

FINDHORN AND KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting held on 31st January 2019 at JMI Findhorn

Present: A Skene (Chair), H Grigor, B James, S Dominey S Urquhart, D Anderson, M Hyde

Attendance: Cllr Alexander, Cllr Feaver, Cllr Creswell, R Douglas (BSO Kinloss Barracks) and 6 members of the public

Item 1 Apologies: J O'Hagan, L Fraser, S Hermiston

1. a A. Skene welcomed everyone.

Item 2 Public Session:

2. a A Skene welcomed Graham Hilditch, Chair of Forres CC, who gave a presentation about the offer for Community Councils to investigate the opportunity to invest in the proposed Clashgour Wind Farm. Other local CCs have committed to sign up to find out more about community ownership of turbines and it is proposed that a JCC working group be formed to move forward the proposal. Local Energy Scotland and the Energy Investment Fund may provide grant funding for this. A field trip to Orkney to learn about a similar scheme would be funded by Leader. The construction of the proposed wind farm would start, at the earliest, at the end of 2020 and take 34 months to fully build so there would be a 5-year period for investment decisions to be made. D Anderson queried if there would interest to be paid on EIF funding. There was no information on this at this stage. A Skene thanked Graham Hilditch for his presentation.

Action: FKCC to consider this proposal over the next few months.

2. b Police Input. S Urquhart reported that there was nothing to report in December and that no report had come in for January. She had emailed J Martin to find out why this was but had not received a response.

2. c G MacCallum raised the issue of parking on double yellow lines at a pinch point in Findhorn in January and would send photographic evidence to FKCC for follow-up. G Alexander said that Chief Inspector Campbell Thomson should be contacted about parking issues. G MacCallum also raised the issue of camper van parking in the East car park and the deposit of sanitary debris on the ground despite a sign prohibiting camper van parking. FVCC were informed. G MacCallum also referred to a disagreement between him and FVCC which was not the business of FKCC.

C Campbell and M Durkacz gave their views on two planning applications which would be discussed later in the meeting under the Planning section.

Action: SU would contact CI Thomson re G MacCallum's issue once the photographs had been received.

Item 3 Ratification of Minutes 29 November 2018:

3.1 Minor correction to item 2d, which should read "with reference to the proposed Duneland development it was noted that there could be 3 possible access routes" Item 4b should read "the road going down to Southside to the mini roundabout does not belong to Southside, it has been adopted by Moray Council." S Dominey objected to the penultimate statement of 13.1. Had she attended the meeting she would have spoken up about the content of the comment which she felt was an inaccurate description of regular, peaceful presence at the Kinloss pavilion and which, potentially, could have inflammatory implications whilst wildfowling negotiations were being conducted.

Minutes ratified - proposed by B James and seconded by D Anderson.

Item 4 Matters Arising:

4.c (6.1) S Urquhart advised that she had spoken to Luke from Cullerne Gardens and that they, like her, would be happy to put up a "slow down for squirrels" sign on their property. D Anderson thought that MC Planning should be informed. S Urquhart would contact them. She would also source signs from Signed Graphics in Forres.

Action: SU to progress the signage and notify the MC planning dept.

4.e (13.1) A Skene advised that FKCC did not actually have a Statutory right to attend the wildfowling negotiation meetings. FKCC had been invited to attend as recognition of their statutory status and were fortunate to have 2 members at the negotiating table.

4.f (15.3) S Urquhart advised that she had not got a definitive answer re Rainbow Bridge. S Dominey agreed to ask one of the Listening Conveners.

Action: SD to try to progress this.

Item 5 Declaration of Interest: -

It was noted that this item had not been moved to the top of the Agenda. It was agreed that this would be done for the next meeting.

