

# Kinghorn Community Council.

## Minutes of Special meeting Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February at Kinghorn Community Centre

1. **Present:** - Fraser Ballantyne (chair) Alex Cook, Alex Gibb, , Rena Wallace, Sadie Wilson, Martin Melvin, James Willis, Marilyn Edwards (Secretary).

### **Members of the Public 1**

2. **Apologies** - Collett Salvona Neil Chalmers

The chairman said that the meeting had been called to discuss the consultation document for the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Fife. He had prepared a table of reference changes so the meeting could discuss them in order.

3. Consultation comments and changes

- 4.1 Qualification of Electors  
Members felt that whilst they wished to encourage youth participation and regarded it as important, the voting age should remain at 18.
- 5.1 Qualification for nomination  
This followed on from 4.1 to remain at 18
- 6.2 A four year period was preferred as this allowed a Community Councillor to become accustomed to his/her role and allowed time for projects under taken by the Community Council to be completed.
- 9.4 Public Access to Meetings  
Members were agreed that public participation was important but a structure was needed so that the public were allowed times when they could speak e.g. Public question time, questions to speakers and presentations.
- 9.4 There are two section (d)
- 9.6 Sub-Committees  
Members asked for verification of what constituted a sub-committee. The understanding was that Sub-committees were often like working groups who met to progress projects and regularly reported back to Community Council meetings for agreement. It was not practical to hold all such meetings in public.
- 13.9 Schedule 1 Financial Guidelines  
Members felt that clarification was needed on this point. They were unclear as to whether accounts were to be examined by Fife Council first and then audited by independent auditors of the Community Council or vice versa

It was noted that Kinghorn Community council would move to 12 members at the 2010 elections.

- Schedule 2 Planning Applications  
21 days consultation period is a preferred time scale.

Members expressed great concern about the statement that Community Councils could access planning applications electronically via Fife Direct web page. This should not be the only method as it means not everyone has access. The secretary cannot acquire a hard copy to bring along to be discussed at a meetings anymore and regularly it was not possible to get into the website. This system is not fully democratic and writing it into the new scheme is indicating that members accept this new flawed method, and this is not the case.

- Schedule 4 Complaints

Members felt it was good that the complainant needed to countersign the complaint, to help clarify the problem.

It was better that individual complaints were first dealt with at Community Council level to try and resolve matters informally.

4. One other item was discussed

A programme was agreed for the Viewpoint Project as further funding bid deadlines needed to be met.

The meeting agreed the prepared Project Brief.

A community consultation would begin with posters and local newspaper advertisement. A display would be requested for the café area of Community Centre and the plans would be made available on the website. A short presentation of the project would be given at the next February Community Council meeting. Comment/questionnaire forms would be used for feedback and residents close to the Viewpoint would be asked for their opinions/support.

A meeting is to be set up with Community Services to obtain a letter from them regarding use of land. Also an agreement needed to be made to go forward with a Planning Application for the work.

Application for Grant Funding

BDT £20,000 - deadline 26<sup>th</sup> February 2010

FET £25,000 – deadline mid March 2010

Awards for All £10,000

Request to Common Good for release of some monies for preparing plans.

**Date of Next Meeting – 7.30pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 20**