

Meeting Notes

Meeting of Monday 19th February 2018 in

Edinkillie Hall

FCC members present

Brian Higgs (BH) – Chair; Chris Piper (CP) – Vice Chair

Nikki Howard (NK), Howard Davenport (HD) Carlo Miele (CM), Bob Laughton (BL), Anna Gatward (AG), Tony Pinner (TP)

Also present:

Councillor George Alexander (GA), Mike Crutch (MC), Andy Munro (AM)

1. Apologies from:

Cllr Claire Feather, Cllr Lorna Cresswell, Anne Garrow

2. Notes and actions from previous meeting

Notes were accepted.

3. Police update

No Police representative present. Incident log for Rafford had been received.

4. Actions arising not covered by standing items

None.

5. Current Standing Items

a. A96 dualling proposal

Following drop in sessions advertised by developers;

Tuesday 27 February, 12 noon – 7pm, Elgin Town Hall

Wednesday 28 February, 12 noon – 7pm, The Mansfield Hotel, Elgin

Thursday 1 March, 12 noon – 7pm, Forres Town Hall

Friday 2 March, 12 noon – 7pm, Fochabers Public Institute,

Action: BH to attend the Elgin session. Other FCC members to attend sessions where convenient.

b. FINDERNE Development Trust (FDT)

CJP updated the meeting and indicated that the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between FCC and the developers has been completed and signed. This will allow the formation of FINDERNE Development Trust (FDT). First meeting of steering group completed in February 2018 with first AGM proposed in 18 months time.

Steering group (future Board) structure: 2 members from Northern FINDERNE, 2 members from southern FINDERNE and 3 other members. To date 5 members are in post.

It is likely that the FDT will be a company limited by guarantee with charitable status and possibly a trading element also incorporated. Next steps are to engage with FINDERNE community to establish views, identify key targets, plan for funding etc. Contact with residents was discussed and HD agreed to tidy up existing email list and use this as the basis for circulating information. Links to other email lists also encouraged and flyers for distribution to Halls and other venues also discussed. FDT website would also be launched shortly.

Action: HD to establish email list, flyers to be distributed (CJP/RL), website to be launched. FDT steering group to update FCC regularly.

c. Vehicle speeding in Rafford

Mobile speed warning signs funding application re-submitted to the Berry Burn Windfarm Community Fund by CJP. TP reported no funding support forthcoming from Karro at the moment.

d. Blairs Loch Fishery

Outline for the Blairs Loch Fishery was prepared and circulated to FCC by BH. Various aspects of the development such as weed removal, renovating the boathouse and developing field study classrooms, improving access for fishers of all abilities etc were discussed. Concerns regarding reed bed removal and potential effects on breeding birds was raised.

Funding for the project was also discussed with various sources suggested including Heritage Lottery Fund, Berry Burn Community Fund etc. Funding bids may be targeted to specific items and/or longer term development of the Loch. A further attempt to "Money for Moray" was agreed.

Action: HD/BH to revise presentation for Money for Moray, FCC to attend and support bid at the next Money for Moray meeting on 18th March 2018 at Grand Hall, Rothes.

e. Clashgour Wind Farm

BH reported that an invitation to sign a memorandum of agreement to be kept informed of progress on the community ownership of the development had been received. NH agreed to look over the lengthy document and provided this did not obligate the FCC in

any way and it was agreed to sign the MoA. It was noted that any community fund(s) would be a separate entity from the potential community ownership of the development. **Action: NH to review MoA, BH to sign.**

It was noted that wind monitoring masts were in place. Planning for the development may be submitted later this year.

6. New Business

a. Data Protection

HD will write a short procedure to be included in the FCC website, identifying how FCC hold and manages data, and how we respond to requests from individuals. Training course on General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) being organised for Community Councils CM indicated he will attend. NC indicated she would be attending a data protection course shortly and would also advise if any further controls were required.

Action: HD to write FCC data procedure, NH to provide additional advice.

b. Moray Local Development Plan 2020 Consultation

The FCC organised public drop sessions at Rafford Village Hall and Edinkillie Hall on February 3rd. Attendees were informed of the 2020 plan and what potential effects it could have on the area. Questionnaires, seeking views on the key questions within the 2020 Plan were made available allowing residents to submit comments and views. Over 50 Finnerne residents attended the sessions and 32 questionnaires. HD, with assistance from RL and NH, compiled and analysed the comments from the questionnaires and presented a report to the FCC.

All agreed the drop in sessions had been a very useful exercise, and from the questionnaires submitted the majority of residents felt there was tentative support for rural groupings with general support for improving design standards. On specific proposed areas for development the majority of residents were not in favour for Templestones, partial support for Rafford station and more support for Brochloch. A wide range of common themes were also highlighted in the comments including roads and traffic management, drainage issues, general infra structure, provision of improved broadband etc.

Action: HD agreed to further develop the report and add a summary of the issues. FCC to develop submission to Moray Council by 28th March 2018. Copy of the report and submission to Moray Council to be made available to Finnerne residents.

c. Core Paths Consultation

Residents were also asked for their thoughts and comments on the Core Paths proposals for the area and these are covered in HD's report.

Although there was a tentative support for the core paths network several issues were expressed regarding parking, potential effect on access roads and the impact on privacy.

Action: HD/BH to formulate response to Core Path consultation for comment by FCC prior to submission to Moray Council.

BH reported that since the drop in session a strenuous objection to the route of one of the paths CCP20, at Newtyle Cottage had been raised. The letter from a local resident had focused on privacy, parking, increase vehicle traffic and disruption as major issues and as a result the resident had lodged an objection with Moray Council. The letter had also been copied to FCC.

There was considerable discussions on potential alternative routes and access points, provision of gates, installation of warning signs, maintenance and upkeep of the paths and roads etc. It was agreed to arrange a meeting between local interested residents and Ian Douglas (Moray Council) to discuss CCP20 and alternative options and the range of other issues listed above.

Action: BH to arrange meeting with Ian Douglas (Moray Council) and residents to discuss core path routes (particularly CCP20).

7. Planning Report

CM reported that the planning application for the Cathay Housing development had been withdrawn although it was not clear why. He noted that any existing objections to the development would require to be resubmitted if the development is re-submitted for planning in the future.

No other plans or developments had been lodged.

8. Correspondence Report

HD reported correspondence from the following-

Moray Community Awards - seeking nominations,

Insurance Documents received from Jane Martin,

A96 group FADAG - BH had responded,

Templestones Development – Potential conflict of interest between Moray Council Planning staff and possible developer had been raised by local resident. A satisfactory answer indicating no conflict of interest had been received,

Invite to Lower Speed Community meeting/workshop 27/02/18 – no action,

Moray Forest and Woodland Strategy document received,

Invite received to “Re-shaping Care in the Community” drop in workshop on 28/02/18.

9. Treasurers Report

AG reported FCC current balance was £715.00.

10. AOCB

MC enquired about progress to replace red lights on Glaschyle wind farm turbines, BH indicated replacement IR devices still on order and the developer will replace the red lights with the new IR lights at the earliest opportunity.

CJP updated FCC on new Forestry Bill Legislation which will see the Forestry Commission dissolved and reformed into Scottish Forest and Land which will be a Scottish Government body.

11. Date and location of next meeting

Next meeting: Monday 26th March 2018 at 7:00 pm, Rafford venue tbc.

Action: HD to book Hall and update web site (<https://findernecc.com/>)