

Saline and Steelend Community Council

Minute of Meeting of 30.09.14 in Saline Community Centre

Present

Peter Ball (chair) Jim Hensman, Marie Crane, Donald Murdoch, Irene Wardell, Joan Featherstone, Roger Featherstone, Jim Currie, Helga Corp, Alan Robertson, Beth Shaw, Cllr Bobby Clelland

2. Apologies

Kay Jackson, John Crane, Dave Quinney, David Chisholm, Isobel Menzies, Alan Fowler

3. Introduction

In the absence of both chair and vice chair, Peter Ball took the chair. He read out a letter of thanks from John Crane

4. Minutes of Meeting of 26.08.2014

Approved. Proposed by JH, seconded by JF

5. Matters Arising

- Main Street Parking: DC had submitted a report on his consultations on the sketch proposals presented to the August meeting. He has consulted on them at the Kingdom Housing Association consultation event, which showed support for the idea

DC

6. Councillors' Report

Cllr Clelland indicated that the Welfare Rights Seminar had been postponed and will be held at a later date

He indicated that Fife Council had approved the Housing Plan with some deletion of proposed sites. There was concern over the reserve status of the site off West Road and Cllr Clelland confirmed that there were still a number of stages before final decisions are taken. There are opportunities for objections at these stages

7. Treasurer's Report

MC indicated that the contribution to the public defibrillator at Saline Golf Club had been paid. The current balance is £2823.79, less ring-fenced funds, leaving a balance of £1673.79.

She indicated that signs similar to those at the entrances to Saline had received funding from the Blair House Trust but that there was a shortfall of £50. DM, seconded by JH, proposed that the community council make a donation and this was unanimously agreed

MC

8. Secretary's Report

Letter from John Crane referred to earlier

9. Police Report

None

10. Constitution

In Alan Fowler's absence, this matter was continued. JF asked when it would be available

11. Revised Bus Timetable

David Chisholm had contacted Cllr Clelland who was trying to arrange a meeting with Fife Council and Stagecoach. DM had circulated notes from Ken Fraser advising of the potential to use the 28 service in the evening and the school bus in the morning. While this was useful information, there is still concern of difficulties with the removal of the 8.30 service and the gap in the afternoon. Some present noted the significantly better service to Crombie but it was pointed out that these are subsidised by Fife Council and that subsidies are currently being re-examined.

The impact of new housing developments was raised with concerns about new residents being disadvantaged. However, there was also a view that additional residents were also potential passengers and that this should be stressed at the meeting

DC/Cllr
C

12. Turbines

It was noted that the test mast at Lockshaw Moss had still not been removed. It was also noted that the REG appeal to the Scottish Government re Outh Muir had been turned down

JF asked when the test mast at West Craighouse Farm would be removed. DM indicated that an application to renew the consent had been submitted. There was concern about developers ignoring Planning conditions but, in this instance, it was agreed that there was no merit in objecting

13. Oakley Road and North Road Traffic Calming

JF advised that work had been due to start on 6th September and was now due to start on 6th October. She referred to communication between herself, DC and Andy Geddes Lesley Craig had been helpful and had spoken to the headteacher. Nevertheless, there is still a problem around the school and various options were discussed. Jim Currie suggested locking the school gates to force use of the access from the bus turning circle and it was agreed that DC be empowered to investigate this with the headteacher. It was noted that DC had asked her to attend this community council meeting but that she had other commitments.

There was support for reorganising the bus turning circle, which will be discussed further at a future meeting

DC

14. Other Planning Matters

Renewal of consent for anemometer mast at West Craighouse Farm

15. North Road Play Area

No meeting yet but still interest from parents. In response to view that this was a Saline and Steelend Community Development Trust, DM confirmed that this is not correct.

DC/DM

SSCDT is supportive and will help wherever possible, but this is a project that will be led by the parents

DC

16. Blair House Site

Cllr Clelland advised that the Liaison Committee were meeting with MRT on Friday 3rd October and that more information will be available after that

17. Kingdom Housing Association

DC submitted notes on the consultations, which were generally supported by those present. However, a number of people were disappointed that there were no affordable houses for sale to local residents although KHA had indicated that 20 units were to be provided on the other development on the West side of Oakley Road. However, the possibility of provision was supported and it was agreed that the secretary should write to KHA. DC and DM will help her on this.

JF queried the benefits to the community and asked Cllr Clelland whether there was any likelihood that houses would be sub-let by tenants. Cllr Clelland indicated that there was no right to buy nor were tenants permitted to sub-let. He pointed out that KHA were strict landlords and that breaches of tenancy agreements were unlikely to be tolerated.

MP/DC/
DM

Jim Currie advised that KHA would not be accelerating development of the Main Street site but felt that this would be an ideal location for elderly or disabled people's cottages. The meeting's view was that action was required to either develop it or clean it up. It was felt that the current situation is unacceptable. It is unclear whether the site still belongs to Fife Council and it was agreed that the council should be contacted in the first instance

MP/DC/
DM

DM advised that he had been contacted by Alan Henderson of KHA who had advised that new restrictions by Scottish Water were forcing a redesign of the layout. The number of units will remain the same but this will delay progress.

18. AOCB

1. HC asked about the property at 61 Easter Craig Gardens and was advised that the tenant had returned. She was still concerned for the adjoining resident and it was agreed that the Secretary should write to Fife Council asking for greater clarity on occupancy. It was noted that the property is not held on the Housing Account and is not available to anyone on the waiting list

MP

2. Concern was expressed about the condition of the former hotel site and there is uncertainty about the owner's intentions. It was noted that previous complaints to Fife Council had been investigated but that there was no grounds for action

3. JH indicated that the Community Bulletin wrongly referred to Kelty and Blairadam Church. DM agreed to contact the editor

DM

4. There were complaints about the post office being closed for two days at short notice. The shop's difficulties were accepted but it was felt that options should be explored. It was agreed that DC be asked to speak to the owners

DC

18. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 28^h October 2014 at 7.30 in Saline Community Centre