

FINDHORN AND KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting held on 25th April 2019 at Kinloss Church, Kinloss

Present: A Skene (Chair), J O'Hagan (mins), D Anderson; L Fraser, B James, S Hermiston, S Dominey

Attendance: Cllr Feaver, Cllr Alexander, Cllr Creswell, Frank Allan (Findhorn Conservation Company), Grp Capt Strasdin (RAF Lossiemouth), 3 members of the public: Spencer Jullian, Charlotte Campbell and Amanda Cox

Item 1 Agenda:

1.1 Apologies: M Hyde, H Grigor, S Urquhart, Ruth Douglas (BSO Kinloss Barracks)

1.2 Declaration of Interest: None given.

Item 2 Public Session:

2.1 Grp Capt Strasdin gave an interesting talk regarding his current role, in pulling together the infrastructure at RAF Lossiemouth and Kinloss Barracks. He advised that the strategic security review will see a very significant investment in Lossiemouth and, whilst significant, to a lesser degree in Kinloss. Grp Capt Strasdin advised that RAF Lossiemouth is now the sole operating base in Scotland and, therefore, needs to be fit for purpose. With new capabilities coming on stream, the runway at Lossiemouth will have to be strengthened and lengthened to accommodate larger aircraft. Whilst much of the work can be undertaken while still operating aircraft, one stretch will necessitate aircraft temporarily using the Kinloss runway. During this approximate 4-week period in June/July 2020, the Typhoons and P8s will be operating from Kinloss; Grp Capt Strasdin advised that every effort will be made to minimise disruption, however, on a good weather day, there will be a number of sorties.

Grp Capt Strasdin advised that the Typhoons are on alert all the time and are available to go at a moment's notice. He advised that the Typhoons are usually scrambled through NATO and that it is important to react to Russian aircraft in our air space. He added that, in the future, RAF Lossiemouth will be pretty much capable of taking any aircraft. Grp Capt Strasdin advised that there will be an increase in personnel from 1900 to 2500. There will also be about 500 personnel to support maritime patrol.

Grp Capt Strasdin advised that the first P8 aircraft will arrive between February and September 2020. RAF crews will train in America. The P8s will be operational by early 2021. Works to improve the Kinloss runway will begin in September 2019 for three months. Questions came from CC members regarding potential input from 39 Engineers, clearing of gorse/vegetation around the crash gates in Kinloss and the impact of the increase in military families on local resources. D Anderson agreed to send a plan to Grp Capt Strasdin in relation to clearing particular parts of the vegetation around the crash gates, to help maintain the speed limits in that area. Grp Capt Strasdin advised that the growth profile of personnel will not be at the limit until 2024, however, there has been ongoing discussions with Moray Council for a number of years. He advised that it is planned to build additional single living accommodation (300) and have first refusal to purchase property at Covesea. The question was asked if Kinloss would be kept open as an emergency runway; Grp Capt Strasdin advised that, at present, there are no plans regarding the Kinloss runway.

Grp Capt Strasdin advised that he would be pleased to attend another CC meeting later in the year. He thereafter left the meeting.

Action: D Anderson to send plan to Gp Capt Strasdin

2.2 Two members of public wished to put forward concerns regarding a planning application for 35 Findhorn. Details were taken and this was to be discussed later under planning. It was agreed that CC members would make a site visit.

Action: A Skene to liaise with Findhorn members to arrange a site visit

2.3 Mr Jullian advised that the damage on the cycle bridge between Kinloss to Forres, had not yet been fixed, despite it being reported some weeks ago. Mr Jullian was concerned that this puts the public at risk.

Action: D Anderson agreed to follow this up.

2.4 Police Report: In her absence from this meeting, S Urquhart had kindly forwarded the Police report. There were no reported crimes in the CC area for April. However, there was worthwhile information to pass on. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have launched a hard-hitting advertising campaign highlighting the dangers of white goods fires. Following significant numbers of fires (327) in 2018 involving white goods, the advice is clear; do not leave on whilst sleeping, or out of the home; turn them off. They recommend registering your white goods at www.registeryourappliance.org.uk. Manufacturers may identify problems with a model, and this enables them to contact the owners to report faults. Manufacturers also recall products on occasions; checking the list of products recalled on the Electrical Safety First website is useful. (<http://www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/producs-recalls/>). SFRS also offer a free Home Fire Safety Visit service. To request a free visit, call 0800 0731 999 or text 'FIRE' to 80800 or visit www.firescotland.gov.uk

In October 2017 SFRS launched the Community Asset Register (CAR). This is a register of volunteers who have a particular asset or skill which they feel could be used to support emergency services and responders at an incident. Examples include someone with a boat who could be called in times of flooding to assist evacuation of people from houses to a place of safety. Similarly, someone with a 4X4 may be used in times of severe snow to transport vulnerable people to a community hall. Further information about the CAR can be found on the link below: [http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/news-campaigns/news/2017/10/sfrs-launches-community-asset-register-\(1\).aspx](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/news-campaigns/news/2017/10/sfrs-launches-community-asset-register-(1).aspx). With no obligation to respond at the time of an incident, anyone wishing to register email: SFRS.CommunityAssetRegister@firescotland.gov.uk.

