

SALINE AND STEELEND COMMUNITY COUNCIL
NOTE OF MEETING: 29 TH APRIL 2025 at 7.30 pm in SALINE COMMUNITY
CENTRE

Present: Tina Chapman (TC)(chair) Donald Murdoch (DM) (Secretary) Marie Crane(MC) (treasurer) Cllr Karen Beaton, Jean Morris, Janet Murdoch, Sharon Glendon (SG), Ada Cooper, Annabella Davidson, Lynda Bath, Sonja Jones, Di Crawford, Gary Collins, Jacqueline Stones, Jocelyn Miller, Kay Jackson, Ken Fraser, Ali Macrae, Lois Jeffery-Jones

1. Welcome

Tina Chapman expressed best wishes to Claire-Louise Cuthbertson and Irene Wardell who were ill. She hoped that they would be better soon and able to attend future meetings. She noted that some participants had experienced difficulties in opening minutes. The problem will hopefully be resolved by the next meeting

2. Apologies

Claire-Louise Cuthbertson, David Chisholm, Irene Wardell, Cllr Sam Steele, Lisa Duncan

3. Notes of Previous Meeting

The March 2025 notes were approved

4 Matters Arising

a) Community Web Site: Still on TC's list.

ACTION: TC

b) Oakley Road safety issues: TC will be contacting the school to look for ways to resolve the problem. She referred to roads issues in the Community Action Plan and suggested that the time was right to update it.

c) Pharmacy: Lisa Duncan has to apply for something but hopes to open soon

d) Invoices: MC advised that the invoice for use of the hall from January to March meetings had been paid. Fife Council has confirmed booking for meetings till the end of March but has yet to submit an invoice

e) Bus Route: Stagecoach's decision to not drop off passengers at the bus turning circle on return journeys from Dunfermline continues to inconvenience people with mobility difficulties. Problems that wheelchair users encountered on getting on buses was raised. TC suggested a working group to examine these issues. SG agreed to lead on this.

ACTION SG

f) Storage: Jacqueline Stones reported on discussions with Fife Council on uses of lock ups. It appears that Fife Council intends to demolish the garages at the bottom of Eastercraig Gardens. Two of these are used to store equipment for the Horticultural Society. The group has been offered alternatives but this would involve a rental cost of around £600

g) Defibrillator: Andy Pryce advised that the defibrillator at the golf club needs replaced in 2026. It was agreed that a working group should be formed to look at costs and implications.

ACTION: TC

Jean Morris advised that Steelend Club had acquired a defibrillator that will be installed as part of refurbishment of the premises.

5. Discussion Items

a) Play Park consultation on refurbishment: It was confirmed that this refers to the facility in the Oakley Road recreation area. Annabella Davidson reported on her

attendance at the event. She felt that there was a need for fencing to prevent dog fouling. The meeting agreed but there was also concern about the level of dog fouling in the wider park.

b) **Review of Community Action Plan:** TC suggested that there is a need to update the plan in the light of new developments. She felt that this need not necessarily need to be printed on glossy paper. Ken Fraser referred to examples of simple plans prepared by other community council and will make copied available to TC. It was agreed that Saline and Steelend Community Development Trust should be asked to co-ordinate preparation.

ACTION: DM

Reports

a) **Secretary:** DM advised on a planning application to modify a planning approval for a wind turbine west of Saline. The consent has been around since 2014 but there has been no sign of development taking place. The applicants now want Fife Council to drop one condition, modify another and extend the approval from 25 to 40 years. There has been some feedback that the application should be refused but the community council can only object to the proposals not the turbine itself. It was felt that consideration of the conditions was a matter for Fife Council and that extension of the period of operation was sensible

b) **Treasurer:** MC advised that the accounts have been audited, which will be discussed at the May meeting. The application for the grant will be submitted after that. It was noted that the dates of the community council's AGM are different to the financial year and it was agreed that the May meeting will be an AGM and thereafter in April.

c) **Councillors:** Cllr Beaton referred to complaints about speeding and had spoken to Police. The Police will increase use of the Pop-up Police Officer and have increased patrols. Ken Fraser said that he felt strongly about the Community Facebook page being used to report Police speed traps. Cllr Beaton advised that Fife Council's and Police's priority was to save lives, particularly children's. They did not support action against posters and felt that anything that slowed down potential speeding was effective. Many participants felt that there should be future checks at Upper Kinneddar/Main Street. There was also concern about motorbikes being driven at speed through the villages. She should be given details of occurrences, which should also be reported to Police. It was noted that, even if Police action is not possible, reports show up in statistics, which enhances the chances of action..

Cllr Beaton was also aware of motorbikes causing nuisance in parks, particularly in Oakley and Comrie. She had had no complaints from Saline or Steelend but advised that, again, incidents should first be reported to Police and herself if necessary.

d) **Police:** No report

e) Community Groups

I) **Heritage Society:** Lois Jeffery Jones advised of the Society's AGM on 2^{1st} May. There will also be a talk on Mary, Queen of Scots

II) **Gardening Group:** Jacqueline Stones advised that the Horticultural Society has been relaunched as the Saline and Steelend Gardening Group to reflect a wider approach to include gardening in the community. Volunteer gardeners meet every 2 weeks on a Tuesday morning and look after the flower/shrub beds around the village. The annual flower show is usually held on the first Saturday of September. A Show Schedule will be available a few months before the show. It will include a range of Children's classes and will work closely with to engage children. The group will also work closely with other community groups, particularly Saline Environment Group, to run fundraising and awareness events. This will include Christmas wreathmaking and Spring Plant Fayre.

III) **Saline Environment Group:** Di Crawford said that the polytunnel has been

erected. 2 seats have been installed, one of which commemorates Jim Hensman's contributions to the community. 2 wildflower meadows have been planted and the group has its first young volunteer. She advised that 2 people had attended the first pickleball meeting and had enjoyed the experience. The cost of hall hire was £10.50 and future meetings could be viable if at least 4 people attended.

IV) **Community Pantry:** Kay Jackson advised that the Pantry has a regular attendance of 60-70 people. There will be a cookery demonstration on 30th April and a VE Day event on 7th May

7. AOCB

I) **Loop system:** Ali Macrae said that the hall's acoustics are a real concern. A loop system will only help those with hearing aids programmed for loop system use. It will not benefit help those whose aids are incompatible. He advised that the church has a loop system that is no longer used with the old church building becoming redundant. He has permission to investigate whether it could be used for Community Council meetings in the small hall. He has a contact who may be able to advise whether this would work or what more modern equipment may be feasible and its cost. He will update when information is available. **ACTION AM**

8. Date of AGM and Next Meeting

27th May 2025 in Saline Community Centre at 7.30 pm. All welcome