

Saline and Steelend Community Council

Minute of Meeting of 27.01.15 in Saline Community Centre

Present

David Chisholm (chair) John Crane, Jim Hensman, Marie Crane, Muriel Phillips, Donald Murdoch, Irene Wardell, Peter Ball, Jim Currie, Helga Corp, Alan Robertson, Morag Aitken, Beth Shaw, Jean Alexander, Marylla Ferguson, Steve McDonald, D Watling, Daniel Peggie, Jean Morris, Joe Crawford, Janet Murdoch, Maureen Storey, David Storey, J Bain, Martin Cairns Cllr K Stewart, PC Kirsty Orrock, PC Ian Moffat

Apologies

Kay Jackson, Dave Quinney, Isobel Menzies

1. Chair's Opening Remarks

DC welcomed all to the meeting. To ensure that minutes were circulated to those that wanted them, he asked for e mail addresses to be added to the attendance sheets. He reminded all of the need to disclose any possible interests in matters on the agenda.

2. Filling of Vacancies

DC indicated that there are currently 3 vacancies. He was aware that I Wardell and D Quinney had wished to stand but had been unable to submit papers in time. Alan Robertson suggested that Martin Cairns fill a vacancy. MC was nominated by DM and seconded by JC. Irene Wardell was nominated by DC and seconded by MC while DQ was nominated by JH and seconded by MP. It will be necessary for the papers to be submitted to Fife Council

DC indicated that Peter Ball and Jim Currie were willing to continue as co-opted members and this was agreed

3. Police

PC Orrock advised that she and PC Moffat were the community officers dedicated to this area. She described the new arrangements for community engagement. She and PC Chandler will be attending future meetings in addition to the regular Police meetings in Oakley

In response to queries about bad parking on Oakley Road, she advised that registration numbers should be reported to the Police. M Crane advised that she had raised this at the regular Police meetings

4. Minutes of Meeting of 25.11.14

Approved. Proposed by JH, seconded by HC

5. Matters Arising

1. Constitution: Fife Council has now taken over responsibility from Fife Vountary Action for community council constitutions but it is unlikely that we will hear anything for some months

IW, DQ,
MC

2. Hotel Site: DC has spoken to the owner who still wants to sell the site but this might take 3 years. If it doesn't sell, he will develop it himself. DC advised of a possible SSCDT project that would involve screening the site with art work produced by children. This will require further discussion with the owner.

DC

3. Bus service: DC advised that Stagecoach had not responded to a request to attend a meeting, which caused anger among those present. Cllr Stewart offered to set up a meeting with Stagecoach and this was agreed

KS

4. Post Office. DC advised of discussion with Post Office Ltd that has resulted in improvements to service in the shop. He has also spoken with the pharmacist about the delivery of prescriptions. Delivery to those unable to collect from the pharmacy has not been a problem for them

6. Steelend Moss. Joe Crawford reported on progress on the works. Removing the felled trees is problematic and help is required. 100 tonnes of timber will be made available to people through an open day on Saturday 31st January and two others that will be advertised in the Community Bulletin. In the longer term, the possibility of boardwalks to enable public access is being investigated

FifePlan. 7500 representations have been made and are currently being considered. Fife Council was criticised for its handling of consultations while it was felt that Scottish Government guidance disadvantaged communities in favour of developers

6. Main Discussions Themes

1. KHA site allocations policy. KHA and Fife Council have been approached with a view to including Mid-Market Rent properties alongside Social Rented homes. This would make it easier for Saline residents to apply for homes in the development. However, this would reduce the amount of grant that KHA would receive and Fife Council is unwilling to provide additional subsidy. However, KHA will be providing 20 affordable homes on the Allanwater site

2. Kinneddar Steadings. Fife Council has not responded to the community council's offer to facilitate a solution to the proposal not complying with the site brief. It is understood that planning permission will be given shortly

3. West Road. The community has been advised of Gladman Development's "consultation" event and of discussions with Fife Council Planning. It was agreed that the community council should prepare its own questionnaire for people leaving the "consultation"

TK/DC

4. Steelend Football Ground.

7. Turbines

1. West Craighouse Farm. DC reported on a letter from the applicant's agent apologising for the lack of consultation. This had been the result of misunderstandings arising from the original proposal being dramatically reduced. Concerns were expressed about the Scottish Government's relaxation of Planning requirements relating to wind turbines. There was particular concern about shadow flicker and it was agreed that Till Kroeber be asked to help in drafting a response. DC had spoken to the planning officer dealing with the application and, although the statutory period for objections had ended, he appreciated the problems that the lack of communication with the site owners had created and would consider representations from the community council

DC

2. Killernie Farm. Steelend residents had received a letter from the community council

seeking their views on the proposal. Feedback from Morag Aitken and Jean Morris was that there was little opposition. However, they indicated that the farmer had informed them that the wrong site was shown on the submitted plan and that the turbine was closer to the existing one. It was agreed that Fife Council be asked to clarify the situation

3. Mains of Kinneddar: J Crane had submitted an objection on behalf of residents but it appears that there has been none from the individual residents at Kinneddar Park

8. Councillor's Report

Cllr Stewart advised on the forthcoming Fife Council budget meeting. The biggest pressure is on social services and education that form the bulk of the council's expenditure. It was suggested that community engagement was key to looking for ways to address these issues. However, despite its constant rhetoric, Fife Council does not engage properly. The council gives too short notice of important meetings, holds meetings in locations that are not accessible for many in this community and generally ignores community concerns.

9. Treasurer's Report

MC indicated that £20 had been paid to the Small Lotteries Fund for continuation of the licence to hold raffles etc. £50 has been paid for the printing of flyers encouraging participation in the West Road consultation.

10. Blair House Site

A number of residents have received a letter from Thomas Docherty MP asking for comments on how things should be taken forward. It seems that tenders have been sought from contractors to restore the site. It appears that decisions have been made on the extraction of more coal.

11. West Craighouse Farm

Complaints have been made about smells and smoke emanating from a site west of Saline. This is due to fertiliser created from human waste stored on the site spontaneously combusting. The waste should have been ploughed in but ground conditions didn't permit this. SEPA has been involved and are now in discussions about how the material should be dealt with.

12. AOCB

Peter Ball raised residents' concerns about the number of potholes on the back road beyond Bridge Street, Saline. It was agreed that Fife Council Transportation be informed of the situation.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 24th February at 7.30 in Saline Community Centre

DC

DC

DC

