

**Present:** David Chisholm Marie Crane John Crane Morag Aitken Muriel Philips Jim Hensman Dave Hatton Ann Hatton Peter Ball Jean Morris Helga Corp Beth Shaw Alan Prentice Mark Baugh David Storey Maureen Storey PC Kirsty Orrock PC John Nugent Cllr Bobby Clelland Cllr Kate Stewart

**Apologies:** Till Kroeber Kay Jackson Donald Murdoch Irene Wardell Ian Holmes-Lewis Martin Cairns Dave Quinney Jean Alexander Jim Currie

**Declarations of interest:** DC declared an interest in the new housing development at Forest Mill. The masterplanning work is being carried out by the architectural practice of which he was co-owner and managing director until his retirement in 2006. He no longer has any financial interest in the practice but would not contribute to any discussion about the scheme.

**1. Chair's introductory remarks:** None

**2. Guest Speaker:** : Illness prevented Alastair Robertson, NHS Fife Health Ambassador, from attending the meeting. He will attend the next meeting on the 28 April.

**3. Additional items for the Agenda/Order of items:** None. Report from Police to be taken first.

**4. Minutes of previous meeting:** The minutes of the meeting on the 24 February were accepted as a correct record.

**5. Matters arising from the minutes of previous meeting:** Apart from those covered by the agenda.

a) North Road play area: DC reported that two parents had come forward to take forward the North Road play area improvement project. They would liaise with other interested parents. The Development Trust will provide support and assist with obtaining funding.

b) West Craighouse Farm turbine: Still being considered by Fife planning.

c) Odour from West Craighouse Farm: Agreement had been reached between SEPA and the operator over how the material is to be dealt with. Work is in hand.

d) Campaign for lower speed limit through Upper Steelend: David Storey reported that a petition is being circulated and would be submitted to Fife Council in due course.

e) Fracking: Ian Holmes-Lewis had attended a meeting with INEOS on behalf of Saline and Steelend Community Council. He had prepared a short report which would be published in the next Community Bulletin.

## **6. Reports**

a) **Secretary:** DM not present but DC reported the following communications from Fife Council.

i) Making Places Supplementary Planning Guidance: Fife Council have produced draft Supplementary Planning Guidance setting out design standards for new development. The consultation period ends in June. The Community Council will be responding.

Action DC/DM

ii) Flood Risk Management: Any resident concerned about flood risk can participate in an on-line consultation. Information about this to be published in the next Community Bulletin.     **Action DC**

iii) Planning Obligations Guidance: Fife Council have produced new Planning Obligations Guidance which replaces the three Financial Frameworks used previously to determine how developers contribute to the cost of upgrading local infrastructure, services and amenities when undertaking major developments. This is of particular interest to Saline because of the number of new homes proposed for the area.

**b) Treasurer**: MC reported no significant change in the financial position since the previous meeting. After discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed to make donations of £150 to each of the Gala Committees. It was also agreed to cover the cost of publishing one future edition of the Community Bulletin. MC should renew the Data Protection insurance.                     **Action MC**

**c) Planning:**

i) Forest Mill: Notifications received from Fife Council since the last meeting include an application submitted to Clackmanshire Council for the first phase of a very large housing development on former open cast land at Forest Mill. The initial application is for several hundred homes but if the masterplan is fully implemented it could be several thousand. It was thought that the negative impacts would not be significant and that the development might take some pressure for new homes off Saline.

d) **Police**: PC Orrock gave a short report on policing matters. No incidents of any significance during the previous month.

e) **Communications Group**: Mark Baugh gave a short report on the work of the Communications Group which publishes the Community Bulletin and maintains the villages website, and thanked the Community Council for its donation. Peter Ball suggested that the Community Council pages on the website should be reviewed as some of the information appeared to be out of date.

**f) Councillors:**

i) Cllr Kate Stewart: KS explained her interest in improving facilities for children and young people in Saline and Steelend.

ii) Cllr Bobby Clelland: BC explained the background to the closure of Longannet and the difficulties facing the coal industry. In relation to item 5e) above, BC commented that responsibility for determining planning applications for fracking under the Forth rests with the Scottish Government.

**7. Main discussion items**

**a) Housing:**

i) Kinneddar Mains/LRD site: It had been established that the rumour that Allanwater had withdrawn from the Kinneddar Mains housing project were untrue. DC had spoken to the developer and it had been agreed that the Community Council should arrange an 'open forum' so that Allanwater could explain their proposals and answer questions.

**Action DC**

ii) West Road: DC had written to Fife Council to convey the strength of feeling against the West Road housing development and the concerns that people have about the impact on local infrastructure and services.

iii) Kingdom Housing Association: DC had received an email from KHA stating that they would now be including six mid market rental properties in their Oakley Road development, which could be allocated to local people. A further four MMR properties would be included in the affordable housing on the Allanwater site.

**b) Turbines:**

i) Killernie Farm/Steelend: MA reported that the developer was now looking at locating the turbine closer to the turbine that has already been erected. The possibility of erecting two turbines was also under consideration. If the project goes ahead there would be financial benefits for the community. It is assumed that the money would be paid to a trust or similar body who would allocate it to local causes and projects.

- c) **Buses/community transport:** BS reported the discussion she had had with Aileen Aitken from Fife Council at the recent Volunteer Fair about the poor bus service. BS had also spoken to Bill Baird from the Royal Voluntary Service about a community 'taxi' service that they operate in east Fife. People without cars over the age of 55 can register with them and book someone to take them to medical appointments, etc at a cost of 40p/mile. The possibility of establishing the scheme in west Fife would be investigated.

**Action DC**

## **8. AOCB**

- a) Saline Glen and Steelend Community Centre: DC reported that a number of people have suggested that the possibility of the community acquiring Saline Glen should be revisited. It had also been suggested that community might acquire Steelend Community Centre which is now up for sale. The Community Council had formally registered an interest in the community centre last year. DC would see what professional help is available to communities wanting to acquire land and buildings.

**Action DC**

- b) Blair House Open Cast: MC reported that the operators of the Comrie Open cast site, LES, are in discussions with Hargreaves about carrying out reinstatement of the abandoned Blair House pit. If appointed LES are keen to work with local communities. Alan Kenny has offered to attend the Community Council to explain their approach.
- c) Boundary changes: JC drew attention to the possible boundary changes that are being considered that would see Saline and Steelend linked to Kelty rather than the west Fife villages.

## **9. Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 28 April