

FINDHORN & KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 28th NOVEMBER 2019 , KINLOSS CHURCH, KINLOSS

Present: A Skene (Chair), H Grigor (Vice), J O'Hagan (mins), B James, S Dominey, D Anderson

Attendance: Cllr Feaver, Cllr Creswell, Cllr Alexander, R Douglas (BSO Kinloss Barracks), M Barber FVCC representative)

Item 1 Agenda:

1.1 Apologies: L Fraser, S Hermiston, S Urquhart

1.2 Declaration of Interest: to be declared if, or when necessary during meeting.

Item 2 Public Session:

2.1 Police Report – None presented.

Item 3 Ratification of Minutes of 31st October 2019

3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as accurate and were proposed by B James and seconded by H Grigor.

Item 4 Matters Arising:

4.1 a. (2b) Bye law re. traffic management on one-way road into Findhorn. Seek Moray Council legal advice – **DA** – D Anderson has followed this up with Moray Council through the traffic team instead of legal. Following discussion with the traffic team, it was decided to monitor the situation next year with no further action at present.

4.2 b. (4b) Letter to Moray Council regarding maintenance of beach steps – **AS** – AS has followed up. There was a lot of discussion on this matter at the meeting and some confusion regarding an Access Agreement that was terminated by Moray Council on 4th March 2019. M Barber had been fortunate to have documentation from years previous and advised that Moray Council had set up a management committee for the Local Nature Reserve. A ranger had been employed previously, whose responsibility it was to maintain the boardwalk and fences, however, the ranger's position was drawn to a close. Following discussion, it was agreed that M Barber would raise the issue of the beach steps and the contents of the letter at the next FVCC meeting, as it was apparent that legal advice may be required.

4.3 c. (14) Contact Planning Enforcement Officer re 81 Findhorn – **LF/AS** – AS contacted Officer; an acknowledgement has been received and AS is awaiting a full reply.

4.4 d. (15b) Info re. VE75 to **SU** for church – **BJ** – BJ sent info to S Urquhart. Completed.

4.5 e. (15c) Resilience Plan – copy to **SD – HG**. Info to Moray Council Community Resilience and Brexit Officer – **DA** – Information been forwarded on to relevant persons and comments are awaited. Brexit and Resilience Officer is now in place.

Item 5 Findhorn Village Conservation Company updates:

5.1 M Barber advised that the paths around Findhorn is an ongoing issue, however, addressing these, along with lane users, has had an amicable outcome in most cases. The gorse cutting is due to take place soon, however, a digger is required to finish the job. Regarding the David Urquhart Path, a meeting has taken place with the contractor. There has been a Crowd Funding appeal, although more funding is still required to allow for contingency work and ongoing maintenance. M Barber advised that issues pertaining to parking on pavements continues to be presented to the Board, however, as the pavements are tarmac, they are the responsibility of Moray Council and would be a Police matter if necessary. It was brought up at the meeting, that parking on pavements will become illegal by 2021, however, someone would have to take responsibility for enforcing this. It was noted that Council Officers

have a lot of work to do in the meantime and there will be consultation on this matter. A Skene commented that parking tickets have been issued in Findhorn recently by Police Scotland.

M Barber advised the Findhorn Residents Association has agreed to employ someone to cut the grass at the play park and along the bay front. The model of self-help is being encouraged in other areas. (Please note: Following the CC meeting, it was clarified that the cost of grass cutting in Findhorn village, will be shared between FRA and FVCC). The garage site is bringing in good income. The community engagement exercise has not yet taken place. The garage site electricity supply is ready for connection and planning and building warrants are in place for phase 1 for the workshops. M Barber advised that there is now gravel in place to fill the pot holes at the beach car parks; that are generating income. FVCC has met with Council Officers and they have been advised that FVCC must put in a planning application for motorhomes to use the car park sites. Issues of lighting and spacing between motorhomes would need to be taken into consideration. M Barber advised that FVCC are hoping to have arrangement in place for next season. Now that the car park arrangements have been in place since 2018, a Survey Monkey will go out shortly to gather the views of the public. An evaluation has now been given for the public toilet blocks in Findhorn. FVCC hope that a CAT will then follow for the 2 toilet blocks and the site of the 3rd, now demolished toilet block. M Barber was thanked for her update and then left the meeting.

Item 6 Kinloss Barracks Report:

6.1 R Douglas was pleased to report that the clearing of the overgrown vegetation at the aircraft viewing area, is almost complete. R Douglas advised this has been a great team effort involving 39 Eng. Reg., contractors, Balfour Beatty and the RAF. H Grigor passed thanks to R Douglas for co-ordinating this project. R Douglas advised that with next year being a leap year, the Commanding Officer has asked for one off project ideas (1 day per project), that the Army could support. A short project proposal (approx. 200 words) should be put forward before Christmas 2019 and will be considered. R Douglas advised that no materials would be provided by the Army, but they would be able to offer things such as, the provision of a digger and manpower. R Douglas was thanked for her input and left the meeting.

