

Saline and Steelend Community Council

Minute of Meeting of 28.01.14 in Saline Community Centre

Present

John Crane (chair) Jim Hensman, Marie Crane, Donald Murdoch, Kay Jackson, Muriel Phillips, Irene Wardell, Isobel Menzies, David Chisholm, Peter Ball, Jim Currie, Fiona Aitken, Helga Corp, Chic McCallum, Douglas Gifford, Elsie Tough, Roddey Jones

1. Chair's Opening Remarks

JC thanked Peter Ball for chairing the AGM

2. Apologies

Dave Quinney, Joan Featherstone, Roger Featherstone

NOTE: apologies were subsequently received from Cllrs Clelland and Stewart. They had not received notification due to problems with the e mail systems

3. Minutes of Meeting of 26.11.13

Approved. Proposed by JH, seconded by MP

4. Matters Arising

- JC confirmed that that a letter had been sent to Fife Council relating to the community council's concerns about access to the community centre. He subsequently met with officials and hand rails are to be installed at the entrance and along the wall leading from Main Street. The latter will require the agreement of the owner and John will make contact. Progress was welcomed by those present
- JC contacted Transportation re concerns about safety on Oakley Road and had had received a negative response. This caused concern and it was agreed that further pressure should be put on Fife Council about measures on the whole road, particularly the unsatisfactory position at Kinneddar Park
- JC advised that he had written to Jim Evans to thank him for providing last year's Christmas tree. PB advised that the Church Board had agreed to planting of a permanent tree, which was welcomed, and JH was authorised to liaise with JE
- PB reminded of the need to agree the location of the Barrowman Plough. JC and Sandy Carstairs will attend a site meeting

JC

JH

JC

5. Councillors' Report

None

6. Treasurer's Report

£2712.71 is currently held but only £470.17 is available to the community council with the balance required to restore the Barrowman Plough and an amount ring-fenced for

JC

future bonfire and firework displays. It was noted that John and Marie will not be organising Bonfire Night and that, if no-one volunteers, there will be no event this year.

7. Police Report

MC advised on the Police Community Engagement Meeting. Sgt Gillian Neill has returned in charge of the Oakley station with 3 teams of two community officers. PCs Gillian Wilson and Ian Rushford will be the main contacts for this area.

It was suggested that Sgt Neill could make use of the community web site and it was felt that this could be of benefit to Police and community. JC and KJ will raise this at the next Comms Group with a view to taking this forward

Community Engagement meetings will be held every two months in Oakley with the next on 20.03.14. MC is willing to give a lift to anyone without transport

JC/KJ

MC

8. Secretary's Report

MP advised of several planning applications that had no impact on the community. She also advised of changes to Alcohol legislation (drinking in public spaces) that does not affect Saline with Steelend already covered'

Consultation on the Fife Fire and Rescue Plan

It was noted that planning permission in principle has been granted on the LRD site at The Steadings

9. Bogside Farm and Muirside of Kinneddar Turbine Proposals

JC advised that a revised planning application had been submitted for the large turbine on Bogside Farm. There remain concerns over the company's disregard of impact on Saline and he has invited them to a meeting. He has submitted a holding objection to Fife Council and this was formally approved

It was noted that the application for Muirside of Kinneddar paid little regard for the impact on Kinneddar Park residents. Although smaller than the Bogside proposal, there were concerns from Kinneddar Park residents who have already suffered from previous planning decisions and remoteness. C McC asked for community council support in commenting on the application and this was agreed

JC

10, Fife Local Development Plan

MP received 4 small postcards to advertise of Fife Council's "consultation", She had posted these and attended the event in Dunfermline

It was noted that housing land allocations were to be significantly increased throughout West Fife to allow for need in the Edinburgh City Region. Major development is to be focussed on Dunfermline, Lochgelly and along transportation corridors. Despite Saline not meeting these criteria, a site off West Road has been identified as a "suitable alternative" for a 200 houses. This caused concern and JC submitted a draft letter objecting to this proposal and it was agreed that it should be formally submitted

JC

11. Other Planning Matters

IT was noted that permission for the housing development opposite Upper Kinneddar had been renewed despite a community council objection. The consent continue to require a £10,000 contribution to public art and it was felt that how this should be spent

should be decided within the community and not transferred to a wider Fife Council budget

12. Road Subsidence on A823

This continues to cause concern and JC reported on his discussions with Ian Jones, Transportation. The need for action is accepted but there are technical problems that need further investigation while Fife Council has restricted funding. The view of those present was that action needs to be expedited in view of the frustration felt by many in the community. It was felt that there is a need for Government funding, not least in view of the road's link to the Ryder Cup and that MP and MSPs should be contacted.

A specific problem is that drivers held up at the traffic lights are dumping litter, which is becoming a problem. It was therefore agreed that Fife Council be asked to address this issue through use of their roadside clean-up team

JC/MP

JC/MP

13. Drainage at West Road

Residents have identified a problem of water from fields south of the bus turning circle running into the car park and causing flooding that restricts both parking and access to recycling facilities. Similar problems were identified elsewhere and it was agreed that Fife Council and SEPA be contacted to establish the effectiveness of local drains

DM/JC/
MC

14. AOCB

- David Chisholm advised that planning permission in principle had been granted for the Kingdom HA site and how the concerns raised by the community council had been addressed through conditions. Importantly, the council has recognised the need for a high design standard and has required a village character study to be carried out. This is a first in Fife that should be welcomed. It was noted that KHA were required to provide a path linking Upper Kinneddar to Oakley Road. While this was seen as an important provision, it was felt that the cost could be to the detriment of quality design of housing and that the path is a Fife Council responsibility. It was felt that there was scope for a partnership approach to upgrading the whole park area and that the Community Development Trust be asked to lead on this
- Complaints about an overgrown garden in Upper Kinneddar have been received. JC has written to Fife Council without response. It was felt that the council has powers to enforce action and should be contacted again
- It was felt that the current seating arrangements and the poor acoustics made it difficult for people to communicate properly and that matters were not helped by informal discussions also taking place. It was therefore agreed that seating should revert to the previous arrangements of all sitting round the table

DC

JC

12. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 25th February 2014 at 7.30 in Saline Community Centre