Action: AS to move to top of the Agenda

Item 6 Kinloss Barracks Report:

6.1 R Douglas advised that the runway at Lossiemouth would be resurfaced in 2020 and that the RAF would be using the Kinloss runway for several months whilst this was being done. Gp.Capt. Strasdin, from RAF Lossie intimated that he would like to speak to the FKCC about it and it was agreed that he should be invited to attend the February meeting. The issue of the traffic lights at the end of the Kinloss runway was mentioned and D Anderson said that they were going to be fixed to enable use of the runway by the RAF. S Dominey asked if the geese would affect the aircraft if it was the geese season. It was thought that the resurfacing work would be done in milder weather. The issue of drones was also raised, and R Douglas would pass these points on to the RAF. She also said that she would be extremely busy over the next while and would do her best to answer any correspondence.

Action: AS to invite Gp. Capt. Strasdin to attend the February meeting.

Item 7 Chair's Report:

7.1 A Skene advised that she had drawn up a report about the preferred option for the new A96 route based on all FKCC feedback, that it had been circulated to everyone and then submitted to the consultants. It was pointed out that the road could be 10 metres high in places and that it would greatly affect the landscape. H Grigor attended the CC Forum consultation meeting and had made the point to the consultants but he felt they had not acknowledged it. The impression given was that decisions had been made and that only very minor changes would be considered.

Item 8 Secretary's Report:

8.1 S Urquhart advised that, due to time constraints, she could no longer be the depute minute taker and asked that another member could take it on.

Action: AS to speak to JH to find a solution.

8.2 Yvonne Cuneo had been contacted re the placement of the sign on her wall and was happy to meet with FKCC reps.

Action: AS and SU to meet with Y Cuneo.

8.3 S Urquhart had spoken with S Russell re the contact details for the owner of the tree stump. She was given the details but has been advised that it would be better to leave this for the time being as the family were deciding what do with the property.

Item 9 Treasurer's Report:

9.1 B James advised that there had been little movement of funds since the last meeting. The account balance stands at £2,600.06.

Item 10 JCCM Report:

There had been no meeting of the JCC since the November meeting. The next meeting is on the 14th February and A Skene and S Urquhart will attend.

Action: AS and SU to attend JCC

Item 11 Moray Councillor's Report:

11.1 Cllr Feaver commented on the Scottish Government budget, which had just been announced, and on how it would impact the area. She felt that Councillors hadn't been given enough information and, that even with new tax raising, MC would still have a shortfall. This would mean more cuts to services.

11.2 Cllr Alexander said that the proposed Tourist Tax would not bring in enough revenue to make a difference. He said he had been shocked by the reports of violence in local schools, especially primary schools, and that teachers have a very difficult job to do.

11.2 Cllr Creswell said that she would like to focus on more positive things. She advised that the Osprey Bus AGM was on the 20th February in the British Legion. She hoped that the 39 Regiment would continue to support the Osprey Bus. With reference to Forres Town Hall she said that FACT was looking at how other areas were managing Community Asset Transfers. FACT is also creating a list of volunteers so that information could be passed between groups that need volunteers and those people who want to volunteer. This could be particularly useful for new residents. There will be a fund-raising workshop in March.

Item 12 Findhorn Village Conservation Company Update

12.1 F Allan, on behalf of FVCC, said that the Company were looking at cutting back the whins and gorse on their land as several people had approached them because of the very dry hot summer and were worried about the fire risk. They had taken advice from the fire service. Some residents do not want the whins and gorse removed but they will have to sign a disclaimer if this is the case.

12.2 F Allan also said that the FVCC were unhappy about the lack of planning permission re people putting up fencing and gates across stryplies and felt this should be monitored more.

12.3 He also advised that there were now 2 benches on the David Urquhart path and that the garages were being developed.

12.4 He also informed that the fencing had been purchased to allow the necessary repairs to be carried out around the west car parks. B James asked if fixing the fencing was a waste of money. F Allan said that the fence was necessary to stop people driving over the dunes between the 2 car parks. He also said there is now a prominent sign stating "No Overnight Parking" in the East car park. F Allan said that before the Company had allowed the overnight parking they had consulted with the Police and MC. A Skene asked if there was provision for all types of litter. F Allan said that they now had 3 bins, but that MC would not supply any extra ones or large wheeled bins.

