

Meeting Notes

Meeting of Monday 4th December 2017

in Edinkillie Community Hall

FCC members present

Brian Higgs (BH) – Chair

Chris Piper (CP) – Vice Chair

Nikki Howard (NK)

Tony Pinner (TP)

Howard Davenport (HD)

Also present:

Councillor Lorna Creswell (LC), Councillor George Alexander (GA)

Mark Abbs, PC Sean Wood (part time)

Apologies from:

Carlo Miele, Bob Laughton, Anna Gatward, Anne Garrow

1. Welcome

BH welcomed all those present

2. Notes and actions from previous meeting

Notes were accepted

3. Actions arising not covered by standing items

None

4. Police update

- a. Speeding in Rafford.

PC Wood reported that some drivers had been stopped by the police in Rafford, and given verbal warnings on speeding, but that no-one had been charged.

PC Wood suggested that if the registration numbers of any one apparently (and persistently) breaking the speed limit were reported, the police would be willing to visit that person and give a warning.

5. Current Standing Items

a. *A96 dualling proposal*

BH wrote to transport Scotland raising the issue of the impact of the “blue” route on the Burgie Horse trials. No response has been received to date.

No further developments to report. A status update from Transport Scotland will be requested in Q1 2018.

b. *Logie Wind Farm aviation lighting.*

The visible red lighting has been the source of complaints from a number of residents in the Dunphail area in particular. The FCC has requested the developer to change out the lights to Infra-Red lighting and this was agreed subject to a new planning approval. Despite extensive correspondence between FCC, the Developers, Douglas Ross MP, the station commander at RAF Lossiemouth and MoD, the MoD are now maintaining that the edge of the wind farm is within an 8 mile aerodrome safety zone and requires visible lighting, despite the fact that our calculations put the nearest turbine as 8.1 nautical miles from Kinloss aerodrome. BH is awaiting a response from the MOD and if not received by 8th Dec he will follow up with emails to Douglas Ross MP and Fergus Ewing (MSP).

Post meeting note: a message has been received from the MOD stating that they will now accept IR lighting devices.

c. *Logie Wind Farm community benefit fund*

CP reported that an MoU has been drafted between Muirden Energy, Logie Estate and the FCC on an agreement in principle on how the community benefit from the Logie wind farm will be managed. It is expected to be signed within days, and the agreement will be made public at that time, and a press release issued. **(Action BH/CP)**

d. *Vehicle speeding in Rafford*

An application to the Berry Burn Windfarm Community Fund for a mobile speed warning sign has been turned down. TP has subsequently made a request to the Karro Pig Farm company for funding. **(Item to be carried forward)**

e. *Adoption of phone box at Logie*

Logie School would like to use the redundant phone box close to the school as an art gallery, and have approached FCC to adopt the phone box. After some discussions it has been established that the land owner can adopt the phone box, which Alex Laing has agreed to do on behalf of the school.

f. Loch of Blairs Development

i. Fishery

BH organised a public meeting in October at which he gave a presentation on plans for development at Loch of Blairs. A group of 12 volunteers was formed who have started work on rhododendron clearance in the area of the boathouse.

An application to the Aviva community fund was unsuccessful, as was an application for funding from Money for Moray (MfM). A debrief on the MfM application will be organised **(Action HD)**

It was reported by LC that there will be one further round of funding from MfM.

ii. Field Study Centre

BH has held meetings with Sir Alistair Gordon Cumming and members of the Forres Associated Schools Group (ASG) to discuss the concept of converting buildings at the boat house into field study classrooms. Initial responses from all parties were favourable and a site visit is being made on Thursday by two members of an ASG working group. **(Item to be carried forward)**

6. New Business

a. Clashgour wind farm community ownership

BH and CP reported on a meeting they attended on the opportunity for community organisations to buy into the wind farm income stream. An investment of between £250K and £10M would be invited from a single community organisation, potential representing the interests of Moray, and Auldearn and the East of Nairn. The investment would be required at completion of the wind farm, but a note of interest can be made now. (Item to be carried forward)

7. Correspondence Report

- a. A complaint has been received by email regarding the development of the Pig Farm at Rafford. As this development is not contrary to any planning regulations, the FCC has addressed this by establishing a point of contact with the Karro pig farm company, to address any ongoing concerns.
- b. All planning applications in the Finnerne area have been reviewed and not objections have been raised.

8. Treasurers Report

No finance issues to report

9. AOCB

- a. LC reported that the Moray Council 2020 Vision had been published.
- b. LC reported that one of successful MfM applications, "Techy Tea" by FACT, would be encouraged to liaise with village halls on current levels of community engagement, by target groups.

10. Date and location of next meeting

Next meeting: Monday 15th January 2018 at 7:00 pm in Rafford Village Hall.

Hall to be booked (**Action HD**)