



## Agenda

7.00pm Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017 Townhill Community Centre

In Attendance will be:-

**Community Council**

Chair Ronnie Cowan, Vice Chair Adrian Turk, Treasurer Niall Reid, Secretary Linda Cowan, Bill Hunter, Joanne Davidson

**Nominated Members of TCC** Karen Woodhouse – School / Parent Council

**Co-opted member** Maria Smeaton - Project Funding Representative

**Community Police Officer** Carol Crawford

**Fife Councillors** Councillor Helen Law, Councillor Gavin Ellis, Councillor Ian Ferguson

**Townhill Residents – All welcome!!**

**1. Introduce TCC & Welcome everyone to the meeting**

**2. Apologies** Community Police Officer Lee Morris, Rosemary Walmsley – TAG, TCC members Arlene Watson, Matt Colville, David Foreman, Lynsey Brown. Ronnie explained that our Lynsey is getting married on the 17<sup>th</sup> November and sends congratulations to Lynsey and Gary on behalf of the Community Council.

**3. Agree October minutes Agreed** : Bill Hunter **Seconded** : Joanne Davidson

**4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

**a) Website – Update** – Ronnie Cowan

Ronnie advised that all reports, presentations, including the latest TCC presentation for Beautiful Fife 2017 etc. were also available for download on our community website along with all community information. The website is updated continuously whenever new information is received or changes occur. Ronnie invited anyone who would like anything placed on the website to get in touch.

**b) Facebook** – Linda Cowan

We have a Townhill Community Council Page Townhill Community Council - 1,061 Likes

We have a Townhill Dunfermline Page for less formal matters - 1,049 Likes

Since our “Townhill Dunfermline” was converted to a page and our friends to “likes” we don’t get the same information through, therefore we invite Townhill folk to post any relevant information on our pages or PM us either on the Townhill Dunfermline page, the Townhill Community Council page or the Townhill Mining Heritage Garden page.

**c) Suggestion Box** - Niall Reid

A lovely thank you letter from Mrs Mary Wardrope for her birthday flowers for her special birthday read out by Linda Cowan.

**d) Dunfermline Press Community news – Ronnie Cowan update**

Ronnie advised that the weekly report for the Dunfermline Press and Courier is written and submitted first thing on a Sunday morning and reminded everyone that if anyone has any news item or significant event etc. that they would like included in the report to send it to Ronnie by Saturday evening.

**a) Councillor Helen Law updates**

**i. TMHG Phase 2 – update**

Helen said that the TMHG Phase 2 was looking fantastic. There have been delays with the contractor due to ill health but Ronnie has shown understanding about these setbacks to the project's completion with all details amicably discussed throughout. Two Plaques with 220 miner's names was now fitted and the project should be complete by the end of next week.

**ii. Requested Parking areas in Wilson Street and Crawford Place**

The white lines for parking demarcation in the car park at the top of **Wilson Street** will only cost £150 and will now go ahead funded by Fife Council. There is still no school travel plan in place, Helen will pursue this with the school.

**ACTION : Helen to progress the Wilson Street line demarcation with FC and the school travel plan with the school.**

Had all the properties in **Crawford Place** been council owned properties Fife Council Housing would have been able to fund the entire project, on a positive note as Crawford Place is mixed ownership they will still be able to fund part of the cost and Helen is still working on funding to make up the difference.

**ACTION : Helen to pursue funding for this project**

**iii. Forest Place path**

This land is now confirmed as being owned and maintained by Fife Council. Helen had visited the resident who had raised concerns over the condition of this path and also of a concrete pug. The resident was not at home and Helen was unable to find the pug. On Sunday Helen and Linda will look for it. Graham Sunter of Fife Council Parks Dept was to inspect the path damage.

**iv. Water Leak – Loch Street – flat above shop**

Ronnie said we do not want to get into the same situation with this as we were in previous years when it took over 18 months to deal with this problem when all that was required was a replacement 18mm washer in one of the flats above the shop.

**ACTION : Helen and Cllr Ian Ferguson will pursue this with Ian Jones**

**b) Councillor Gavin Ellis updates:-**

**i. Problem Tenant Policy**

Gavin will query Fife Council's tenancy policy at committee level asking why in general they are housing problem tenants with a history of eviction often due to antisocial behaviour into areas with no historic antisocial behaviour issues.

