

Saline and Steelend Community Council

Minute of Meeting of 29.04.14 in Saline Community Centre

Present

John Crane (chair) Jim Hensman, Marie Crane, Donald Murdoch, Muriel Phillips, Isobel Menzies, David Chisholm, Joan Featherstone, Peter Ball, Jim Currie, Helga Corp, Jenny Ventham, Donald McPhillimy, Joe Crawford, Alan Robertson, Ninian Stuart, Mike Trevett, John Boag, Till Kroeber, Sandy Carstairs, Tina Chapman

1. Presentation by Donald McPhillimy

Donald has been carrying out a study for Forestry Commission Scotland into the possibility of reintroducing huts to Scotland. Following his study, he has recommended that a pilot project be carried out at Carnock Moor. He pointed out that the concept is popular in Northern Europe and involves simple huts in the forest with the aim of improving people's health. The pilot would consist of 10 plots with 2 to 3 allocated locally. However, there may be a problem with planning permission and building standards but this is being investigated with the Scottish Government.

The presentation generated considerable discussion and support. It was noted that Donald will be speaking to the school, community groups etc and will be organising a drop in event for 11.06.2014. He will also prepare an article for the Community Bulletin

2. Apologies

Dave Quinney, Irene Wardell, Cllr Kate Stewart, Cllr Bobby Clelland, Kay Jackson

3. Minutes of Meeting of 26.11.13

Approved. Proposed by JH, seconded by JF

4. Matters Arising

- JC confirmed that he had contacted Transportation about concerns over Oakley Road to Kinneddar Park road safety. He had been informed that there was nothing to be done and it was agreed that a meeting with transportation should be sought. JF pointed out that Cllr Clelland had previously indicated that proposals were in hand for the section between Eastercraig Gardens and Craighouse Place but that no details had yet been received. The chair agreed to contact Cllr Clelland for an update.
- It was noted that there has been a lot of activity at the bus turning circle and the problem seems to have been resolved
- JC confirmed that a line had been issued for the rail at the community centre entrance door and that a reconfiguration of the steps has been requested.
- It was noted that repairs to the A823 have been completed
- Trees and bushes have been cut back at the overgrown garden but neighbours are still concerned that the leylandii hedge is dangerous

JC

5. Councillors' Report

None

6. Treasurer's Report

£2504.71 is currently held but only £135.70 is available to the community council with the balance ring-fenced for other projects. £150 has been paid to each of the gala committees with a written thanks from Steelend and a verbal one from Saline. The fee to Data Protection has also been paid while hall hire and admin expenses are due. The council grant claim has been submitted but has not yet been paid.

The books have been audited and JF praised and thanked the treasurer on behalf of members for her sterling husbandry of the community council's funds

JF queried what happens to the money ring-fenced for bonfire night and was advised that it would be added to the community council's general funds. JC indicated that a possible volunteer had been in touch and that he had prepared a manual on organising the event.

7. Police Report

23 calls were received between 27th March and 28th April. Tools were stolen from a secure container while a car wing mirror was knocked off in Steelend.

The next Police meeting is at 7pm in Oakley Centre on 22nd May.

8. Secretary's Report

MP advised of an application to erect 200kw turbines at Mains of Comrie Farm. The demolition of the steadings at Standalane and replacement with new houses has been sought. The application for the proposed memorial garden was refused.

An invitation to the West Fife Community Health Partnership has been received while letters have been received re Fife Advocacy, Queen Margaret Hospital Development and the Fife Development Plan.

9. Turbine Proposals

TK advised that the Outh Muir application had been refused on policy and airport grounds. A 48m turbine at Killernie Farm has been approved while the developers have applied to extend the height of the turbine at Lockshaw Moss by 1.5m. The proposed turbine at Muirside of Kinneddar has received 10 objections. He noted that there is a proposal for 11 turbines on Forestry Commission land at Blairadam and there was a view that it would be odd if this were approved when the adjacent Outh Muir proposal had been rejected. A request for scoping of a proposed 90m turbine at Cults Hill has been received while a screening exercise is being carried out at Thorneyhill.

10, Blair House Site

It was noted that the next Liaison Committee meeting was on 9th May. It was also noted that 31st March was the date on which the bond would be drawn down. JC has not received replies to letters and there was concern at the lack of information being passed to the community. The difficulties being experienced by Fife Council were appreciated but there was a view that action at Government level was necessary to address the current impasse caused by the insurer's heel dragging. JC was asked to draft a letter to our MSPs and MPs

MC

JC

11. Other Planning Matters

None

12. Barrowman Plough

PB advised of problems raised by the Church of Scotland regarding insurance. The possibility of the parish church taking on responsibility was suggested and will be investigated with further discussion at the May meeting

JC/PB

13. AOCB

- JF advised that Saline Environmental Group was operating with a core membership of 4 people. A financial report has been prepared. They will be painting benches shortly and will be holding their agm on 18th June to which all are invited. JC suggested that JF prepare a report for the Community Bulletin and she agreed. The group is also taking over maintenance of the school orchard
- Tina Chapman advised on progress towards "Health and Social Integration". There will soon be a lot of older people and it is vital to make optimum use of available money. Tina also gave an update on the Saline Museum
- DC advised of being approached by parents wishing for the derelict Oaklea Play area to be refurbished. Previous problems were noted but it was acknowledged that there is a need for better play facilities in the village, DC will investigate and report back.
- DC advised of complaints about disabled access to Saline cemetery being restricted by dumping of palettes. He was asked to set up a meeting with the Bereavement Officer and to invite complainants to this.
- JF advised of receiving a complaint about teenagers' activities in Saline Glen with some people being reluctant to venture into it. MC said that this was a matter for the Police and people should be encouraged to report incidents to them. She said that concerned residents should also attend Police Engagement meetings where this kind of problem can be discussed.

JF

DC

DC

All

14. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 27th May 2014 at 7.30 in Saline Community Centre

