

Kinghorn Community Council

Minutes of the meeting Thursday 21st January 2010 at Kinghorn Community Centre

1. **Present:** - Fraser Ballantyne (Chair), Alex Cook, Sadie Wilson, Marilyn Edwards (Secretary) Rena Wallace (Treasurer), John Lancaster, Martin Melvin, Alex Gibb, James Willis and Collett Salvona
Cllr Ron Edwards

Members of the Public – 26 people present.

Apologies - Neil Chalmers, Sgt Edith Potter, Cllr George Kay, Cllr Susan Leslie

2. **Chairman's Remarks**

The chairman said that between the monthly meetings he had put in his resignation and after consideration had withdrawn it. If any member was unhappy with this position he would refer it formally to the Community Council. All the members of the Community Council were happy for the chairman to continue.

3. **Guest Speaker**

Presentation from Cala Homes from

Derek Lawson – Cala Homes

Ian Logan - Optimised Environments Masterplanners for Cala Homes

David Osbourne - owner of Inverciel Farm was also present

Derek Lawson introduced himself and said that the Planning Application for the development was still to be presented to Fife Council and this was the Pre-Application Masterplan Consultation stage. There was still time for comments and changes to be put forward and he said there is more information, and a feedback form on their website at www.cala.co.uk/kirkcaldy

Ian Logan gave a power point presentation of the Masterplan. Ian explained that the Masterplan has been prepared to support the application for Planning Permission in principle for a mixed use development in South West Kirkcaldy. He said that other supporting studies had been undertaken including Environmental, Socio-economic, Transportation Flood Risk and Topographical Assessments. The Masterplan had given consideration to safety within the development and had identified space for a future primary school, local shop, open space and landscaping. Landform of the site, which was quite hilly in places, meant that the ridge line was considered in the design. Ian finished by saying that feedback and comments helped to inform the Masterplan which was on-going over four years.

There followed a question time from Community Council members and public present.

- (Q) What level of provision was given to shops?
(A) It was envisaged that there would be a convenience store, café/restaurant and a Neighbourhood Centre. Derek was asked if there would be a Post Office included in the shops as this could affect the provision of one in Kinghorn, he said there were no plans for a Post Office.
- (Q) Where would the school be situated? Would this be in a central safe place?
(A) The school may be placed around a central square inclusive of shops and would allow safe access. The school would be considered after 400 houses were built. Also if playing fields were adjacent to the school then these could be used communally.
- (Q) What about provision for Secondary School in the area?
(A) Derek said that he was aware that Balwearie High School was at over capacity and he had been asked about high school provision before. He said that Cala Homes had put this question to Fife Council who are responsible for this statutory provision but had no answer as yet.
- (Q) Would there be a walk way link from the development to the High School?
(A) Derek said that a problem of providing a pathway was that it would require use after dark and a need to be lit properly. The construction of a safe pathway by a direct route was seen as important to the meeting.
- (Q) Would the development include trees and planting around the boundary to ensure screening to the surrounding countryside?

- (A) Derek said that it was the intention to leave trees within the site and add boundary planting.
- (Q) What proportion of the development would be given over to social housing?
(A) Derek said that the percentage would be agreed by Fife Council. Sometimes the agreed houses are built by the developer and then handed over to the Council. The whole development will include apartments, terraced, semi-detached and detached homes. The concern was that housing would be affordable to the Kirkcaldy area.
- (Q) Did the development include any listed buildings?
(A) There were none
- (Q) Fife Council Strategic Land Allocation was for 1000 houses so why did the Masterplan show a different boundary when this had not been agreed?
(A) Derek said that it was hoped that there would be a further expansion of housing in the future but for the present it remained at 1000 houses.
- (Q) It was suggested that a double roundabout at the railway bridge would be a safer entry/exit to the site
(A) Derek indicated that the road system would be fully accessible to buses but there would be no connection to the Kinghorn Road.

It was agreed that the subject would be put on the February agenda for any further feedback to be passed on to Cala Homes.

4. Police Update

The secretary read out an email from Sgt Potter. It said that some changes were being made to allow a dedicated officer for Burntisland Kinghorn and Auchtertool. This would be PC. Keith Gibb.

A Beat Meeting was arranged for Monday 1st February at the Toll Centre Burntisland. The idea was to listen to the concerns of the community and set 3 priorities. It is the intention to arrange to hold drop in sessions in Kinghorn. There will be someone along to the February Community Council meeting to talk about the changes.