Ronnie said that Townhill Community Council was very much in favour of giving people a second chance but we not only question a Council policy that supports rehousing problem tenants particularly those with a history of violence and antisocial behaviour amongst vulnerable and elderly members of our communities causing distress and fear, we also question why there is not a carefully monitored probation period of accommodation with all agencies including the police involved.

The responsibility for monitoring should lie with the local authorities and not with displaced tenant's new neighbours who are obviously severely disadvantaged given the current conduit of information (or lack of) and given the potential for reprisal.

Gavin explained that the head of Housing Policy has been invited to a meeting of Fife Councillors to discuss this further.

**Ronnie also urged Councillor Helen Law and Councillor Ian Ferguson to strongly support Townhill Community Council on this matter at the next Area Committee meeting.**

## ii. Fishing

Gavin has been advised that there are no rules re fishing within Fife Council's "Park Manager Rules". Ronnie said that cannot be the case for Townhill Loch as it clearly states both in text and by way of a graphic in the Water-ski centre's lease as produced by Fife Council that fishing is only permitted at a stretch at the North side of the loch and only between 10am and 4pm. It is also our understanding that it is forbidden to remove fish from the loch unless those fishermen expressly have written permission from Fife Council. TCC had attempted previously to have this means of regulating activities locally by conferring the responsibility for issuing fishing permissions to TCC, Fife Council legal department refused to respond at that time.

A resident advised that there was even a Polish Fishing club fishing out with the hours of the agreement and even brought their own sign advertising that they were a "Polish Fishermen's Club" and even had a pop up tent erected loch side.

**Gavin is to look into this further and question Fife Council's Richard Smith (the lease author and wildlife officer).**

## iii. Dog Fouling at Loch + Professional Dog Walker Licensing

Gavin is meeting with East Lothian Council as they seem to have a more robust policy on dog fouling when comparing instances of dog fouling and litter penalties issued in which Fife Council's record was clearly abysmal.

He had spoken to Fife Council regarding licencing professional dog walkers but their response was not helpful.

Ronnie responded that this is an increasing concern for residents and Fife Council seems to be missing an opportunity to clamp down on multiple dogs being brought to the area by what is simply an unregulated commercial activity. Furthermore was this not a potential income stream to the Council which could contribute towards all anti dog fouling efforts?

**Ronnie asked Councillor Helen Law, Councillor Gavin Ellis and Councillor Ian Ferguson to strongly support more efficient anti dog fouling measures at the next Area Committee meeting.**

### c) Councillor Ian Ferguson updates:-

**Ian is looking into the legality of a professional dog walkers licence**

#### 5. Treasurer's report –Niall Reid

##### Income

£10 donation for local residents Blair & Anne Wilson and £20,000 Common Good Grant for Townhill Mining Heritage Garden Phase 2

##### Expenditure

Phase 2 of the Townhill Mining Heritage paid out £22,219.2 to contractor this month, £1,749.30 held back from Contractor for 12 months as per cycle area contract now paid, Hall Hire paid for November and Christmas night, Halloween Community Event Expenses, Plaques for TMHG, adhesive etc

#### 21st October to 16th November

##### Synopsis

Petty Cash		Budget Account - Clydesdale Bank		INCOME	
Opening Balance	£ 260.62	Opening Balance	£ 5,670.14	Donations	
Income	£ 10.00	Income	£ -	Budget Acc	£ -
Expenditure	-£ 203.57	Expenditure	-£ 40.69	P/cash	£ 10.00
		Transfer from RBS1 to Budget Account	£ -	RBS1	£ 20,000.00
Closing Balance	<u>£ 67.05</u>	Closing Balance	<u>£ 5,629.45</u>	Project Acc	£ -
					<u>£ 20,010.00</u>
RBS1		RBS Project Account			
Opening Balance	£ 238.50	Opening Balance	£ 12,918.68		
Income	£ 20,000.00	Income	£ -		
Expenditure	-£ 20,180.85	Expenditure	-£ 3,968.50		
Xfer from RBS1 to Petty Cash		Transfer from RBS1 to ProjectAccount	£ -		
Closing Balance	<u>£ 57.65</u>	Closing Balance	<u>£ 8,950.18</u>		

## 6. Townhill Activity Reports

### a) Community Police Update –Police Officer Carol Crawford

In our Area 2b which covers Townhill, Bellyeoman, Townhill Road area and surrounds and the Broomhead area the monthly stats from 10<sup>th</sup> October to 15<sup>th</sup> November are:-

Total of 145 calls resulting in 15 Crime Files

5 were detected and 10 remain undetected for further enquiry – only 3 of these crimes were committed in Townhill, 2 detected and 1 undetected.

