

# Saline and Steelend Community Council

## Minute of Meeting of 30.04.13 in Saline Community Centre

### 1. Present

John Crane (chair) Jim Hensman, Marie Crane, Donald Murdoch, Joan Featherstone, Till Kroeber, Isobel Menzies, Irene Wardell, Mary Mitchell, Robert Squair, Martin King, Fiona Aitken, Liz Harvey, Dave Hatton, Roddy Jones, Roger Featherstone, Jean Alexander, Rosslyn Baxter, Ronald Mentiplay, Terry Kinnear, Jim Currie, John Russell, Sally-Anne Woodall, Joanna Jackson, Laura Chesby, Helga Corp, Basil Russell, Cllr Bobby Clelland

In attendance for part of the meeting were Mr Kelly, Alan Henderson (Kingdom Housing Association) MorayRoyles (CIAO Architects)

### 2. Apologies

Dave Quinney, Kay Jackson, David Chisholm, Peter Ball, Muriel Phillips, Cllr K Stewart

### 3. Minutes of Meeting of 26.03.13

Approved. Proposed by Helga Corp, seconded by Robert Squair

### 4. Presentation by Mr Kelly on Proposed Bandrum Eco Cemetery

Mr Kelly outlined his proposals and left copies of a supporting document submitted with his application. He proposes a green cemetery with an access from the Saline to Cowstrandburn road and with parking for 15 vehicles. As there would be no headstones etc, there would be nothing to see and the facility would connect to the Core Path south of Saline Golf Course.

There was considerable concerns expressed by residents from the Cowstrandburn area, primarily about road safety and Mr Kelly's claims of 42mph average speeds were disputed. The viability of the project was also questioned and some neighbours were concerned about rainwater discharges onto their own properties.

Mr Kelly was questioned on a fence erected by Fife Council along the Core Path and why this was funded at public expense when there is no stock on the application site. It was pointed out that the fence was a boundary marker to avoid walkers straying onto the golf course at the golf club's request. Basil Russell confirmed the nature of the fence and indicated that the club had agreed to a diversion over part of the course.

Note: following the meeting, JC and DM agreed that it would be advisable for the community council to send comments to Fife Council. These will be circulated to members for comment

JC/DM

### 5. Presentation by Alan Henderson, Kingdom Housing Association and Moray Royles, City Architecture Office

Mr Henderson referred back to his attendance at a community council meeting in 2011 regarding the possibility of affordable housing on a site to the east of Oakley Road.

Kingdom HA now has a legal agreement to purchase the site subject to planning permission being granted. The association also is considering the gap site on Main Street. In response to a question from the floor, he indicated that Kingdom had been approached by Fife Council rather than raising the possibility themselves.

Kingdom HA will build up to 55 houses on the site in a variety of tenures to suit people's needs. A development of this size constitutes a "major development" in Planning terms

and the association is obliged to carry out a community consultation prior to an application being submitted. 12 weeks is the period allowed and arrangements are being made for a public event in early June. Comments made will be taken account of in the application. If outline planning permission is granted, details will have to be worked up and there will be further consultation prior to a full application.

Moray Royles outlined feedback from the consultations carried out as part of the Community Action Plan that confirmed a perceived need for social housing. AH confirmed that waiting lists confirmed that there was a significant need in the West Fife area.

Concerns were raised regarding the number of houses proposed for Saline and about the poor alignment of Oakley Road with a view that widening was required. AH pointed out that Kingdom would comply with Fife Council's requirements and indicated that Transportation had already recommended that the speed limit be moved when the LRD site is developed. A joint access with the LRD development would be dependant on the advice from Transportation.

### **6. Councillor's Report**

In response to queries about traffic calming on Oakley Road, Cllr Clelland indicated that proposals by Transportation had been turned down as the committee had wanted other options examined but there has not as yet been any feedback.

The School Review has now been completed and only Crombie School is affected. However, Fife Council needs to make £100m savings regardless of the party in power. As Education uses 42% of the council's budgets, there is obviously an impact on education.

Outline planning consent has been granted for the LRD site and the need for improvement of Oakley Road will be considered for this and the Kingdom proposals. Cllr Clelland confirmed that there is a bond to ensure restoration of the Blair House opencast site. This will only come into play when planning consent lapses. He is unaware of any interest in the site by other developers although this possibility cannot be discounted. He is also unaware of any requests or discussion on extensions to the current consent periods.

The Blair House Trust has considered an application from Cowstrandburn residents that was strongly supported by Marie Crane but other trustees wanted to discuss the matter further and a decision should be taken at the next trustee meeting. He confirmed that the Trust will continue despite Scottish Coal being in administration

### **7. Treasurer's Report**

The accounts have now been audited and there is £2458.16 in the bank. However these funds are reserved for the setting up of the Saline and Steelend Community Development Trust, transportation of the Barrowman Plough and Bonfire Night. When a gift to the auditor and hall rent are deducted, there is little left. The application for the 2013/14 grant will be submitted when the next bank statement is received. A thank you letter from Steelend Gala Committee in response to the community council's donation was appreciated

### **8. Planning**

The only current application of note is a house at Killernie Farm. Robert Squir spoke as applicant and indicated that the house was for his son who currently has to commute from Stirling. It was noted that there were two objections to the proposals but it was hoped that these could be withdrawn in view of the new information. JC/DM will advise

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MC

MC

JC/DM

Fife Council of the community council's views.

### **9 Secretary's Report**

DQ had passed his report to the chair. This report provided a response from Transportation Services to the secretary's formal complaint the the Chief Executive on the poor state of the B913 and B914. DQ described the response from Fife Council as "a catalogue of negativity and patronization" He added that. Although he had resigned as secretary, he would be prepared to contact other community councils in the area to establish whether they had similar problems with poor roads. JC indicated that he would discuss this with the incoming secretary when she returned from holiday.

JC confirmed that Dave Quinney has had to resign as secretary due to illness in his family. He praised Dave's determination to get the B913/B914 road improved. He pointed out that Muriel Phillips had agreed to take on the secretary's post and shares Dave's views on the need for road improvements.

JC/MP

### **10. AOCB**

In response to a request from the chair, DM gave an update on the Community Development Trust. An application for charitable status has been submitted and "talking tables" events are being arranged to fully involve the community and encourage membership/participation. The current steering group will continue to co-ordinate progress until the first AGM when a new board will be elected. The Trust will complement the community council by addressing issues that are outwith the community council's remit. It is anticipated that the community council will be asked to nominate two representatives to the board.

MC advised that she had met the new Police contacts at the last West Fife Villages Forum. The next Police liaison meeting is on 1<sup>st</sup> May in Oakley Community Centre. All members of the public are welcome and she will make a list of dates and venues available.

MC

All

### **9. Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at 7.30 in Saline Community Centre