

FINDHORN & KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25th February 2021 (ZOOM MEETING DUE TO COVID19)

Present: A Skene (Chair), H Grigor (Vice), J O'Hagan (mins) B James, D Anderson, C Benton, M Hannon

Attendance: Cllr Alexander, Cllr Creswell, Cllr Feaver, Cllr McLean, S Kane and A Griffin (BSO Kinloss Barracks)

Item 1 Agenda:

1.1 Apologies: L Fraser, C Low (TFVCC), S Dominey (Findhorn Park Eco Village)

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

Item 2 Public Session:

2.1 A Skene briefed over the Community Safety Partnership Report, noting vandalism of a car in Findhorn and theft of a motorcycle in Kinloss. It was noted that Inspector Kerry Rigg will be moving on and will be replaced by Inspector Tony McCully.

2.2 A Skene advised that 3 letters of concern had come to the CC. The 1st was with regards to a car, parked beyond the bird hide for about a year. A Skene has made some enquiries and found the Police are aware of this. The 2nd letter was in relation to fly tipping on the drying green in Findhorn; this will be discussed later in the meeting. The 3rd letter was in relation to speeding in and out of Findhorn village and the resident has requested a mounted speed camera on the lamp post, just beyond the 30 mph sign; this will be discussed in matters arising.

Item 3 Ratification of Minutes 28th January 2020

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 (4.5) (4.8 h.) (14.5) **JOH** stated that the trees on Southside are the responsibility of the Factor who liaises with the grounds maintenance company. Issues of trees have been passed to the Factor.

4.2 (14.4) **HG** stated that the Resilience Plan has been circulated and comments from the CC are welcome. A Skene enquired whether the Bakehouse should be included, as they are a supplier of hot food. H Grigor then considered that other providers should be included including the Captains Table and Café 5.

4.3 (4.11) (14.6) Traffic speeds - **AS** stated that the issue was raised at the JCC meeting and was positively welcomed. A joint letter from AS and the Liaison Officer in Moray Council has been sent out to all CCs today.

4.4 (4.11) Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS). **AS** – advised that D Anderson had sent out the link to the committee report for reference. Agreed to bring back to next month's meeting for C Low's input. **ACTION AS - keep on MA for next month.**

4.5 (13.1) Planning application 21/00048/APP - replacement porch at no.34 Findhorn. **AS** has visited the site and following discussion, there are no objections.

Item 5 Findhorn Village Conservation Company update

5.1 C Low had kindly sent a report in her absence and A Skene provided a brief.

- a) West Beach Car Park – motor home stop over – TFVCC have been awarded funding from HIE. This will allow clearing and work on the area including ground works for water, waste and electricity. Work is ongoing with Moray Council and Scottish Water, but with different

plans to identify water and waste, this is very challenging. They are still trying to establish the fire gap, but hopefully a decision will be made promptly.

- b) Regarding the David Urquhart Memorial Path, Moray Council have written to Tfvcc to advise the signage on the path (no cycling) contravenes the access code and they must be removed; Tfvcc will go back to Moray Council to challenge this.
- c) 2 Directors of Tfvcc met with a gentleman to look at the state of Tfvcc ground at the allotment and surrounding area, resulting in an instruction that the area must be tidied up.
- d) Residents on the lane between the Bakehouse and track from the apartments have raised a concern re the size and speed of vehicles using the lane. 2 Directors met with a representative from the lane to review. Tfvcc are looking to put in 5mph speed signs and vehicle weight/size restriction notices at the start of the lane; this is being investigated.
- e) There has been no update since the last meeting regarding the Bakehouse lane and Tfvcc are waiting for resident to come back with costings and plan for them to review.
- f) Planning application for height barriers at the car park and Dunes Road has been submitted. This is required to ensure they can manage where the motorhomes park. There should be no overnight parking at East Beach Car Park. Tfvcc will make sure those who need access to Dunes Road in larger vehicles know who to contact for access e.g. caravan site, school minibus for trips etc.
- g) Tfvcc are concerned around what support there will be when lock down restrictions are removed, given the overflow that occurred before. Tfvcc is intending to write to MP, MSP and Police Scotland to ask what support is available and they would appreciate support from Councillors and the Community Council.
- h) Tfvcc are working with Living Seas to look at how to address the litter issues and to facilitate organised litter collections.
- i) Following consultation with the Forestry Commission and NatureScot conifer saplings (log pole pine) were removed to maintain mobile dunes land. Tfvcc have had some queries why saplings are being cut down and these have been responded to, in addition to highlighting this on Facebook and their website.