Ronnie thanked Carol for her report

### b) Church Update / Elderly Update – Dave McDonald

Dave reported that the church Dorcas Group had a very successful Christmas Fayre and raised over £1290. Over the years this group have raised over £50,000 all for charitable causes.

Ronnie thanked Dave for his report

### c) Book Lending Service – Halloween Story Telling - Linda Cowan

Our Halloween Story Telling Event was great fun. I would like to thank Lynsey Brown, Sarah Aitchison and Joanne Davidson and our junior helpers Ross Cathcart, Finn Aitchison and Mollie Davidson who not only helped run the event, they also helped to decorate the centre in readiness for our spooky day and brought more decorations from home to compliment the box of spooky decorations donated by Rosemary Walmsley. Head witch Sarah Aitchison aka our Book Bug Lady was brilliant. Thanks also to Scott Smith from Townhill Community Centre for helping to make this event such a success. Thank you to all the fantastic children who came for their stories and snacks with their mums, dads and grannies!

### d) Planning Update - Linda Cowan

Reference 17/02830/FULL  
Alternative Reference 100065268-001  
Application Received Wed 06 Sep 2017  
Application Validated Wed 06 Sep 2017  
Address 20 Loch Street Townhill Dunfermline Fife KY12 0HH  
Proposal Single storey extension to rear of dwelling house  
Status Decided  
Decision Application Permitted - no conditions  
Decision Issued Date Thu 02 Nov 2017  
Appeal Decision

### e) Road Safety Report – Update - Adrian Turk

A meeting with TCC representatives Ronnie Cowan Chair, and Adrian Turk Vice Chair with Fife Council's Scott Blythe (Roads), Community Police Lee Morris and Carol Walker and Cllr Ian Ferguson was held to discuss the results of a Townhill Main Street traffic survey carried out earlier in the summer.

The survey was able to show that Buses and Lorries were consistently speed compliant but with cars not always so speed aware, particularly early mornings and later in the evening however 85% - 95% of car drivers did comply.

TCC requested that smiley/frown type digital display cameras as previously trialled successfully be purchased and placed at the Billy Liddell entrance to the park on the North bound side with another placed to the North side of the bridge reminding South bound traffic of their speed, given that the 30mph limit extends out of the village to the top of Townhill Road. Furthermore a review of the situation will ensue later and could eventually lead to a 20mph zone within the built up area being requested albeit with the proviso there would be no speed cushion placements. It was agreed that the aforementioned initiatives would be supported by Cllr Ian Ferguson at committee level in order to gain the requisite funding.

Ronnie had spoken with Les Kay of Wm. Russell & Son who is in favour although Les cautioned that a heavy lorry doing 20mph would be in low gear going uphill and this increases the engine/gearbox noise and causes extra vibration resonating in the back.

Ronnie also advised that Scott Blyth has since been in touch to say that he has now discovered a more economical smiley face camera sign which also displays the driver's speed.

Ronnie thanked Adrian for his report

**f) Putting Green Update – Adrian Turk**

The contractor is now completing the drainage at the putting green and next week will be planting two rows of trees around the perimeter. In the spring he will begin work on the green itself.

Ronnie said that this contractor was making a fantastic professional job of and we were delighted with the positive progress.

The funding for this is already in place.

Ronnie thanked Adrian for his report

**g) School Update – Karen Woodhouse**

Karen told the hall that her class P6 were looking to create orienteering paths through the wood for the children to use. There would be different routes marked with posts with different animals on them for each course. The first course would be a simple one to get things going.

Although they had met with the chap from Orienteering he was unavailable for the next months to return.

It was discussed that instead of concreting the posts in it would be possible to use longer posts and have 75% of them below ground for stability. Resident Jim Hughes offered the use of his post driver to sink posts more effectively. Ronnie suggested that the school could approach the Skills Development Team to ask if this is something they would take on. The markers could be small metal signs possible featuring animals and birds native to our woodland.

Townhill Community Council could fund the purchase of compasses for the school children and Ronnie also offered to help teach youngsters the basic skills of how to use them.

