

**West Fife & Coastal Villages Community Council Forum
Comrie Community Centre
Thursday 31 January 2013**

Agenda	Discussion Points	Action
Present	David Lord Carnock/Gowkhal Sheila Carribine Low Valleyfield Marie Crane Saline/Steelend John Bonnar Oakley/Comrie John Crane Saline/Steelend Willie Hepburn Kincardine Jim Hensman Saline/Steelend Ann Macdonald Cairneyhill Cllr. Ferguson Fife Council Cllr Clelland Fife Council	
In attendance	Hazel Jow Minutes	
Apologies	John Duffy Torryburn/Newmills Lynn Hoey Fife Council Cllr. Stewart Fife Council	
Police Report	There was no police report. DL has been in touch with the police station. The new community sergeant will be in post as of next week. HJ to add Sgt Elaine Duncan to the mailing list. DL to find out dates of Community Engagement meetings.	HJ DL
Previous Minutes	Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by SC and seconded by WH.	
Matters Arising	Carnock CC hoping to activate the Community Speed Watch along with Oakley, Comrie and Blairhall. They will be having a visit re this at their meeting in March. WH commented that he had heard that there is a question mark over whether the Blair House site will continue. JB advised that he has received a copy of the report from John Evans, Compliance Officer today. There is nothing untoward in the report. WF said he would like to see a copy of this report as he has had no feedback from the Compliance Officer. DL will contact John Evans regarding this. A discussion was held regarding the £6k planning gain. This money was always available; it was the local councillors who suggested that it goes to the Forum. This would then benefit not only the Forum, but all of the West Fife Villages.	DL

<p>Council Officers/ Elected Members</p>	<p>JB does not agree with the money going to the Forum, he feels that this money is for community benefit, not one group.</p> <p>DL explained that the Forum could manage the money for the benefit of the communities and if required, they could use some of it for running costs.</p> <p>JC commented that since the turbine will sit between Blairhall and Saline, should those communities not get the money?</p> <p>WF said the Forum benefits every one of the West Fife Villages, this money had to be given to a 'Community Group', it could have been any group in any of the villages but they felt this was the fairest way.</p> <p>DL said we should be grateful to the councillors for their efforts to secure the money. It is appropriate that it stays in the West Fife Villages. The Forum can decide how they manage the money when they get it. WF went on to say that the whole drive behind getting this was to give the Forum some money as they have none. JC commented that he appreciated that but it may have been better if it had gone to the Community Planning Group.</p> <p>Re the Inner Forth Landscaping Project, BC advised that Fife Council has an officer dedicated to this. He will meet and liaise with the committee, taking forward project ideas etc. They have not officially joined the board as this would have cost Fife Council approximately £20k.</p> <p>BC advised that the council held budget consultations recently in Inverkeithing and Oakley. There was a poor turnout in Inverkeithing and although only 14 came to the one in Oakley, this was one of the top turn outs in comparison to other areas. Oakley also had the second highest number of comment returns.</p> <p>A meeting will be held in Inverkeithing regarding the Fife Plan. Locally, there are the usual complaints regarding street lighting, flooding and pot holes. BC admitted that the Council is struggling to keep up with the repair of pot holes.</p> <p>WF advised that Transport Scotland had proposed closing Kincardine Bridge for 2 weekends without giving any notification to the community, no signs and no diversions were put in place for the hospital buses. This was cancelled at the 11th hour because of the lack of consultation.</p> <p>The last block of flats in Kincardine will be demolished on the 10th of March.</p> <p>WF went on to say that he had had an interesting meeting with Stephen House, the new Chief Constable for Scotland. Fife will no longer have a Chief Constable; it will have a Commander who will assume the role of the Chief Constable. As of April 1st, it will be business as usual, there will be no reduction in police officers and there will be an Assistant Chief Constable for East Scotland.</p>	
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<p>Community Council Feedback</p>	<p>Tulliallan is not suitable for use as the Police Headquarters because it does not have a command centre, it is a public right of way and it does not have good transport links. There will be a National non emergency number as of April 1st. JB asked about the Fire Brigade transition. WF advised that he met with the new Chief Fire Officer last week. The fire service in Scotland is perfect. There may be some boundary changes but nothing else will change.</p> <p><u>Oakley/Comrie</u> The CC is busy with Community Futures applications. The steering group will decide where the priorities lie. Applicants should meet the criteria of the community action plan. HMIe visited the community centre this week. This was linked to the inspection of Queen Anne High School. Various projects were put forward for inspection by CLD. They also visited projects in Blairhall. JB felt that the young people who attended the inspection interviews did very well.</p> <p><u>Saline/Steelend</u> Once again this year, the Christmas Tree in the church grounds was vandalised. They had very good service from the police and the Dunfermline Press but unfortunately have not found out who did it. JC advised that the Participatory Budget project was also inspected by the HMIe; Lynn Hoey invited John and Marie to attend this. There has been an article in the Courier regarding an environmentally friendly cemetery in Steelend. No planning application has been submitted as yet. The art exhibition will take place on 20th and 21st April. A discussion was held regarding the costs of printing their newsletter; this has been funded by Fife Council, Blair House Trust and advertisers.</p> <p><u>Cairneyhill</u> Iain Henderson from Fife Council roads department visited the CC to discuss the design and costing of a controlled crossing at the West end of the village where the new estate has been built. The Youth Club is still progressing. They are disappointed that Fife Council has still not appointed a youth worker however Karen Scott and Shirley Melville have been very helpful. Cllr. Callaghan has been working very hard re the flooding in the village. They do not think that the gala field will be able to be used for the gala this year. CC meetings are held in the staff room of the school, this costs £252 per year from their grant. This is much more than any other CC pays. JB commented that historically schools put the rent so high that no-one wants to use them. BC said that the booking system also discourages people. AM advised that the CC could use the Masonic Hall which would be 50% cheaper but they do not want</p>	
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to do this as they should be seen to be supporting the community use school. BC said that the pub in the village also has meeting space and some groups in the village are given the use of this for free.