Item 3 Ratification of Minutes 28th March 2019:

3.1 The minutes were agreed as accurate and thereafter proposed by B James and seconded by S Dominey.

Item 4 Matters Arising:

- a. **(4g)** Meeting to go over planning paperwork - **MH LF** - Ongoing
- b. **(6.1)** Photos of aircraft public viewing area to be sent to R Douglas **HG – Completed.**
- c. **(8.1)** Comments to be submitted on Animal Welfare legislation consultation **SU – Responded** in her own name.
- d. **(10.3)** Book 4 places for CC Planning Training on 17 and 23 April. **HG – Completed.** 4 CC members attended the 1st session and 2 for the 2nd session. H Grigor attended both sessions.
- e. **(10.4)** Attendance at Energising Communities Conference on 3 May - **AS and BJ** if able – BJ has the tickets.
- f. **(14.1)** Comments on current planning applications to AS/MH by 5 April **ALL – completed.**

5. Findhorn Village Conservation Company update:

5.1 F Allan advised that the lanes in Findhorn are proving to be a big problem in relation to ownership. He noted that residents had been doing work in the lanes e.g. putting down large pebbles which could restrict access e.g. for wheelchairs or buggies, therefore, they are trying to discourage this. F Allan spoke about the liability of such work being carried out if accidents were to happen. F Allan advised that some fences and pot holes in the west car park had been repaired with help from Community Payback. FVCC are looking at putting up additional signs in the car park to encourage people to take their litter away with them. Whilst they do regular checks and it is often tidy, there are occasions when litter is found. F Allan advised that he had been forwarded an email with a photograph of approximately 6 pieces of litter in the east car park. He advised that FVCC cannot be held responsible for irresponsible people and that all individuals have code of conduct responsibilities under Scottish law. F Allan advised that Scottish Water had been doing work on the sewage system in north of the village and that FVCC are working with Moray Council in relation to the toilets and possible CATs. Improvement works on the garages (water and electricity) continue and FVCC are looking at ways to generate income from them. F Allan advised that **FVCC's AGM is on 5th June.**

Item 6 Kinloss Barracks Report:

6.1 R Douglas advised prior to the meeting that the base had been quiet over Easter - she will attend the next meeting.

Item 7 Chairperson's Report:

7.1 A Skene advised that most things will be covered in the agenda, however, she did note in the Gmail on 9th April a record of the meeting regarding the dualling of the A96 that is worth a look at. She also noted that the intended road closure between Forres and Kinloss due 17-24 May had now been postponed. A further

date will follow. A Skene advised that despite the suspended grant from MC, accounts will still need to be available for September. B James was already aware of this. A Skene also noted in the Gmail today that SSE network are thinking about resilience and there is a fund available of 140K aimed at protecting the welfare of vulnerable communities. D Anderson advised this was more geared up to remote places; there is a list of places where bids would be welcome and it does not look as if the FKCC area would be eligible.

Item 8 Secretary's Report:

8.1 In S Urquhart's absence, she had kindly provided a report. S Urquhart advised that Gary MacCallum (resident) had emailed photographs of rubbish in the west car park. She had forwarded these on to FVCC. S Urquhart has requested that someone respond to Neil MacKay (email 18th April). S Urquhart advised that the squirrel signs are now with the relevant people, who will arrange to have them erected. She added that the cost of altering the Heritage signage was not yet known. S Urquhart has submitted the Animal Welfare Consultation under her own name. She had also attended the Fireworks Consultation meeting. Whilst only 3 people had attended, it was very informative and she would urge everyone to submit their consultation online. For CC members, the link for the consultation can be found on the Gmail dated 11th February.

Item 9 Treasurer's Report:

9.1 B James advised there had been little movement on the account. The account stands at £2812.48, with a difference of £86 regarding the insurance premium refund. The grant of £370.42 has been received.