Karen was delighted at the "Can Do" attitude of everyone which will all help to make this project a reality for the school.

Ronnie thanked Karen for her report.

**h) TCC Updates - Best Small Village in Fife signs - Ronnie Cowan**

Ronnie advised that the "Best Small Village in Fife" signs were now up at both the north and south entrances to the village and thanked Maryann and Ramsay Handy for cutting back their trees at the North entrance so that the sign could be seen.

**7. Community Issues Reported prior since last meeting - Ronnie Cowan**

**a) Flooding behind RW Grove reported by Bill**

This has been reported to Ian Jones and Ronnie has spoken to Lyn Strachan our countryside ranger about this issue. Bill advised that the culverts in the burn may be blocked.

This is an ongoing issue :-Excerpt from TCC Minutes October 2103 :-

"c) Flooding caused by Covered Reservoir draining - maintenance after complaints from residents about the burn flooding in the wood and behind the houses in Wilson Street, and about the level of the Loch rising so high that it was pouring through the overflow, Ronnie wrote to Scottish Water as it appeared to be caused by them draining their underground reservoir which is situated in Townhill Wood and which feeds the Duloch area.

Scottish Water replied:- *"The tank in question is under cleaning and the water that is getting drained would end up in to the water course but at a controlled flow. This is regularly checked by the Asset Scottish Water Inspector to make sure there is no issues. We have asked him to attend and check the burn. Scottish water has no responsibility for the up keep of any burns or*

ditches this would belong to the local land owner to keep them clear not us. This burn may be the responsibility of the Local Council , we are sure they would be able to assist if it needed cleared of debris.”

Ronnie replied to Scottish Water: “Further to your email, I have just received this report from Fife Council's Parks operative involved in the management of local areas affected downstream of Townhill Woods water release :- “Morning Ronnie, The water was still running on Saturday (that was 10 day's at least it was running). Did I mention that it disturbed the flood prevention works at the bottom of the Glen. – Ian” I also received calls from a number of local residents who confirm concern at the recent flooding behind their homes, all voicing surprise that no attention had been paid until water levels had significantly subsided. Our Forest Ranger has also voiced concerns at this almost cavalier attitude to releasing large volumes of water with little regard for the downstream effect.

Whilst I can understand that the water board cannot be responsible for every stream in our area, I do feel that if you intend to make use of natural water courses they must be able to cope with such an increase in water volume when used for anything other than natural drainage, or this water should be pumped into mobile tanks and moved to more suitable disposal areas, or, more usefully, areas in need of extra water (for irrigation etc).

If responsibility for stream upkeep falls to local environment agencies or landowners then perhaps Scottish Water should be contributing towards maintenance cost of said streams in return for making such enhanced use of them!

In light of the period this has been allowed to persist, I find it ironic that last week I received an email from Scottish Water asking me to advise our community of the need to conserve water and to suggest very minor ways of doing so - should Scottish Water not address its own responsibility with regards to water saving first? I look forward to your comments and have copied this to our local councillors for their attention.”

Scottish Water merely replied to blame a valve sticking on secondary draining and said this was a one off. It has since been reported by several residents that this is the same excuse they used last time this happened.

Councillor Law said the flow of this water had adversely affected the flood prevention works at Forth Street in Dunfermline.ACTION : Cllr. Helen Law to pursue this matter”

#### **b) Firework Sale**

We were subjected to some horrific firework noises from the park earlier this month, with a considerable aftermath of debris left behind (both Saturday & Sunday evenings, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November). The debris was strewn across the park and included Rocket sticks over 4 feet long and half an inch in diameter, large boxes with multiple shot fireworks more akin to that of a professional display.

TCC had numerous complaints from residents with traumatised pets and children and would support a ban on selling these fireworks to anyone other than explosives licence holders. Not only pets and young children, wildlife and farm animals but PTSD sufferers and the elderly are now being subjected to military type noises which could just as easily be mistaken for Terrorist activity potentially anywhere in the UK.

Concern was expressed that with the UK on a critical terror alert, people could still buy fireworks, (essentially bombs with the potential to cause serious harm,) both in shops and on the internet. Things have changed since a firework display was a few catherine wheels, rockets and sparklers and the law has to change accordingly to regulate the sale and use of these massive explosives.

In Italy they use silent fireworks, all of the spectacle but none of the terrifying noise.

