

MEETING NOTES

Meeting of Monday 26th June 2017 in the Rafford Village Hall

FCC members present:

Brian Higgs (BH) - Chair

Chris Piper (CP) - Vice Chair

Anna Gatward (AG) - Treasurer

Carlo Miele (CM) - Member

Tony Pinner (TP) – Co-opted Member

Nikki Howard (NH) – Co-opted Member

Also present: Anne Garrow, Hilary Rolton, Cllr Lorna Cresswell, Jeff Cable (Enable Scotland), Ruth Whitfield, Alex Mackenzie-Copp, Irene Dick, Howard Davenport, John Cudworth.

Apologies: Mike Crutch (MC), Bob Laughton, Cllr Alexander

1. Welcome

BH welcomed all those present and congratulated Councillor Cresswell on her re-election.

2. Police update

No Forres officers were available, but everyone was reminded that Community Safety Reports for Moray are now posted online at: <https://findernecc.wordpress.com/community-safety-reports/>

3. Notes and actions of previous meeting

The notes were accepted.

a. A96 dualling route assessment input

BH noted that in terms of the public meetings held by Transport Scotland last week route N had been taken off the table as a potential route by Transport Scotland. He noted but it had come to

light that a route through Rafford/ Dallas/ Kellas had also been considered but disgarded.

BH highlighted that links to the line of the routes being considered would be posted on the FCC website.

It was highlighted that two of the routes affect the area represented by FCC. BH indicated that FCC cannot oppose the proposals simply because they pass through Finderne as it will bring benefits to the community. The FCC will submit a response to the consultation which highlights

- That with 95% of residential housing lying to the south of Forres and 95% of commercial properties lying to the north then the proposal of the routes to the north would, given the prevailing wind, cause less pollution and noise to Forres. The response will include requests explanations of how any adverse impacts will be mitigated.
- That the routes must have consideration of Moray Council's strategy for development of Forres to the south. If the route is to pass to the south of Forres then action must be taken to ensure that it does not constrain economic development such as has happened in Stonehaven or Inverurie.

TP highlighted that the 2 junctions proposed on the southern routes would increase congestion on the already busy Grantown Road. The 3rd junction to the west would save commercial transport having to travel through town.

The issue of air and noise pollution was discussed and, given that it is a local authority responsibility to manage local air quality, a query was raised as to what action Moray Council will take to ensure the preferred route did not cause adverse impact on the Finderne community.

BH will finalise the FCC consultation response and ensure that it is posted on the website and on facebook. The FCC will pass on the concerns of the community but members of the Finderne community are encouraged to make their own representations. BH and TP are to attend the community council forum on Thursday and community members were asked to pass any concerns to BH by email so that they can be raised at the forum.

ITEM CARRIED FORWARD

b. Hill of Glaschyle windfarm community fund scoping

No update, community feedback to be sought at next meeting.

ITEM CARRIED FORWARD

c. Electronic speeding signs in Rafford

BH reported that he had asked Kevin Price (Moray Council) for the flashing speed signs at Kinloss or St.Leonards Road, to be transferred to Rafford but had received no response.

It was noted that Aberlour had installed new speed signs but Cllr Lorna Cresswell indicated that she thought that funding may have come from windfarm contributions but she would investigate.

CM reported that the cost of the signs was approximately £6,500 but it had been indicated by Kevin Price that Moray Council would require that any signs were not located on the edge of the road and would require planning permission.

Cllr Lorna Cresswell agreed to raise the matter with Kevin Price's superior and check with Cllr Alexander if he had taken any action. BH will send a further email to Kevin Price.

ITEM CARRIED FORWARD

d. Hill of Glaschyle wind farm aviation lighting

It was reported that MC had been in further correspondence with the wind farm operators but they were awaiting alternative costing.

Action: **MC to continue to chase.**

e. Clash Gour wind farm proposal

Nothing to report at this time.

ITEM CARRIED FORWARD

5. New Matters Arising

a. Potential establishment of an Access Tribunal

BH noting that there had been correspondence from MSP Richard Lochhead in respect of the round table discussions regarding the monitoring of access issues. The proposal is to suggest that an access tribunal is established to act as arbiter rather than the current position where the local access forum act as mediator. FCC have positively responded to this proposal.

b. Moray Cuppa Club

Jeff Cable from Enable Scotland spoke to the FCC and provided details of the Moray Cuppa Club which has been established to support older carers who provide care at home for those with learning difficulties and dementia. The club meet in Forres on the last Tuesday of every month in the Forres Community Centre Blue Room at 11-2pm. Jeff Cable will forward an electronic version of the flyer to BH who will ensure that it is posted on the website and facebook.

c. Community Council Elections

BH noted that they were approaching and it had been agreed that FCC would contribute towards a leaflet with all Community Councils in Moray.

d. Draft Moray Forestry Strategy

CP noted that FCC had commented to Moray Council on the terms of this consultation. CP

indicated that there are agreed routes which should not be used in conjunction with extracting timber and he agreed to post a link to these on the website if possible. It was noted that FCC should be consulted more in the future in connection with this but to ensure that FCC is consulted CP will write to Forestry Commission, Moray District and also their department dealing with the private sector.

5. Treasurers report

Balance of £732.53 reported.

6. Upcoming events

Rafford Village Hall Summer Fayre 22nd July 2pm details on FCC website.

7. AOB

CP raised query whether the issue of first responder kits should be considered. It was noted that the cost amounted to approximately £1,700. The issue of the number of volunteers to be trained and the maintenance was raised and it was agreed that this was something that may be better considered by local halls as it can be attached to exterior walls.

8. Date, time & venue of next meeting

The next meeting will have as a major agenda item the concept of establishing a Community Development Trust for the Finderne area as per minute item 3(b) above.

Saturday 12th August 2017, Logie Steading Long Room at 10-12 to be confirmed.

Prepared by Nikki Howard