes North, based on current population and formula they would get around £2269, the new formula would result in a reduction to around £1779.

To be honest more Community Councils will benefit than lose out, so I anticipate the majority of those who reply will be supportive of the proposal. It wouldn't be a reduction in the overall funding to Community Councils but there would be a re-distribution."

Ron suggested a 10% cut for all would be fairer and better.

Denise asked if Margaret Reilly could clarify if venues were rent free for community council meetings and if there was a free printing service available through the council; Margaret to check and get back.

4. Minutes: of the December meeting were approved and signed by the Chair.

5 Matters Arising :

- Leslie Polling Station – E mail sent to Iain Grant.
- Fun Day 2011 – The date has been set for June 4<sup>th</sup> and a raffle will be organised soon.

6. Correspondence: Various items tabled among which was a booklet from Fife Council on their snow & grit clearing strategy.

7 Reports:

Treasurer :

Main Account - £4,220.38

Gilvenbank Account- £13,952.00 (£10,000 allocated for Family Play Area

and £2,001 for the Outdoor Gym)

Fun Day : Pat McKie will take on the job of collecting prizes and donations.

8 Questions to Local Fife Councillors :

Brian Lumsden asked about Fife Council strategy on snow clearance. Referring to the booklet tabled in correspondence a discussion ensued. It was noted that an amount of damage had been caused by the JCB's which were drafted in to assist with snow clearance.

9 AOCB :

Pot holes – any extra costs incurred would need to be added to the budget. Any pot holes could be reported on Fife Direct.

Margaret Reilly enquired as to how NGCC could get involved in 'Take a Pride in Glenrothes', especially in the Cadham Neighbourhood Centre. She suggested planters instead of hanging baskets and spoke of a grant available for Spring bulbs.

She spoke of the launch of the 'Britain in Bloom' campaign and the various improvements which were to be made to Riverside Park.

There is to be an 'Environmental Day' in April in the Kingdom Centre.

To find out what is happening to the town art, check out Fife Direct.

Next Meeting – 7.00 pm Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February at Christ's Kirk Church Hall. Ron has already offered his apologies and asked Mary or Ian to Chair the meeting.