

Meeting Notes

Meeting of Monday 26th August 2019 in

Rafford Church Hall

FCC members present

Nikki Howard (NH) – Chair

Brian Higgs (BH), Anna Gatward (AG), Tony Pinnar (TP)

Also Attending: Andy Munro (AM), Claire Feaver (CF), Anne Garrow (AG)

1. Apologies:

Howard Davenport (HD), Robert Laughton (RL), John Pullen (JP)

2. Notes from previous meeting

Approved.

3. Police update

No report.

4. Matters Arising

- i. Forest Fires – NH confirming that she had emailed Richard Lochhead and Douglas Ross to ask for an update and how they were taking the matter forward. AM indicated that he had spoken to Richard Lochhead but he had said there were ongoing liaisons. AM also indicated that at the time of the fires the windfarm manager would not let the estate workers on to the windfarm initially. NH indicated that it was her understanding that the estates had purchased extra fire fighting equipment following the latest outbreak.

5. Current Standing Items

- a. A96 dualling proposals

It was agreed that we would continue the watching brief. It was noted that Peter Taylor had made representations to the Forres Community Council about bias in favour of the southern route. They had indicated that they had not decided yet which route to support.

- b. Finderne Development Trust (FDT)

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for 28th August whereupon all proposals will be organised into their order of priority and then published about 2 weeks thereafter.

c. Speeding in Rafford / Village signs

BH confirmed that he had emailed Kevin Price again after the email detailing liability but he had heard nothing back. BH will chase Mr Price again.

JP had suggested it would be worth getting some vehicle data in respect of the Rafford traffic and perhaps it would be worth investigating how much it would cost to get this data. It was noted that Upper Rafford had had vehicle survey equipment in the last 6 months and presumably this was Moray Council collecting this data. BH would ask Kevin Price if the equipment belonged to Moray Council and for a copy of any data collected.

d. Loch of Blairs Development

BH indicated that they were waiting for a response in respect of the change in the design of the windows from Alistair Gordon Cumming and then once all prices had been obtained renovations could be progressed. It was hoped that by the end of October it would be fully usable by groups of up to 15-18.

FCC were holding funds obtained by the Friends of Loch of Blairs - £1000 granted by Tesco and £592 of other funds. It was proposed that £592 is left to meet the costs of planning permission and building warrant with £1000 being used towards the cost of the renovations to the bothy. AG and BH would liaise regarding paperwork required for FCC accounts.

e. Clashgour Wind Farm

Memo of Understanding being signed and community liaison group meeting on 18th September – HD attending.

f. Core Paths Consultation

George Alexander has indicated that he has not had a response as yet.

g. Berryburn Extension

It was noted that Airvolution is now part of Statkraft. The community liaison group is meeting shortly and NH will attend. AM noted that there has been trouble with the access road being washed out between Tomcork and Johnstripe in the recent weather – the cattle grids are full. This has been raised with the local manager but the FCC would keep a watching brief and would raise it with the community liaison group when it meets.

h. Moray Local Development Plan

TP reported there has been no response from Moray Council following our response to the objections to the amendments to the Rafford Station in the proposed Local Development Plan.

i. Community Broadband

NH indicated that she had provided Rob Cowan with all the information for him to progress matters. The FCC is willing to help all potential providers bring a better wifi connection to the community and it was noted that there may be potential for Logie net to expand in the Rafford direction.

6. New Business

a. **New FCC member**

It was noted that Hilary Rolston had agreed to become a co-opted member of the FCC and paperwork had been progressed.

b. **FCC publicity**

NH confirmed that she had prepared posters for both Rafford and Edinkillie Hall notice boards of future meetings.

c. **Insurance**

HD has checked through the FCC insurance in respect of volunteers working at Loch of Blairs and whether their work was covered. Such work is covered but it was agreed that BH would prepare a risk assessment to have on file for the work carried out.

d. **GDPR**

TP agreed to look into the position of data protection officer and registration of the FCC in terms of data protection. Subsequently TP arranged registration and agreed to become data protection officer.

e. **Participatory Budgeting:** NH to respond to Moray Council to say that we did not agree with the increased use of participatory budgeting.

7. Planning Report

Nothing of significance reported by TP. No notification of Cathy appeal as yet.

8. Secretary's Report (HD)

9. Treasurers Report

AG indicated that there had been no change in financial position other than payment of Tesco grant, Bank balance £2527.67, of this £1592.00 was restricted to Loch of Blairs with remainder £1035.67, unrestricted (Moray Council admin grant balance).

It was agreed that in the future we would pay Rafford Church Hall the same as we pay Edinkillie Hall as in the past we have simply made a donation. The admin grant is there to be used.

10. **AOCB**

AM indicated that he was concerned about the parking in Forres at the top of Castle Street. NH to email councillors.

Next meeting

7th October Edinkillie Hall AGM and next meeting