

FINDERNE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MEETING NOTES

Meeting of Monday 25th April, 7pm at Edinkillie Community Hall

FCC members present:

Brian Higgs (BH) - Chair

Chris Piper (CP) - Vice Chair

Mike Crutch (MC) - Acting Secretary

Carlo Miele (CM) - Acting Treasurer

Jerry Akehurst (JA) - installed as a Co-opted Member

Nicola Howard (NH) - installed as a Co-opted Member

Tony Pinner (AP) - Associate Member

Bob Laughton (RL) - Associate Member

Also present:

Jane Martin (JM) - CCLO, The Moray Council

Lorna Cresswell (LC) - Moray Councillor

Alastair Kennedy (AK) - Chair JCC, Moray

Apologies - nil

1. Appointment of Office Bearers

Brian Higgs was appointed as Chair (proposed by Chris Piper, seconded by Carlo Miele), Chris Piper was appointed as Vice Chair (proposed by Mike Crutch, seconded by Brian Higgs), Carlo Miele was appointed as Acting Treasurer (proposed by Chris Piper, seconded by Brian Higgs) and Mike Crutch was appointed as Acting Secretary (proposed by Brian Higgs, seconded by Carlo Miele).

2. Police update

CM reported that Police Scotland are in the process of engaging more effectively with community councils through means of a newsletter, highlighting issues such as crime trends. As part of the initiative a dedicated police liaison will be appointed and should be available to attend future FCC meetings. **ACTION:** CM to pass MC details, and MC to engage with the relevant Police Scotland point of contact for dates of future meetings.

3. Minutes of inaugural meeting

Accepted.

4. Matters arising

Nil.

5. Secretary's report

a. Progress on appointment of minute secretary

No volunteers had been forthcoming; FCC members should endeavour to recruit (see youth representation - section 8)

b. Correspondence

Covered by agenda items later.

6. Treasurer's report

CM stated that the bank account has still yet to be created due to the temporary nature of the current acting office, as banking processes for signatories can be prolonged especially when changing. JM reported that the FCC grant is about ready for delivery so a bank account is needed as soon as possible. **ACTION:** BH/CM

7. Co-option of members

Nicola Howard was proposed by BH, seconded by CM and Jerry Akehurst was proposed by CP seconded by NH both as formal Co-opted Members of the FCC. AP and RL have accepted Associate Member positions, and BH welcomed all for joining the FCC.

8. Youth representation

JM suggested this could be sought through contact with youth groups or relevant local students attending Forres Academy. NH will explore the options, and suggested some of the older students may potentially be suitable for the role of minutes secretary. **ACTION:** NH

9. Community Issues

a. *Correspondence re Burgie Mains Road*

E-mails were recently received from a local resident as well as the Estate Manager of Burgie Farm & Estate regarding the condition of Burgie Mains Road. The meeting discussed the adoptive status of the road as well as the provision of passing places along it; JM requested the details be forwarded to her for onward passing to TMC Roads Department. **ACTION:**

BH/JM

b. *Speeding through Upper Rafford*

CM has raised the issue with Police Scotland, and this will be monitored through future liaison with them. Consideration for traffic calming should also be explored and FCC will keep an overview of the situation alongside other local groups. **ACTION:** BH to feedback the discussion to reportee (Jennifer Allan)

c. *Timber lorry traffic and Rafford – Mannachie road maintenance*

CP brought up the issue of informal procedures between forestry operators and TMC; recently the B9010 has seen an increase of night time movement of timber lorries. CP stated that as part of a felling licence issued to a contractor, a framework exists for community council consultation. CM reported that verge erosion is an issue particularly on roads that form part of the Malt Whisky Trail where HGVs are reducing the quality of a road, which is a negative aspect to such a tourist route. LC suggested that Nichola Moss at TMC be engaged to discuss the issue further, and JM put forward that she can arrange for a TMC Roads Dept officer to attend the next meeting. **ACTION:** CP/CM/JM

10. Upcoming events

- a. *Attendance at Rural Parliament* - Elgin Town Hall 1815hrs Wednesday 11 May. Details to be posted on Facebook page **ACTION:** BH (*Secretary's Note: done on 26/4/16*)
- b. *JCC* - TMC Chamber Room 1900hrs Thursday 12 May. AK welcomed FCC attendees for this meeting due to the emphasis planned for the A96 dualling project under an agenda item. JM also reported that a complaints procedure process will also be discussed at the meeting. CM/CP are planning to attend as FCC reps, possibly BH if travel plans permit
- c. *Community council training*
 - i. Slot 1 – Wednesday 4 May, 1300-1500hrs at Elgin Youth Café. BH/CM/CP are planning to attend
 - ii. Slot 2 – Wednesday 18 May, 1900-2100hrs at Elgin Academy Conference Room. NH/JA/MC/RL are planning to attend
- d. *Possible attendance at other CC meetings* BH encouraged FCC members to attend where possible, especially from the perspective of seeing other CCs in action and in particular those which are well established, such as Findhorn & Kinloss CC. **ACTION:** BH to circulate dates/times to members and in turn indicate who will attend and when
- e. *Rafford Village Hall coffee morning event* – Saturday 30 April 1000-1200hrs; BH/CP will attend as FCC reps.

11. Preparation for FCC meeting on 6 June

a. *FCC Prospectus / Vision*

CP will generate in draft and circulate, but sees it very much as simple outline of what FCC is

for and the vision we wish to create. CM suggested the Finnerne catchment is in need of explaining for constituents to understand what they can be part of; meeting members agreed that an article in the Forres Gazette with a map is worthy of exploring. **ACTION:** CP

b. *Publicity*

AK informed the meeting that Northern Scot editor, Mike Collins, is very pro-community councils and if meeting notes are sent to the paper they are happy to generate news items based on the content.

JM remarked that Keith Community Radio is now operating in the wider Moray area and could be used as an outlet. CP suggested Spotlight magazine, and will contact the editor for inclusion in the June issue.

Flyers with basic details will be created for the Rafford Village Hall coffee morning on 30 April and Edinkillie Community Hall spring teas on 8 May. An A0 map of the FCC catchment is also required for use on the day and subsequent events. **ACTION:** JM

c. CP recommended a separate planning meeting for 6 June; **ACTION:** BH to circulate dates

12. AOB

AK welcomed the creation of the FCC and extended his best wishes.

LC gave a brief overview of her current initiative to form a Health & Wellbeing group within Moray, and will be looking for community councils to support the effort.

RL, in his role a Director of the Findhorn, Nairn and Lossie Fisheries Trust, has secured funding for hogweed control, the work being contractor-based but volunteers will be needed.

13. Date, time & venue of next meeting

JM stated that future meeting dates and locations should be published as soon as possible, thus providing structure to attendees - both FCC members and public. **ACTION:** BH will update the diary of planned forthcoming meetings and circulate to FCC member.

prepared by:

Mike Crutch
Acting Secretary, FCC