They held a 'Cairneyhill in Bloom' thank you evening at the end of last year.

The steering group is now up and running to carry out the Community Action Plan.

The Gilanderson Toll road section of the Core Path is progressing well.

Kincardine The gala committee ran a few successful events over the Christmas and New Year period.

The police thanked the CC for their support of planning applications submitted by the college.

Low Valleyfield CC have not held a meeting for the last 2 months however there is some flooding in the village although this seems to be clear today.

SC thanked Cllrs Clelland and Ferguson for their help with the flooding in High Valleyfield.

Carnock/Gowkhall DL reported that the progress towards a restructuring of the Carnock Community Trust running the centre is still not resolved. There are new concerns over outstanding liabilities from the original build which was completed in 2004, as well as the day to day losses in running the centre. Although the Trust owns the centre, C & G CC have a direct interest in it as a community resource. The new management committee have 'gone public' and issued a newsletter to Carnock and Gowkhall residents informing them of the situation. The Trust had suggested that these liabilities, now standing at £22,500, could be covered by requesting the diversion of funds from a recent grant to C & G CC's Carnock Play Park improvement project. That project had recently received a £50k contribution via a section 69 agreement attached to the A & J Stephen housing development at Carneil Road. This community contribution was in lieu of the builder providing a public open space within his scheme. However, a further Section 75 agreement attached to the development should eventually provide another £45k to the Trust. Protracted negotiations are in hand amongst the parties concerned to resolve outstanding issues to wind up the Trust. The new management team hope to complete restructuring to a new SCIO based charitable trust and return the Centre to break even later in 2013.

Re the potholes between Oakley and Carnock, DL has reported these at least 5 times. They have been repaired but this has been inadequate. A discussion was held regarding the repair of potholes.

<p>Planning Issues</p>	<p>DL attended the planning meeting in Inverkeithing. March 10th is the last time that communities will be able to submit comments regarding sites put forward for potential development on the Fife Plan. BC advised that it is also possible to comment on sites that you would like to see proposed.</p> <p>DL advised that they will be discussing this at the next CC meeting. He was told at the meeting that they are looking for comments re local info (e.g. if a site is a local burial ground etc). DL went on to explain how to get on to the website to view the sites. To make a comment, you must log in. For more information or help with the site, the contact name is Jenni.Whittle@fife.gov.uk . People need to use this opportunity to comment now rather than complain later.</p>	
<p>AOB</p>	<p>All CCs have received a letter from Lynn Hoey inviting them to a funding seminar which is being held on 28th March.</p> <p>Re Lomond Homes Section 75 agreement, JC asked how this could have been avoided. BC explained that both trigger points had been passed but that at no time was any money received from them. When the planning application was submitted for the Castle Hill site, he asked for different trigger points. Things can be improved but Blairhall was let down by Fife Council legal services. Planners should use previous experience. They need to be more vigilant. DL commented that there is no sufficient force behind planning conditions and asked if the enforcement officers have any power to enforce the conditions. WF advised that they have tremendous powers but seem reluctant to use them. They can issue anything from a warning to a prohibition notice (which would mean they would have to stop work immediately). BC went on to say that if there is a breach of conditions, he needs to be contacted immediately.</p> <p>DL will report on the COTY Awards, including the accounts at the February meeting.</p>	<p>DL</p>
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	<p>28th February 2013</p> <p>Dates of future meetings:-</p> <p>28th March 2013 25th April 2013 30th May 2013 27th June 2013 29th August 2013 26th September 2013 31st October 2013 28th November 2013</p>	

	<p>All meetings will be held at 6pm in Comrie Community Centre.</p>	
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