Ronnie suggested that FC could put on a fantastic laser show with music rather than fireworks and give the rest of the money that they usually spend on fireworks to help feed Fifers who have to rely on foodbanks.

TCC asks our Councillors to take up this issue seriously with their respective MSPs and MPs and push for an outright ban on the sale of fireworks, including internet sales to the general public.

#### **c) Egg Sales Responsibility at Halloween Time – All Councillors & Police**

At Halloween teenagers pelted youngsters and some houses with eggs. Perhaps on the lead up to this time of year shopkeepers could be made aware of this behaviour and asked not to sell eggs to under 18's where this type of anti-social end use is suspected.

We have also had an excellent suggestion from a resident re having a map next year for the children of houses who welcome guisers, perhaps giving the houses a sign to display on the gate or window. This would solve the issue of anyone who is ill or not keen on Halloween being disturbed.

## 8. New Business

### a) Christmas Event 1<sup>st</sup> December **Linda Cowan**

As per October Minutes :-

- *Linda advised that the community centre hall was now booked for our annual Christmas Fun Night for Friday 1st December.*
- *Santa Claus has confirmed that he will be dropping in to visit the children and bring sweeties.*
- *Marie from the Loch Café has confirmed that the Loch Café will once again be a part of this event donating soup and hotdogs and their time for the night.*
- *TCC will provide hot and cold drinks, cookies, cakes etc. and will help Santa arrange the sweeties.*
- *Mary Byford of the Up in Lights Drama School who train in the community centre will be taking part with her pupils giving a performance of Caroline Copeland's new play "Christmas in the Glen Again".*
- *Mick Magic is confirmed again for the event, this year coming as Pirate Mick.*
  
- Mrs Berrie's P1 class and Mrs Philp's P1/2 class will be performing Christmas songs from their nativity play.
- Rather than a light switch on this year, we will have the lights on, including our new laser projector to welcome the children to the event. Our three wise Fife Councillors will open the event.
- Hall Hire already paid
- Purchase of sweeties– Maria and Linda will do this next week
- Purchase of refreshments, Christmas hamper contents, Raffle ticket books etc. Linda to organise
- Make up hampers – Linda and Lynsey
- Make up sweetie bags for the children – will do this in the centre one night once we have purchased the sweeties
- Tickets sales – we have held back selling any other tickets until P1 and P1/2 parents and the Up in Lights children's parents have had first call on them. The Up in Lights children's parents now have their tickets. The school have sent out a text to the parents requesting that they purchase tickets now if they would like them. With less than two weeks to go until the event Karen will hand any unsold tickets back to Linda on Monday after school and they will then be on open sale.
- Volunteers to take part on the 1<sup>st</sup> December – so far.....
  - Linda
  - Ronnie
  - Adrian
  - Lynsey
  - Niall
  - Maria
  - Rosemary - Alice
  - Sarah
  - Bill

### b) Willow Tunnel **Ronnie Cowan**

Trevor Leat (Willow Expert) will be here over the winter to repair the tunnel and replant as required.

### c) Chestnut trees

Ronnie thanked residents Jim and Kerry Hughes for donating ten young chestnut trees for the park

## 9. Any Other Business from hall?

Joanne reported that the fence between the school fence and the car park was in a state of disrepair and she had ripped her new jacket on it. She was concerned that a child may be injured on it.

**ACTION : Karen Woodhouse to report to Head Teacher Janine Pirouet.**

## 10. Correspondence - Linda Cowan

**From Wendy Abderson NHS :-**

**Date:** 13/11/2017 11:15:46

**Subject:** Public Consultation Events - Community Led Support

A series of community engagement events have been arranged in November and December 2017 around what people value, what they would like to see in their community, and set the scene for taking forward a number of related initiatives to further support Locality working and the development of Health and Social Care Integration. We are looking for your support to spread the word about these sessions and encourage participation. The details of the sessions are on the attached poster. It important to emphasise these are informal, relaxed sessions looking at what the community is like, what things are priorities for individuals and groups, share ideas and identify how they can be more involved as we take plans forward with them. We have started having some information sessions for health and social care staff about this approach, which is a long-term plan based on a model called Community Led Support, which has been successfully supporting real change in other parts of Scotland. It is based on some key principles -

- Bringing people and organisations together around a shared vision.
- There has to be a culture based on trust and empowerment.
- There is a focus on communities and each will be different.
- People are treated as equals, their strengths and gifts built on.
- Bureaucracy is the absolute minimum it has to be.