The December Central Area Police Report was available on Fife Direct.

5. Minutes from the previous meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Alex Gibb and seconded by James Willis.

John Lancaster asked the secretary if any letters of complaint had been submitted to the Community Council for the proposed minutes, she replied no, there were three letters of support for the chair as stated for the December meeting

John Lancaster left the meeting at this time.

An email was read out from Ron Edwards asking that in item 7, New Business, the minutes should be corrected to Ron Edwards not Cllr Edwards. The correction was agreed.

6. Matters Arising

- a) Harbour Toilets renovation – It is hoped that Environmental Services will oversee completion of the renovation work soon. The secretary had a small list of names of people prepared to volunteer to help with opening and running the Upstairs Room at the Harbour toilets, but no group had expressed an interest to take on organising the project.
- b) Viewpoint project at the Pettycur Steps Kinghorn – The Viewpoint group had met the previous Friday and it had been a productive meeting. Action notes were made from the meeting. It was agreed to compile a project brief and look for further funding. A new artist drawing from Lynnette Gray was shown to the meeting and a financial estimate was in place. Plans will need to be drawn up and agreed with Community Services. Jim Murphy has agreed to act as Project Manager.
- c) Pathways within Kinghorn – The next Pathways Group Meeting would be Monday 25th January. More Statement of Use forms were required, these would be printed off and made available at the Community Centre and the Glory Hole. As soon as a map of the Town pathways is ready it will be brought to the Community Council to begin a consultation process.
- d) Other Items
 - Boundary changes to Kinghorn/West Kirkcaldy Community Council to avoid splitting the housing estate at Seafeld. An alteration in the boundary would mean a reduction in people number and might lead to a small reduction in annual grant for the Community Council. This

could soon be offset by the new housing development at the loch. A discussion followed and feelings were expressed that

- i. The Parish Boundary held historical value and this should be preserved
- ii. The new proposed South West Kirkcaldy Development also crossed boundaries and a similar decision would need to be made for the future.
- iii. Should the coastal Community Councils consider working more closely together in the future.
- iv. the people in Seafield should be asked their preference

The meeting agreed that the residents should be consulted on the matter and asked the secretary to convey this view to Fife Council

- Signage for the Coastal Path – The secretary had been informed that signage was being reviewed and upgraded where necessary. Stewart Bonar, Fife Ranger was covering the Kinghorn area.
- Damage to the telephone kiosk outside the Dental Surgery in the High Street – The secretary had reported this but had not heard back yet.
- BID Kirkcaldy – The secretary had sent a letter protesting that Ward 10 should give £15,000 out of its budget/year to fund Kirkcaldy events. The meeting learned that the money was agreed to be given although Cllr George Kay and Cllr Ron Edwards were snowbound at the time.
- Conservation Board – It was proposed to replace the heritage board at Townhead and Diane Barbary would consult with the community on this. The information board at Nethergate is to be removed.

e) **Planning Issues**

Planning Application - Salmon Cottage, St James Place

Originally the planning application was for wall panel elevations and a pergola to the side of the house. The secretary had put in a holding objection because of lack of detail in the plan. The pergola had been withdrawn but the Community Council was concerned that the plans still lacked detail for height, size and appearance of the overall panels once fixed to the wall. Also concern remained about the appearance of the panels from the promenade, beach and the Braes. The secretary would write to Development Services with the remaining Community Council objections.

7. **A list of correspondence was circulated**

The secretary said that items for action would be changed to blue as the red ink did not work well on her computer. Many items like publications and newsletters came electronically and these would be passed on to those members on email. The list of monthly correspondence would remain the same and anyone wishing a copy of an item the secretary would print it off for them.

Items for action

- Keep Scotland Beautiful Spring Clean – The Harbour Residents and Environmental Group would be taking part in this in early April.
- Celebrating Fife 2010 – It was agreed to invite Katherine Sellar to speak at the February meeting.
- Consultation feedback for the Review of Community Council Scheme – It was agreed to hold a special meeting to discuss this item. Secretary to try and arrange for two weeks time, Thursday 4th February in the Community Centre.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm and time did not allow further business.

The chairman said that if anyone had an item for public question time, which could not be discussed through lack of time, to see the secretary for action or to have the item put on the agenda for the next meeting.

New Business

Public Question Time

Date of Next Meeting – 7.30pm on Thursday 18th February 2010