

Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 25th August 2015 at 7.30pm in Saline Community Centre

Present: David Chisholm, Marie Crane, John Crane, Jim Hensman, Morag Aitken, Donald Murdoch, Peter Ball, Jean Morris, David Storey, Maureen Storey, Jean Alexander, Janet Murdoch, Heather McIntosh, Dorella Brodie, Melanie Mitchell, Rajear Nataraja, Bob White, Max Horne, Marianne Horne, Martin Cairns, Sam Sweeney (Bracewell Stirling)

Apologies: Dave Quinney, Kay Jackson, Irene Wardell, Jim Currie, Beth Shaw

Note: Cllr Clelland had intended to attend but had been delayed in England and apologised for his absence

Declarations of interest: None

- 1. Chair's introductory remarks:** DC welcomed those present and hoped that all had enjoyed their summer break
- 2. Guest Speaker:** Sam Sweeney attended to update on the Allanwater application. He explained the background to the application, discussions with Planning officers and the committee's wish to refuse. Allanwater had withdrawn the application rather than appeal as changes to the Building Regulations made it essential that a new application be submitted by the end of the month. He described the revised application, the assessments carried out and the proposed changes. The original proposal was for 81 houses including 20 affordable properties. Fife Council had originally wanted to provide the affordable houses but had withdrawn while agreement could not be reached with Kingdom Housing Association. Consequently, it had been agreed with Fife Council that the number of houses be reduced to 61 and that Allanwater pay compensation in lieu of the affordable component. The revised proposals involve a change in house types that take account of concerns raised by objectors.
A play area will not be provided on the site in view of the proximity of a nearby facility and Allanwater will be paying a contribution to Fife Council towards play facilities elsewhere. Those present felt that it was essential that the money was spent in Saline after proper consultation with the community. The investigations being carried out by the Playpark Group will be invaluable.
DC suggested that the current position was a lesson in the value of proper consultation and all agreed that it had been a useful exercise
- 3. Additional items for the Agenda/Order of items:** None.
- 4. Minutes of previous meeting:** The minutes of the meeting on the 30th June were accepted as a correct record. Proposed by Jean Alexander, seconded by Marie Crane
- 5. Matters arising from the minutes of previous meeting:** Apart from those covered by the agenda.

- a) Saline Post Office: DC advised that he had contacted the Post Office who were unaware of any plans and would keep the community council advised of any developments
- b) RVS Community Taxi Scheme: An article was published in the last Community Bulletin
- c) Planning Department Consultation Meeting: DC had attended this meeting that had been poorly attended but with good representation from the West Fife Villages. In response to community concerns about accessibility to officers and charges for consultations, the department would be investigating the possibility of a liaison officer for community councils
- d) West Fife Villages Community Councils Forum: It is unclear whether this will continue but MC indicated that a meeting was to be held on 27th August when things might be clearer

6. Reports

a) Secretary: see attached report

Decisions taken were;

- a) Wind Turbine Decisions: Noted but developers to be contacted to establish position on contributions to community fund

Action DC/DM

- b) Request for contribution to West Fife Woodlands: Unable to contribute as community council has insufficient funds. However, SSCDT willing to consider appointing WFW for contractor works and group to be advised of this

Action DM

- c) Heritage Angels: A disappointing outcome but the exercise highlighted the good work carried out by Saline Heritage Society that many people were unaware of

- d) Fairer Scotland Event: Agreed that DC attend

Action DM/DC

b) Treasurer

MC advised that she had submitted the grant application on 6th May, that Fife Council had wrongly claimed that the forms were incomplete and finally paid the grant of £643.68 on 4th August. The current balance is £486.40

c) Councillor

None

- d) **Police:** None

7. Main discussion items

- a) Kingdom HA Oakley Road Site: DC reported that he had been advised that KHA were about to submit their planning application and hoped to be on site by around Christmas. AH is likely to attend the September meeting

- b) Turbines: The proposal for Killernie Farm is unlikely to go ahead. MA advised of the significant objections from Steelend residents. It was noted that the test masts at West Craighouse and Lockshaw Moss have still not been removed. Fife Council should be contacted

Action: DM

- c) Saline Playpark Group: Melanie Mitchell advised that there had been an initial meeting and that the group had been speaking to Claire Lovett from Fife Council
- d) Flooding Problems: MM advised that she had contact Fife Council about children trying to swim in the flooded area in the North Road playpark. Fife Council had closed off the park but, following complaints, had cordoned off the flooding. It was noted that there are other flooded areas in the general area that need investigation. It was also noted that a boundary wall to the play area was leaning and was a possible danger. Fife Council should be advised **Action DM**
- e) Saline Glen: DC advised that SSCDT have secured funds to appoint a consultant to advise on the viability of community acquisition. This will include advice on value of the site, liabilities, costs of improvements, potential income streams and how future maintenance costs could be dealt with
- f) Traffic Speeds/Road Safety: There was no update but DC advised that he had noticed a Fife Council official measuring up for signs. He also advised that Phil Clarke was willing to meet with people to discuss a possible Action Plan to tackle all road safety issues. Following the last meeting the Police advised that the problem boy racer had been warned. West Road residents have complained about speeding a drivers' bad habits at the chicanes. Martin Cairns suggested community action and it is believed that the Police are supportive. Marie Crane suggested that this could be raised at the Police Liaison meeting on 16th September and reminded all that this is an open meeting for all West Fife Villages residents
- g) Village Cars: DC reported on a meeting that he and Cllr Clelland had had with the company. The owners had been uncompromising and don't intend to do anything. There was concern about this, particularly with access to the community centre car park for participants and visitors to the Horticultural Show
- h) Opencast Sites: It was noted that the Comrie Colliery site is in financial difficulties due to the price of coal and the impending closure of Longannet power station

8. AOCB

Progress on the hotel site was noted and it is understood that 2 cottages will now be erected

9. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 29th September 2015