\*\*In different areas across Fife, we will be working together on listening to what people tell us is important to them, making plans together and involving people in taking ideas forward.

This can include community facilities and activities, staying active, health and social care and other things that people think are important to living a good life.

We will explain a bit more of how we will do this and there will be a chance to chat and ask questions.

### **Who is this for?**

We hope that members of the community and different organisations will join us. Whether you have ideas or just want to hear more, please come along and get involved.

The sessions are -

### **DATE TIMES VENUE**

**Thursday**

**30 November**

10.00 am – 12 noon Court Room, City Chambers, Dunfermline

3.00 pm – 5.00 pm Court Room, City Chambers, Dunfermline

### **a. ADULT SUPPORT & PROTECTION - OCT 17.**

**SMS EMERGENCY SERVICE** If you cannot make voice calls, you can now contact the 999 emergency services by SMS text from your mobile phone. Emergency SMS is part of the standard 999 service which has been designed specifically for people with hearing loss or difficulty with speech. You will only be able to use this service if you have registered with Emergency SMS first.

**Register now: don't wait for an emergency.** To register, text 'register' to 999. You will get a reply –then follow the instructions you are sent. For more information go to: [www.emergencysms.org.uk](http://www.emergencysms.org.uk)

Contact Scotland gave a presentation to Fife staff and the deaf community at the Town House Kirkcaldy, detailing Scotland's British Sign Language (BSL) Interpreting Video Relay Service. It connects BSL users with all of Scotland's public bodies and third sector organisations. For details of how BSL users can register for the service, visit: <http://contactscotland-bsl.org/reg/> Staff who want to contact a BSL user call 0131 510 4555 to connect to the online interpreter. The person you are calling needs to have downloaded the contact SCOTLAND-BSL/interpreternow software app and be connected to the internet.



The Scottish Government has announced plans to integrate the use of BSL into everyday life. [The British Sign Language National Plan 2017-23](#) gives full details. Fife Adult Support & Protection Committee are working with the Deaf Communication Service on BSL videos about Adult Protection Easy Read booklets. These will be available at the end of the year.

**DISABILITY HATE CRIME** With recent news that a man with learning difficulties was badly hurt in an attack near Kirkcaldy bus station, we take this opportunity to remind people that hate crime or harassment can happen anywhere. It includes things like calling you names, hitting you or damaging your home or property. If this happens to you, and you are in danger call **999**. If it is not an emergency, call the Police on **101** or the Adult Protection Phone Line on **01383 602200**.

Fife Adult Protection Committee's booklet 'Disability Hate Crime' gives more information. Paper copies are available by emailing: [shona.mcewan@fife.gov.uk](mailto:shona.mcewan@fife.gov.uk) or call 03451 55 55 55 ext. 442134. You can report online using the Safer Communities [Anti-Social Behaviour reporting form](#). Further info is on the [Safer Communities](#) and [Adult Support & Protection](#) webpages.

[I Am Me](#) is a community charity that works in partnership with Police Scotland to raise awareness of and tackle disability hate crime. Their free Disability Hate Crime (Adult and High School) resource & accompanying film can be accessed here: <http://www.iammescotland.co.uk/training-and-educational-resources/disability-hate-crime-training-resource/> All films can be accessed here: <http://www.iammescotland.co.uk/training-and-educational-resources/videos/>

### **HATE HAS NO HOME IN SCOTLAND**

The Scottish Government joined Police Scotland and the Crown Office to launch the 'Hate has no home in Scotland' campaign during Hate Crime Awareness Week. It aims to increase public understanding of what hate crime is, and how to report it.

More than 5,300 cases of hate crime were reported in Scotland over the past year. Find out more at: <http://onescotland.org/campaigns/hate-crime-campaign/> and [www.hatecrimescotland.org.uk](http://www.hatecrimescotland.org.uk)

### **ILL TREATMENT AND WILFUL NEGLECT**

The Health (Tobacco, Nicotine etc. and Care) (Scotland) Act 2016 includes offences of ill-treatment or wilful neglect which are now in force. The new offences apply to care workers and care providers and their organisations, recognising the particular vulnerabilities of those receiving health and social care as well as the level of trust placed in those providing that care. **SURVIVING CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR** Fife Adult Support & Protection Committee in partnership with Communities and Neighbourhoods are promoting their survival guide to the Festive Season. It provides useful tips and hints plus links to organisations that can provide support and advice at a time of year when many people find it difficult to cope.