Item 7 Chairperson's Report:

7.1 A Skene advised that she had attended the CC forum on 20th November, for the dualling of the A96. This was an informative meeting, where A Skene discovered more about stage 3 of the project, looking at mitigation factors in terms of the environment. There were helpful updates on the scheme, junctions and access. 40 km of the route will encourage active travel e.g. cycling paths; other changes have been made to the plans following public consultation. A Skene advised that she had attended the Energising Communities Working Steering Group on 19th November. A Skene advised that following this meeting, she is now on this Steering Group. A Skene advised that 14 organisations have to date, signed up to the Memorandum of Understanding. A Skene had attended a Corporate Planning meeting, hearing a brief from the Chief Executive. Each Head of Service had 3 minutes to share information, before groups were asked to debate a number of topics e.g. how we communicate better as a community and enabling people to remain independent in their community.

Item 8 Secretary's Report:

8.1 There was no secretary's report put forward, although all members are checking the gmail correspondence.

Item 9 Treasurer's Report:

9.1 B James advised the bank balance total stands at £2329.62. The hall hire for Kinloss Church has now been paid.

Item 10 JCCM Report:

10.1 A Skene advised that she attended a meeting on 14th November. The main speaker talked about Community Participation and the Community Empowerment Act. This Act gives communities a greater voice, where they can influence decision making in their own communities. Should anyone wish to speak with Moray Council Community Support Unit, this is very much welcomed; the CSU can signpost to the relevant Council Officer, dependent on the topic.

Item 11 Moray Councillors' Report:

11.1 Cllr Feaver advised that she had received a flurry of emails from parents who had attended a parents' event at Forres Academy. Parents were concerned that children were being pushed to go to college to do specific courses and there was disappointment that a full compliment of 8 subjects could not be offered locally, as it is in some other local authorities. On a positive note, there is now a full complement of teaching staff in Moray. Cllr Feaver advised that she worries about care and enabling care in Moray; understanding that finances are a problem, however, she has heard a few worrying case studies recently. S Dominey commented on the work she is involved in 'Carers for Carers' and how there is 15K to pay for a Community Care Co-ordinator in the area of dementia. A call was put out to the community to see if match funding could be put forward; further funds will possibly come in. S Dominey expressed that she visualises this being much wider than the Eco Park itself, being a resource for the village as a whole and the wider area.

11.2 Cllr Creswell advised there is a focus on wind farm applications at an arranged Community Council workshop, where lunch will be provided at Elgin Town Hall on Saturday. Cllr Creswell advised that the Auchernack Trust has extended the date for applications for grants until the 15th December. Cllr Creswell advised there will be a reduction in finances regarding Looked After Children of around £3 million. Children's services are moving to integration of Health and Social Care; it is helpful now that Cllrs see the minutes of the IJB (Integrated Joint Board). Cllr Creswell attended the Federation of Village Hall in Buckie, where there was a talk about grass cutting and CATs. Film Forres are having their AGM next week and have regularly been putting on film shows. Cllr Creswell also advised that the Auchernack access point will soon close. She also advised that she attended a Criminal Justice meeting which was interesting. Cllr Creswell shared that the Credit Union celebrates 25 years and there is consideration of a rebate for those who pay off their loans quicker and a percentage share for members. Cllr Creswell talked about the Osprey bus and how things have been difficult. The whole issue of governance and community support needs addressing; there is some thought to applying for a SCIO. .

11.3 Cllr Alexander advised that there is a Best Value audit taking place in the Council at present and he will be interviewed. Cllr Alexander commented about a member of the public contacting him regarding a planning application being turned down; he reiterated that it was important to hold on to policies in place.

Item 12 Findhorn Park Eco-village Report:

12.1 S Dominey gave an overview of main work on the Park. The Universal Hall cinema season leaflet was handed out. S Dominey advised that there has been lots happening in the Park including 'Living our Roots' – communities 57th birthday and various workshops to revisit what the early intentions of the Park were; what needs to change, what might change etc. S Dominey reported there is now a portacabin at the back of the Phoenix stores and a digger is now out to prepare the roads for Northwhins. There is a regular Sunday slot to watch out for

and this is open to all. This is a topical conversation on issues that people are passionate about.

Item 13 Wildfowling Negotiation update:

13.1 It was agreed that this item could be removed from the agenda at this time.

Item 14 Planning:

14.1 There was a brief overview of planning applications, however, as the planning representative on the CC had been unable to attend this evenings meeting at short notice, there was an agreement that members would look over the relevant applications out with the meeting and action as necessary through email.

Item 15 AOCB

15.1 A Skene advised that there are vacancies on the Local Nature Reserve Committee. The Board meets twice a year; A Skene has put her name forward to represent the CC and those at the meeting were in support of this.

15.2 Thanks were given to all those involved in Remembrance Sunday organisation.

15.3 Information was relayed that drones of a certain weight (over 250g) will now have to be registered at the cost of £9.

15.4 It was discussed that it would be helpful if more than one person on the CC had the access code for Kinloss Church. A Skene agreed to put in a formal letter to request this.

Action: A Skene to request access code for 2 members of CC

Item 16 Forthcoming Community Events:

16.1 Solstice Spiral at The Park – 21-22 December.

16.2 Disco and band at JMI on 31st December – organised by Findhorn Coastal Rowing Club.

16.3 8th December 11 – 3 pm. – Hinterland trees for sale (donations) at the Green Burial site; mulled wine, biscuits and mince pies.

Item 17 Date of Next Meeting:

17.1 30th January 2020 at JMI, Findhorn – 7pm.

NOTE – THERE WILL BE NO CC MEETING IN DECEMBER