

Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 26th April 2016 at 7.30pm in Saline Community Centre

Present: David Chisholm (chair) Marie Crane, Muriel Phillips, Donald Murdoch, Janet Murdoch, Jim Currie, Morag Aitken, Jean Morris, Peter Ball, Jim Hensman, PC Kevin Chandler, K Hayes, G Duncan, Cllr Bobby Clelland, Cllr Kate Stewart

Apologies: Kay Jackson, Jean Alexander, John Crane, David and Maureen Storey, Beth Shaw, Melanie Mitchell

1. Chair's introductory remarks: DC remarked on the successful celebration of John Crane and Jim Hensman's contribution to our community that had been enjoyed by many. Both John and Jim had sent letters of thanks, which was appreciated. He reminded people of the need to declare any interests in topics on the agenda. Ian Jones from Transportation is still unavailable to attend a meeting but intends to attend the next meeting
Action: DC

2. New Items: None

3. Minutes of March Meeting: Accepted as accurate. Proposed by Marie Crane, seconded by Peter Ball

4. Matters Arising

i) Nether Kinneddar Lodge: There is no up to date information on this. Cllr Clelland indicated that there had been correspondence between the parties but that the issue has not been resolved.

ii) Remembrance Garden: DC had submitted the concerns expressed at the last meeting to Fife Council. He had also contacted the applicant to obtain more information on the issues raised, especially the road safety concerns, but the applicant had been reluctant to divulge anything.

iii) Insurance: Saline Heritage Society has made its own arrangements, SSCDT is investigating while the Play Group is aware of the need to obtain insurance
Action:DC

5. Reports

a) Police: PC Chandler indicated that Police had received 31 calls in April. 4 were classified as crimes (2 theft, 1 breach of the peace, 1 assault). Complaints of speeding continue and action is being considered. Problems of young people using an unused building at the school has been raised with the head teacher and it is being secured.

Cllr Stewart raised the number of complaints about Village Cars parking vehicles in the community centre car park. It is difficult for Police to enforce as it is a civil matter. Similarly, untaxed vehicles are a matter for DVLA.

The number of accidents in the West Road area was raised but Police would only be involved if there are injuries or damage to property other than the vehicle. Fife Council has access to Police records. DC indicated that Phil Clarke, Transportation was about to conduct speed surveys. Some present felt that Fife Council's speed reduction measures were ineffective, contributed to the problem and should be removed. It is anticipated that this will be considered as part of Phil's investigations

b) Treasurer: MC indicated that the 2015/16 accounts have been audited and circulated copies. The grant had been slightly less than previously. She highlighted funds that were ring-fenced and indicated that the contribution to the Cubs Centenary had not yet been claimed

while the demise of Saline Gala meant that the agreed contribution had not been paid. DC indicated that over £1500 had been raised at Donna Chesby's funeral towards play area upgrading. As the Play Group have yet to obtain a bank account, it was agreed that the community council would hold the funds on the group's behalf

c) Secretary: The attached was submitted and accepted with specific discussion on the following;

- (i) Community Empowerment Act: It was noted that the accessible venues for Scottish Community Development Centre's seminars were fully booked but the organisation will be contacted with a view to participating should vacancies occur. The Act is particularly relevant to the community council's desire to be more involved and also to the future of the community centre discussed in more detail as an agenda item
- (ii) Broadband: Cara Hilton MSP's actions following requests from the community council and many local individuals was appreciated. She has advised on BT's response and committed herself to further action if, as anticipated, BT programme for the more remote areas continues to slip. It was noted that most of the urban area can now obtain superfast broadband but there is still concern about the poor service elsewhere. Those present were reminded of the advisability of shopping around for a service provider

d) Councillors

- i) Cllr Stewart advised on the Play Group's request for information on the S75 agreement relating to the Allanwater development. She also advised that it has been difficult to get a meeting with Stagecoach. However, Linda Moyes had identified the Bus User Group as a way forward
- ii) Cllr Clelland indicated that drains in the North Road play area had been cleared, which will hopefully resolve the recent problems. Fife Council has established an "Integrated Facilities Group" to carry out a review of halls and community centres. In line with the Community empowerment objectives. Some officers had set a timescale of 6 weeks but those present felt that this was insufficient to permit proper community consultation and involvement. Following lack of action by the company holding the bond for the Blair House site, Fife Council has instigated legal action. There are limited funds remaining in the Blair House Trust and it will possibly be wound up. The company at Comrie Colliery is in administration but works continue and the restoration bond is still in place. The Environmental Trust will continue to award grants and a trustees meeting is likely to be held in May. Blase is still available to community groups who should contact Alan Kenney. The Longannet Task Force's request for Scottish Government financial support has been rejected but further submissions will be made.

6. Main discussion items

- (i) North Road Play Area: A site meeting is being arranged. DC and Nicola Smith have spoken to a Planning Officer about the Allanwater S75 obligation. He has confirmed that there is a requirement and is checking on its terms. The community view is that decisions should be taken locally via the Play Group. A workshop is being organised to consult and update others
- (ii) The Glebe: JC indicated that the application was going to committee on 27th April with an officer recommendation of approval. Following JC's description of the level of local opposition and inaccuracies in the committee report, there was concern about the report. Copies of the petition and objections had been sent to all committee members. It was noted that a site visit by councillors would take place.
- (iii) Saline Community Centre: Further to the secretary's and Cllr Clelland report, DM suggested that it was vital that this issue was fully discussed within the community. Councillors have indicated that closure is not an issue so there are opportunities to create better facilities. It was

felt that all facilities should be examined and ways to create better use should be identified. The state of the building was noted and there might be scope to provide a new building rather than constantly repair the existing one. However, people would need to become more involved and, to get things started, it was agreed that a public meeting should be arranged to determine the level of support. In the meantime, more information will be provided on the web site and Community Bulletin
Action: DM

- (iv) West Road: Phil Clarke, Transportation has acknowledged that there may be a problem and his team will be investigating improvements.
While High Steelend residents were satisfied with the works carried out, some felt that they would not alter drivers' behaviour. It is understood that Fife Council will be monitoring speeds and will report back.

7. AOCB

None

9. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 31st May 2016. All welcome