It is available as a 28 page A5 booklet, or A7 wallet sized. To request an electronic version or paper copies contact: [shona.mcewan@fife.gov.uk](mailto:shona.mcewan@fife.gov.uk)

This takes place on 24 November with the theme 'Making Connections, Getting Support'. Having the right information at the right time can make a huge difference when you are looking after someone. Further information at: <http://www.fifecarerscentre.org/> and <http://www.carersuk.org/scotland> including the [Looking After Someone](#) guide.

**SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL ACTION PLAN – YOUR VIEWS** The Scottish Human Rights Commission would like to hear your views about what you think should be included Scotland's National Action Plan on Human Rights and what you think about the state of human rights in Scotland. Fill out the 10 minute survey online at: <http://www.ghn.org.uk/allin/snap/> If you would like the survey in another language or a different format, or to complete it with telephone support, call: 0141 420 72 72

**SURVIVORS OF ABUSE IN CARE** A consultation is open for victims/survivors of abuse in care to give their opinions about a potential financial compensation/redress scheme for those who experienced abuse in care in Scotland. An options paper will then be produced for Scottish Government to consider when making its decision on whether to establish a compensation scheme. Complete it online at: [www.celcis.org/redressconsultation](http://www.celcis.org/redressconsultation) Request a paper copy at: [celcis-redress@strath.ac.uk](mailto:celcis-redress@strath.ac.uk) or call 0808 800 0031 (Mon & Thurs 9.30am – 4pm or Tues 9.30am – 7pm). They will include a FREEPOST envelope. Consultation closes on 17 November.

**BRIGHTSIDE COMMUNITY CAFÉ** was opened six months ago at Bandrum Nursing Home, West Fife and is open Wed/Thurs/Fri/Sat 11am to 3pm for food and refreshments. Their Befriending project is looking to recruit volunteers who will

be fully trained then matched with residents. For info contact Michelle Graham on 07869 581 599 or e: [info@brightsidecommunitycafe.org.uk](mailto:info@brightsidecommunitycafe.org.uk)

**RESOURCES FOR STAFF: New Operational Guidance: Responding to a need for service for Young Adults aged 16 and 17**

This operational guidance is intended to clarify the pathways for young adults to receive appropriate services and to support decision making for social work practitioners in Education and Children's Services and Health and Social Care within Fife. It covers both current cases and new referrals.

This guidance has been a collaborative effort between Education and Children's Service and Adult Services and has included consultation with staff from both groups. The guidance came into effect on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017 and is available on Fife Council intranet [here](#).

Professionals are encouraged to utilise this new guidance, and [Child Protection](#) and [Adult Support and Protection](#) local guidance where appropriate while applying their collective professional judgement.

Please find below, links to the electronic versions of the Surviving Christmas & New Year information for distribution within your respective organisations. This year's edition has been produced by the Adult Support & Protection Committee in partnership with Fife Council Communities and Neighbourhoods Team. Please add to your websites and social media where possible. You can use the links: a [booklet](#), [wallet sized](#), or [Easy Read](#) version. It is also available in [plain text booklet](#) and [plain text wallet sized](#).

The wallet sized information has changed very slightly since the last email distribution, to make it clearer that some Foodbanks accept self-referral.

If your organisation is providing a Christmas Day or New Year's Day meal, please let me know and I will ensure this is added to the Adult Protection December newsletter.

At present we know that Linton Lane Centre, Kirkcaldy is open for free Community Christmas Dinner (phone 01592 643816 to book if you can but people are welcome to just turn up). Kirkcaldy Foodbank at Linton Lane is open on Christmas Day.

**11. Any Further Councillors' reports**

Helen said that she was honoured to be part of Townhill's lovely Remembrance Day service which was well attended by the village. Gavin Ellis concurred.

**12.** Three residents had wished individual anti-social behaviour complaints to be raised but these were dealt with individually by Police Officer Crawford outwith the public meeting.

**13. Ronnie advised that there will be no community council meeting in December and the Date of next meeting will be 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018.**

**14. Close of Meeting 8.00pm and Ronnie thanked everyone for attending and wished them a safe journey home**