Item 10 JCCM Report:

10.1 A Skene advised there was no meeting in April. The next meeting is due on 9th May. A Skene will attend and S Hermiston also agreed to attend. This is at 7 p.m. in Council chambers. The next JCCM will be on 8th August; A Skene will be unable to attend this meeting. D Anderson volunteered for this JCCM.

Action: A Skene and S Hermiston to attend JCCM on 9th May and D Anderson to attend on 8th August

Item 11 Moray Councillors Reports:

11.1 Cllr Alexander advised that it had been quiet over the Easter period and he had no scheduled meeting for the following week. In relation to Clashgour, Cllr Alexander felt that he had been heavily lobbied and takes exception to this. Cllr Alexander's opinion is that Moray has a lot of wind turbines in view.

She added that the cost of

11.2 Cllr Creswell advised that the regeneration fund coming to Moray amounts to £1.2 million. It is for projects that will kick start economic development. Projects will be encouraged in populated areas and the aim is to encourage foot fall in the high streets. Cllr Creswell advised the governance arrangements for the Osprey Trust are being looked at; there is a meeting about this on 26th April. Cllr Creswell advised that the Army had not been able to sustain the same commitment as the RAF and they are looking to encourage new people to support the project. In the future they might be looking at the Osprey Trust becoming a SCIO.

11.3 Cllr Feaver spoke about the worrying local wildfires and was concerned that the moorlands are not wet. She spoke about the concerns regarding climate change and potential flooding. Cllr Feaver concurred with Cllr Alexander regarding the aggressive lobbying for Clashgour.

Item 12 Findhorn Park Eco-village report:

12.1 S Dominey advised that she had spoken to P Finch for a news update. She advised that the Park is really vibrant with the climate change conference going on just now; there are over 300 visitors on the Park. S Dominey advised that La Boheme is branching out and doing more than pizzas and is well worth a visit. She advised that the proposed development at Northwhins is still attracting a lot of attention. B James commented that he had enjoyed reading Rainbow Bridge and that he was well informed of what was on offer.

Item 13 Wildfowling Negotiation update:

13.1 A Skene advised there had been a meeting on 1st April, where the group worked further on the permit terms and conditions and the community engagement process. For the community engagement, MC has agreed to fund the venue hire, printing costs and the distribution of flyers, infographics, posters, maps and to give assistance from Research and Information Officers (RIOs). In addition, Sylvia Jamieson is giving 4 days of her time to support community engagement. The consultation process would be targeted for the 2nd half of June and could be extended into July. The RIOs would be invited to the next meeting to advise on online survey restrictions and 'weighting' during the analysis process. Relevant group participation in the

consultation was discussed. The next meeting was scheduled for 26th April. S Jamieson will come to the next CC meeting and will also attend Forres and Dyke too, as these are the areas mainly affected.

Action: A Skene to invite Sylvia Jamieson to the May meeting

Item 14 Planning:

14.1 In M Hyde's absence, A Skene advised that, to date, there were no new planning applications for this month. A Skene noted that planning application 18/01609/APP (35 Findhorn) had been withdrawn, however, a subsequent application 19/00443/APP had been submitted. It was agreed that F&K CC members would pay a site visit.

Action: A Skene to organise a joint site visit with L Fraser, B James and herself

Item 15 AOCB:

15.1 D Anderson advised there are a lot of actions sitting with her in relation to the resilience plan. Things are still progressing.

15.2 J O'Hagan thanked S Jullian for the tidying up and repair work he had carried out at Kinloss Pavilion following it being vandalised. S Jullian advised that if anyone had information regarding this incident, to report to Police.

15.3 B James advised that someone had removed the low-cost green parking sign stickers. Thanks to B James for putting up in the first place.

15.4 B James advised that the kerbside collection had been going at some speed and spraying broken glass. Cllr Alexander advised that he would make enquiries. It was not known whether this was an operator issue or something to do with the mechanism.

15.5 L Fraser enquired if there had been any development with tackling the seagull issues. B James advised that they are monitoring the pilot using paste. A Skene advised that she was using the paste on flat roof areas.

15.6 Cllr Creswell reminded everyone about the Auchernack Trust meetings in May and November for the allocation of funds. Applications can be made online.

Item 16 Forthcoming Community Events:

16.1 Local film show on 1st June 'Butch Cassidy and Sundance Kids – Forres Town Hall

16.2 Findhorn Coastal Rowing Club Regatta on 8th June

16.3 Open day in Findhorn Church 26th April, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. cheese and wine – to share the plans for the church with the community.

16.4 Nelson Tower reopens for season – 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

16.5 2nd May whisky tasting – Forres Tolbooth

Item 17:

17.1 Date of Next Meeting: 30th May 2019, 7 p.m. JMI Findhorn