

Kingsbarns Community Council
Minutes of meeting held at Kingsbarns Memorial Hall,
Monday, 6 July 2015 at 7 p.m.

In attendance: KCC members: Jean Bell, Eileen Brown (Treasurer), Calla Cobb, Martin Dibbs (Secretary), Margaret Harkins (Vice-Chair), Shona McIntosh. Councillor Donald Macgregor; 10 members of the public.

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. and was chaired by Margaret Harkins.

1 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Huw Lloyd Richards (Chair), Sue Jenkins (Planning Sub-Committee and Councillors John Docherty and Elizabeth Riches.

2 Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes were proposed by Eileen Brown and seconded by Calla Cobb.

3 Matters Arising

3.1 Future of the Kingsbarns Defibrillator

The Secretary reminded the meeting that KCC had been asked by the owner of *Simpatica* to arrange to remove the defibrillator from her premises. He said that he had been in contact with Fife Planning Department, a case officer (Fiona Kirk), had been allocated who had agreed in principle to a new site on Main Street in the garden area by the rear entrance to the Memorial Hall. He was now in the process of setting up a meeting between Gillian Duncan, Fife First Responder, Jamie Turnbull, Chair Memorial Hall, Kate Holy, Convenor of the Planning Sub-Committee and himself in order to discuss actual location, electricity supply, contractors etc.

3.2 Sale of Affordable Housing and Fife's Scrutiny Committee

It was reported by Cllr Donald Macgregor that this matter had not moved forward. At the KCC meeting of Monday 2 March 2015, John Mills, head of Fife Housing had promised to come back to KCC with answers to points made at that meeting. To date, four months later, there had been no communication from him. It was agreed that KCC would write to Cllr Macgregor who would put the following points to the Chief Executive: given that Fife Council had allowed the two affordable homes on the Village Green Development to be sold on the open market, (1) Does Fife Council consider that the developers (Cambo Estate and Ogilvie Housing) have provided 10 or 12 affordable houses? (2) Given Fife Council's 50 per cent nomination rights, how many nominations did the Council make and how many of those resulted in tenancies? (3) Which member of staff agreed that the shared equity houses should be sold off and how was this decision reached? (4) Is Fife Council aware that at least one of the Rural Homes for Rent has been advertised on the Gumtree website by Cambo Estate? Is this a situation they are comfortable with?

3.3 Kenley Wind Farm

For details of the latest meeting, the meeting was directed to the Kingsbarns Community Development Trust website (www.kcdt.org.uk).

3.4 Condition of Road Surfaces in Kingsbarns

There was a general discussion regarding the very poor condition of some of the road surfaces in Kingsbarns, notably potholes. It was agreed the Secretary would write to Cllr. Macgregor regarding this issue.

4 Treasurer's Report

4.1 Bank Account and Accounts for 2014-2015

The Treasurer was able to report that, having sorted out the problem of authorised signatories, KCC's bank account was now operating normally. She reported on the difficulties she had regarding dealing with RBS and was currently awaiting statements to finalise the accounts for 2014-2015. With an auditor now organised, she hoped to present the accounts at the next meeting.

5 Planning Report

Kate Holy, Convenor of the Planning Sub-Committee, outlined the applications they had been working on since the last KCC meeting.

5.1 Kildinny Yards, Retrospective Refusal

This has been appealed to Fife Council. The KCC were invited to comment and did so in supporting the Planning Officer's reasons for Refusal.

5.2 PPP for 2 houses at North Quarter Steading

The KCC put in an objection to this, as did many individuals. This will be on the North East Planning Committee agenda for Wednesday 15th July at County Buildings Cupar. The Planning Officer's Report has not been published but should be on the planning website by the end of this week.

5.3 Housing Development Phase 2

An appeal has been launched by Ogilvie Homes against the refusal of planning permission for the second stage of housing development. The Reporter has been appointed and is Mr Iain Urquart, who was the Reporter on the previous appeal. All those who wrote have been asked if they wish to submit further comments and the KCC Planning Sub-Committee is currently working on their submission.

5.4 Points Arising

A discussion then followed during which the matter of the sale of the affordable housing and allocation of rented accommodation on the development was again raised. This was a contentious issue and the point was made that it seemed that council officers were making decisions regarding these issues behind closed doors and without reference to local councillors. Cllr Macgregor agreed to take this matter up with the Chief Executive of Fife Council (see point 3.2). It was proposed by Jean Bell and seconded by Shona McIntosh that the matter be referred to the Local Authority Ombudsman. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Convenor of the Planning Sub-Committee was commended on her submission.

6 Any Other Business

6.1 The 20 mph sign at the entrance to Back Stile was still reported as lying on the ground. Secretary agreed to contact Fife Council about this.

6.2 The issue of using Station Road as a one way system during the period of the 'Open', i.e. 'down' until 3 p.m. and 'up' thereafter on a daily basis in was raised. As this arrangement would cause inconvenience to regular users of Station Road, Secretary agreed to contact Fife Transportation Department to confirm that this system would only operate in the event of traffic/parking problems arising in St. Andrews.

6.3 Nick Lunan agreed to look into the problems with the alignment of the turnout from Station Road on to Main Street.

6.4 It was confirmed that the pub was now open and was offering bar food from 6 July. The restaurant was scheduled to open on 27 July.

6.5 It was reported that the Community Development Trust was having its AGM on 12 September prior to which there would be an open meeting.

7 Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 7 September at 7 p.m.
The meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.

Martin Dibbs,
Secretary – Kingsbarns Community Council