12.5 F Allan also expressed disappointment that the 2nd block of toilets was to be closed by MC. They were already in talks about a CAT transfer for the other block, but they will now review this. Cllr Alexander commented that this had been on the table for a long time and that people are now only realising that the toilets would be closed. He also said the Comfort Scheme was up and running.

12.6 Date of FVCC AGM is June 5th in JMI.

Item 13 Findhorn Park Eco-village Report:

13.1 S Dominey said that things were quiet but there was a lot of preparation going on for the upcoming Climate Change Conference in April. She said there had been lots of discussion re the removal of the whins but that the fire hazard was one of the main reasons. She also said there had been discussions on the vulnerable and the elderly and that she is giving support to carers. There are meditation sessions in the Universal Hall, open to everyone.

Item 14 Wildfowling Negotiation

14.1 A Skene advised that there had been 2 meetings over December and January that she and S Dominey had attended. She felt that the January meeting was more positive. A Skene reported that there would only be 1 more meeting as the funding for the negotiator had been used up. A Skene had circulated the most recent wildfowling group statement to FKCC members.

Item 15 Planning:

15.1 M Hyde advised that there were several new planning applications in the FKCC area. These are as follows with appropriate comments.

18/01586/APP - 3 Newton of Struthers house extensions. No objections

18/01609/APP - 35 Findhorn, alter and extend house. There are local concerns and FKCC will make site visit. Consultation response will be submitted.

18/01551/APP - Seapark House, Kinloss. Planning in principle for 2 houses. No objections.

19/00042/APP - new house build east of Broombank. FKCC will make site visit.

19/00043/APP - Terrace of 12 flats in Findhorn Foundation Park. FKCC will make site visit.

18/01568/APP - house build at Innesmhor. Local concern and FKCC will make a site visit. Consultation response will be submitted.

19/00045/APP - 62 Findhorn. Local concern and FKCC will make site visit. Consultation response will be submitted.

Item 16 AOCB:

16.1 H Grigor said that they were still working on the Resilience Plan. He had advised that Hopeman had commented that the Emergency Services do not know where the many homes are situated and that it would be the same for Findhorn. There is also a need for a site plan for fire hydrants and defibrillators etc. in all areas that affect us. S Dominey said that she would find out from the listening conveners about how much information the Eco-village was happy for the plan to include.

16.2 Jonathan Caddy has offered to talk to FKCC re the future development of the Hinterland. H Grigor suggested that the JMI is the better venue for speakers as there is more room.

Action; AS to set a date with Jonathan Caddy.

16.3 A resident had contacted A Skene re stones coming away from the piers. The RFYC own the piers and, as they are listed, the cost of repair would be prohibitive as each stone would need to be numbered and replaced in the same position.

16.4 A resident had asked about the possibility of parking permits. This doesn't appear to be a viable option as there is no precedent in Moray. To have such a scheme would require decriminalisation of parking, with Moray Council taking over parking enforcement. This would incur costs to the Council which would need to be met. The likely income from fines is unlikely to meet the costs. H Grigor suggested that a few more spaces could be created by removing the wide pavement and putting parking bays instead. He also agreed to get information about the yellow line restrictions outside the Kimberley Inn.

Action; HG to get feed back re restrictions outside Kimberly Inn.

16.5 B James advised that the Seagull Services were ready to step in when the time was right, and he would keep us informed.

16.6 D Anderson advised that there will be a Local Development Plan consultation on February 25th from 4.00pm to 8.00pm in Forres Town Hall and encouraged members to attend.

Item 17 Forthcoming Community Events:

17.1 Universal Hall Promotions are showing films on Friday/Saturday nights in the Universal Hall

17.2 Disco with music from the 60s/70s/80s on February 16th in JMI.

17.3 The Confederation of Village Halls AGM is on the February 24th in JMI.

Item 18 Date of Next Meeting: 28th February 2019 in the Culbin Room, Kinloss Church, Kinloss