

Meeting of the Pittenweem Community Council

On 17th September 2025 at 7pm

In New Town Hall

MINUTES

Items of Business

1. Declarations of Interest

None noted.

2. Record members present and member apologies for absence

Stewart Moreland, Duncan Lucas, Alycia Hayes, Graeme MacGilchrist, 1 member of the public

Apologies: Sean Dillon, Val Morrison, Louise McEwan

3. Minute of the last meeting: 20th August

GM proposes; SM seconded.

4. Matters Arising from the last meeting

None noted.

5. Other agreed items of business:

- Pavement parking restrictions; Fife Council

Came into effect 1st September. Regulations state that 1.5 metres of footpath need to be left unobstructed. AH notes no exemptions for Pittenweem. DL suggests possible to take photo to get prosecution. AH clarifies that this is not the case (not the same for drivers as it is for, e.g. dog fouling).

DL voiced concerns over capacity of FC to police

Parking attendants will be touring the local wards

3 parking attendants for NE Fife

- Blue plaque for John Smith, clockmaker (correspondence from Hazel Mills, Pittenweem Public Library)

Pittenweem Library has initiated plans to install a plaque commemorating the renowned clockmaker, John Smith, who lived and worked on the High Street in Pittenweem in the 18th and early 19th century. They are seeking approval from PCC

for the project, though don't require any financial or logistical assistance. Approval has already been granted from local homeowners, and Fife Council that planning permission is not required. GM read Hazel Mills' blurb on John Smith.

All elected members present agreed to support the project.

AH notes that another renowned clockmaker, George Lumsden, also lived and worked in Pittenweem. Suggests that further work might be pursued to promote the tradition of clock making in the town.

Janet (member of public) notes that James Young in Cupar displays John Smith clocks.

6. *Correspondence*

DL attended the latest Shared Use Path meeting; reports limited interest from Crail, about an extended path eastward from Anstruther; so the focus is currently on Anstruther and westward.

AH notes that FC must agree heads of terms (land release from landowners along path). Seabox HoTs close to agreed (for land between Pittenweem and Anstruther); expecting that others will follow.

7. *Reports*

- *Councillors report(s)*

Alycia Hayes

- Communication on flood resilience grant application guide should have been received by PCC
 - Available to anyone at risk, or has been, flooded
 - Up to £5000
 - Applied for by individuals
 - GM has correspondence and will circulate
- Tomorrow at FC there will be a vote of no confidence in Labour council leader
 - Following Councillor in Methil convicted of sexual activity with a minor
 - Leader of council informed of concerning behaviour in 2017 but took no formal action
 - Vote of no confidence considered unlikely to succeed since a 2/3 majority is needed
- FC is employing 2 full time officers to focus on counterfeit tobacco
 - Half a million counterfeit tobacco sticks seized in Fife last year
 - Costs ~£1M per year in lost taxes
- FC is seeking to rationalise the expense of running county buildings in Cupar
 - Cupar is the hub of FC in NE Fife
 - Building is empty a lot of the time (post covid) and FC is looking to restructure
 - AH expressed anxiety about how this restructuring will be carried out --- what services will be lost

- AH (and others) are implacably opposed to any reduction in services and service delivery in NE Fife and organising with other local councillors to oppose any changes that will degrade service provision in the area. They intend to promote the potential to bring services closer (rather than centralising in Glenrothes) e.g. to empty buildings in Anstruther and St Andrews.
- Next month there is a paper going to full council about the CC scheme
 - AH is planning to suggest that funding for CCs be significantly increased (hasn't been significantly increased in decades)
- *Chairman report*

Nothing to report

- *Treasurer report*

SM sent in signatories for bank account. Contacted bank, could take up to 30 days until active. DL has updated FC.

AH checking whether they will administer CC grants. AH advises that PCC should apply for everything, and to make submissions prior to the deadline.

- *Police report (see report attached)*

For August: 26 calls, 5 crimes

- *Planning lists*

Nothing

8. *Any other Competent Business (AOCB)*

9. *Any questions from members of the public*

Expressing concerns over availability of information and access. Members of the public who may wish to come along would seek out information, but it is not readily available. PCC members recognized this is problem and hope to improve the availability and consistency of communication. Limited membership has posed challenges in this regard.

AH points out history of why there is limited access to information given the disruptions to PCC over the last year or so. It was agreed that, in addition to the summary of the minutes in the Pittenweem Post, the full minutes will be posted on the New Town Hall website.

10. *Date, time and place of next meeting*

15th October 2025 --- 7pm New Town Hall