

## Meeting Notes

Meeting of Monday 15th July 2019 in

Edinkillie Hall

### FCC members present

Nikki Howard (NH) – Chair, Tony Pinner (TP), Brian Higgs(BH)  
Anna Gatward (AG), Howard Davenport (HD), John Pullen (JP),

Also Attending: Anne Garrow, Cllr George Alexander(GA), Hilary Rolton, Andy Munro.

#### 1. Apologies:

Bob Laughton(BL), Cllr Lorna Creswell (CL),

#### 2. Notes from previous meeting

Approved.

#### 3. Police update

No report.

#### 4. Matters arising from previous meeting

All covered elsewhere.

#### 5. Current Standing Items

##### a. A96 Dualling Proposals

It was noted that FCC had been copied in on some correspondence between FAADAG and Forres Community Council, questioning the basis of Forres CC's opposition to the northern route.

##### b. Finderne Development Trust (FDT)

Having issues the Strategic Plan, BH had reported that the FDT were working on closer definition of potential projects, and prioritisation of projects. Support for community broadband was high on the priority list.

##### c. Vehicle Speeding in Rafford

BH had responded to a response from Kevin Price (TMC Traffic Engineer) asking for clarification on liability issues associated with volunteers erecting Rafford "Welcome" entry signs, and re-iterating the request for specifications and regulations pertaining to such signage.

GA reported that community speed guns were in use in some part of Yorkshire, however FCC had previously agreed not to pursue this option, in the short term at least.

d. **Loch of Blairs Project**

BH reported on some excellent successes in attracting funding:

- A £10K donation from a member of the public
- A £10K pledge from the Gordon and Ena Baxter Foundation, on the proviso of co-funding.
- A pledge of £5K from the Adam Family Foundation, again conditional on co-funding.
- At least £1K from Tesco "Bags of Help"

This will enable phase 1 of the Boathouse refurbishment (which does not require Planning Permission) to commence in the next 6-8 weeks.

It was also reported that Forres Scouts had been using the loch for kayaking, and the weed spraying was planned to start next week.

e. **Clashgour Wind Farm**

HD reported that a copy of the Shared Ownership MoU is being sent by post for signature.

It was also noted that Stephen Park had been trying to arrange a meeting to discuss FCC's objections to the Clashgour Consent Application.

**Action: HD to organise sign off of the MoU.**

f. **Core Paths Consultation**

No further information received from The Moray Council (TMC) on how they plan to take this forward. GA volunteered to follow up.

**Action: GA to follow up TMC plans.**

g. **FCC Budget/Funding**

NK reported she had sent a letter complaining the withdrawal of Community Council Funding by TMC.

GA said the agreed cut was for 1 year only.

h. **Berry Burn Wind Farm**

NH and HD had met with Airvolution, the Berry Burn 2 developers, earlier today. They had wanted to explain their approach to community benefits, including:

- Community Benefit in line with Scottish Government's £5K/MW recommendations. They said that this may be distributed using a different mechanism to the existing Berry Burn Fund
- Community Ownership,
- Supply Chain. They are contacting local Chambers of Commerce, to establish potential 2<sup>nd</sup> tier contractors for "balance of plant" work, including roads, buildings etc.
- Community Training support, possibly an apprenticeship support scheme that they had initiated on another development.
- Broadband support, potentially hosting WIFI broadband on wind farm towers

It was reported that they planned to make the Planning Consent Application later this year.

They also said that Statkraft had earmarked £2.5K to reward those involved in combating recent wildfires. NH noted that the keepers on local estates had made a major contribution to the efforts, and she would contact estates to find the best way to reward them.

**Action: NH to contact local estates**

i. **Moray Development Plan**

Although FCC had received an acknowledgement to our comments on the plan, no feedback on the comments had been received.

**Action: GA to chase up feedback from TMC Planning on FCC comments.**

j. **Community Broadband.**

No further feedback from WIFI Scotland, who are in the process of developing their plans.

## **6. New Business**

- a. **FCC Membership:** Hilary Rolton was welcomed as a new co-opted member.

**Action: HD to process paperwork**

- b. **FCC Publicity:** NH has completed a poster to be displayed in local halls.

**Action: NH to arrange display of poster.**

- c. **FCC Minutes:** HR reported that recent minutes were not available through the FCC website.

**Action: HD to ensure website is up to date**

- d. **FCC Insurance:** HD reported that he was not clear if volunteers were covered.

**Action: HD to check with Jane Martin**

- e. **GDPR:** HD explained the current situation where FCC did not think registration with ICO was required, but Jane Martin had requested that all CCs register. It was noted that FCC are ensuring all activities are GDPR compliant.

**Action: GA to check with Jane Martin**

## **7. Planning Report**

TP reported that the developer of the Cathay housing development was appealing TMC decision not to grant planning permission.

TP had attended a FACT (Forres Area Community Trust) meeting of transfer of ownership of Forres Town Hall. Consultation is in progress, and feedback is welcome via their on-line form.

**Action: TP to maintain a watch on planning applications.**

## 8. Secretary's Report

HD reported that resignation forms had been processed retrospectively for Chris Piper and Carlo Miele.

It was also noted that the FCC's email password had been changed and all members informed.

## 9. Treasurers Report

AG reported no change from previous meeting. i.e. Bank balance £1527.67, of this £592.00 was restricted to Loch of Blairs with remainder £935.67, unrestricted (Moray Council admin grant balance).

## 10. AOCB

- a. **Strategic Timber Routes:** BH reported a near miss between a cyclist and a timber lorry on the road between Church Terrace and Blervie Castle. It was agreed that we should check which roads in the area are designated as timber transportation routes. **Action: JP to circulate timber route map.**
- b. **Wildfires:** After some further discussion, it was agreed to sent a letter to MSP Richard Lochhead and MP Douglas Ross to request the Scottish Government would re-consider their Land Management Planning guidelines in the light of the recent wildfires. **Action BH to draft letter**
- c. **School Crossing Clarification:** GA reported that TMC decision not reject and application for funding a voluntary school crossing patrol in Lossiemouth was a unanimous vote.

## Next meeting

26th August 2019, Rafford Church Hall, 19:00.