

SALINE AND STEELEND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NOTE OF MEETING: 27th MAY 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, Sonja Jones, Di Crawford, Gary Collins, Jocelyn Miller, Ali Macrae, Jonny Noblett, Sarah Adie, Lorraine Dobie, Linda Moyes

AGM

i) Change to AGM date: Tina Chapman welcomed those present to the meeting. She advised that the community council was required to hold its AGM before 30th June. This has consequences for submitting the community council's annual grant application when the AGM is currently held in October/November. Accordingly, it is now proposed that future AGMs should be in April. This was agreed.

ii) Annual Report: TC provided a short roundup of some of the topics identified and taken forward over the previous 6 months a) Website: started but difficulties experienced-further work needed b) Traffic: speed, parking, signs,safety-ongoing but with some resolution-awaiting installation of 20 mph (Saline Main street/West Road and 30mph (Steelend Main Road) speed signs. c) Potholes and drainage-highlighted, some resolution, still an issue d)Water leak and former hotel and Steelend Main Road and Main Street, Saline d) Nettlyburn: solar farm application submitted e) Saline Glen: work undertaken f) Pharmacy: ongoing but Lisa Duncan hopes for opening shortly g) Oaklea play park: consultation h) Hearing loop: investigation of suitable system i)Bus services: issues and review j) Defib: small group to draw together k) Community Action Plan: to be updated

l) Community Centre: renovation/reopening

m) Fireworks: display 2024

n) Saline Gardening Group: Saline Environment Group, Saline Heritage Society, Community Pantry: all provide updates

iii) Annual Accounts: Marie Crane presented the annual audited accounts and confirmed that the application for the grant has been prepared. Approval of the accounts was proposed by Sharon Glendon and seconded by Sonja Jones

MONTHLY MEETING

1. Apologies

Claire-Louise Cuthbertson, David Chisholm, Irene Wardell, Kay Jackson, Lisa Duncan

2. Notes of Previous Meeting

The April 2025 notes were approved

3. Matters Arising

a) Community Web Site: TC has established that Fife Council is offering a free template for a community council web site and she is investigating this. ACTION: TC

b) Oakley Road safety issues: TC has been unable to arrange a meeting with the school due to pressure on the headteacher's time.

Reference was made to Fife Council approving the introduction of parking restrictions on Limekilns Promenade. It was felt that the situation there was less serious than in Saline and councillors were asked to investigate,

It was noted that officers had not agreed to councillors' request for a site visit to examine

road safety issues and it was agreed that TC should submit a complaint. ACTION: TC

c) Lisa Duncan was unable to attend this meeting but it is understood that progress is happening and work will start soon on fitting out works.

d) Bus Services: Stagecoach's decision to not drop off passengers at the bus turning circle on return journeys from Dunfermline continues to generate complaints. Sharon Glendon confirmed that she will be contacting Stagecoach to discuss these issues.

e) Storage: It was noted that Saline and Steelend Community Development Trust has asked Fife Council to pause demolition of garages at the bottom of Eastercraig Gardens in view of community interest in acquisition.

Lorraine Dobie explained that the Community Pantry was examining ways to reduce storage requirements.

g) Defibrillator: As indicated earlier, TC has been unable to meet the school but has established that Fife Council offers a grant of £500 towards purchase of a defibrillator.

g) Review of Community Action Plan: DM advised that he had contacted the chair of the Community Development Trust and asked him to arrange a trustees' meeting. At the Trust's AGM the feeling of the meeting was that the new plan should follow the successful process established in the original Plan.

4 Discussion Items

a) SEPA Survey: DM advised that details of the consultation had been circulated to meeting participants and Saline Environment Group, and advertised on Facebook. It was felt that, while the survey did not directly affect the community, the proposals enhanced the chances of breaches of environmental regulations being remedied quicker.

b) Bus Survey: DM advised that Fife Council was holding a consultation on the use of subsidised services. It is important that people respond to this consultation to prevent loss of valuable services. It was noted that most buses after 4pm and on Sundays were subsidised. Details on how to obtain the consultation have been posted on the Community Facebook Page, circulated to community council participants and hard copies made available.

Reports

a) Secretary: DM advised that planning permission in principle has been sought to demolish a cottage and outbuildings on Bridge street, Saline, and to develop the site for 3 houses. Whether the site was big enough for 3 houses and whether the site was affected by mining restrictions was raised. DM indicated that the site was within the Saline "Village Envelope" and it was unlikely that Fife Council would refuse the application provided that Local Plan criteria could be met and that any mining problems could be overcome.

He has been contacted by Groupotec representatives regarding a draft Memorandum of Understanding between the company and Saline and Steelend Community Development Trust about the Community Fund. The company will pay £35,000 each year with the first payment being made when the site starts generating electricity. The main requirement will be that approved projects benefit the local community.

b) Treasurer: MC referred to the audited accounts and indicated that there was no change in the financial position since last month.

c) Councillors: More complaints have been received about dog fouling. It was also noted that a child had been bitten by a dog. It was noted that Fife Council has virtually no powers to prosecute. Members are reminded that they are able to report dog fouling online at <https://www/fife.gov.uk/services/form->

It has been established that the problem fence on West Road (old hotel site) belongs to

the owner of the company building the new housing on the opposite side of the road. Arrangements have been made to install a ramp at the community centre fire door. Dirt biking continues to be problematic elsewhere.

Fly tipping again raised as an issue. We are requested to report all fly tipping, and also to highlight to councillors areas that appear to be affected on a regular basis to councillors. The bin at the skate park continues to be problematic and requires to be up-righted regularly. A request for proper fixing or provision of a new bin is to be made.

d) Police: Schools are being visited by officers and were present at Saline pupils' peaceful demonstration against speeding past the school.

e) Community Groups

- I) Heritage Society: Linda Moyes advised of the Society's work and programme for next year. The Society is looking for volunteers to staff the museum whose theme for the museum this year is 150 years of Saline School
 - II) Gardening Group: Gary Collins reported that the Eastercraig Gardens planters have been completed and that surplus plants are to be distributed to other beds in the village. He has painted the village entry signs. The group needs and would welcome new volunteers.
 - III) Saline Environment Group: Di Crawford said that two young volunteers from outwith the community have been recruited. Tools have been obtained and the group hopes to fill the polytunnel by January 2026. The Scarecrows competition is under way and seems popular. The group will be organising a nature walk in June.
 - IV) Community Pantry: Lorraine Dobie advised that the Pantry continues to have good attendances, including visitors from outwith the area. The group intends to hold cookery demonstrations every 6 weeks, starting in September.
- h) Loop system: Ali Macrae advised that his contact will be checking whether the system from the church will work in the community centre. Alternatively, he will advise on systems that would work. Ali was advised to discuss any alterations to the community centre with Fife Council.

6. AOCB

- i) Bike Track: Jonny Noblett and Sarah Adie referred to identified needs for activities for older children, They are keen to progress a bike track in the Oakley Road recreation area. In response to comments, they said that a track could be incorporated without impact on the football pitch. Cycling organisations had indicated that a contribution towards funding could be offered.
- ii) The Royal Voluntary Service will be distributing leaflets about their free patient transport service
- iii) Midfield Terrace, Steelend: Jean Morris advised of 2 big potholes and dropped drains. Councillors will investigate.
- iv) Hedge south of Community Centre car park. Councillors will investigate.

7 Date of Next Meeting

24th June 2025 in Saline Community Centre at 7.30 pm. All welcome