Item 6 Kinloss Barracks Report:

6.1 A Griffin advised that the runway at Kinloss will be completely decommissioned and it will no longer be a relief runway. From the air it will show it is no longer in use and air traffic equipment will all be removed from the control tower and the barriers will be taken down to make it a road again. The Moray Flying Club will be moving to RAF Lossiemouth; the lights and poles will remain in place and will be removed when required. The poles and lights at Nelson Tower in Forres will remain for now. Once the airfield is closed the entire site and everything on it will become the property of DIO. There will not be any public closing ceremony, as this occurred previously when the RAF vacated Kinloss. A Griffin advised that 170 personnel from Kinloss are detached and deployed across Scotland for the COVID-19 testing and this will be in place until April. Finally, A Griffin reported that Kinloss Barracks have just completed 20 allotments and these will be allocated to families; this is completion of phase 1 of this project. The allotments generated some discussion, given some of the history of the sale of southside estate and funds that were left over from that. A Skene advised that a significant sum of money was put into a land quality assessment for allotments over on northside and there was a query whether this was the site being used. Neither representative knew the exact site and will make enquiries, however, gave reassurances that the funds had been secured through the welfare unit and were not the funds set aside for southside. S Kane and A Griffin were thanked for their input and left the meeting.

Item 7 Chairperson's Report:

7.1 A Skene advised that there is not much to report, although she has been volunteering at the vaccination centre in Forres, helping out with car parking etc. A Skene advised that the vaccination centre in Forres is now closed for a month and all vaccinations will be given in Elgin. A Skene advised that she attended the Climate Assembly in February which was run by TSi Moray. M Hannon will brief the meeting under AOCB. H Grigor advised that he has printed off

posters for testing in Forres and these have been put up in Findhorn; A Skene agreed to put up posters in Kinloss.

ACTION: A Skene to put up COVID-19 posters in Kinloss

Item 8 Secretary's Report:

8.1 No report.

Item 9 Treasurer's Report:

9.1 B James provided information regarding the accounts and there has been no movement this month. There is £3,298.39 in the account, made up of £1321.26 in the admin account, £977.13 in the capital account and £1,000 of SSE grant. B James has checked out the insurance documents and the CC have public liability of ten million pounds. Moray Council will be paying the annual insurance costs.

Item 10 JCCM Report:

10.1 A Skene advised that she attended the meeting on 11th February (online). The Locality Manager for the area attended as a speaker. A Skene advised that the talk was interesting, covering the 10 year strategic plan and Integrated Joint Board 5 year plan; he talked about building resilience, partners in care and Home First. Home First is about maintaining peoples' safety at home and minimising hospitalisations and supporting early discharge. A Skene advised that the COVID-19 journey in Moray was discussed where statistics were given. The talk covered areas such as the Hubs, the vaccination programme, the rapid response teams, test and protect and staff health and wellbeing. The strategic plans noted above can be found on Moray Council website.

Item 11 Moray Councillor Reports:

11.1 Cllr Feaver reported that she has had quite a few contacts regarding maternity provision in Dr Grays, with concern also about paediatrics and local families having to travel to Aberdeen for aspects of these services. Cllr Feaver advised this was more concerning given the A96 dualling, as it is currently shelved. Cllr Feaver also commented that there has been a lot of concern raised regarding the state of Moray roads and pavements.

11.2 Cllr Creswell advised that she has been getting to know people through the Credit Union, ranging from small businesses, to people in receipt of benefits. Cllr Creswell advised she has good links due to being on the Poverty Action Group and advised some businesses managed to get discretionary awards last week, which was good to hear; she advised it was good to signpost helpful advice and support. Cllr Creswell advised that she has been attending lots of inspiring Zoom meetings and had also attended the JCC meeting, agreeing the talk from the Locality Manager had been interesting. Rafford had their village hall trustees meeting and are going strong, trying to support the community. Cllr Creswell advised families had been in touch wanting their loved ones to be cared for in Forres and also housing issues come up quite a bit, with regards to trying to find adequate and comfortable housing for older people or those with disabilities.

11.3 Cllr Alexander advised that the budget talks are going well and he is hopeful that a budget will be agreed in time between all Cllrs. Cllr Alexander spoke with caution regarding relaxing things too quickly following lockdown; until we are more sure about the impact of the vaccination programme. Cllr Alexander advised he had sat on the Local Review Board and found it frustrating that 2 cases were upheld today which went against the planning policy.

11.4 Cllr McLean agreed with Cllr Alexander, in that budget talks have been going well and talks are ongoing. He also stated they should work with the policies that have been agreed. Cllr McLean advised there is progress with Forres golf course.

Item 12 Findhorn Park Eco-village Report:

12.1 No report submitted.

Item 13 Planning:

13.1 H Grigor advised that he has been looking at planning application 21/00239/APP for 71 Findhorn and will need to look at this further.

Item 14 AOCB

14.1 M Hannon briefed the CC on the TSi Moray Climate Assembly event, which was trying to inspire locals and councils to think about climate change, and be, greener. The event was attended by various people and they have further events lined up. From a CC point of view, this is a great source of information. The main facilitator was promoting lots of positivity and encouraging Moray Council to be a green council. M Hannon intends on attending further events. A Skene advised she also attended the event but commented there was not enough representation from private business and industry, and no one came from the MOD. A Skene advised it was staggering to hear the amount of renewable projects going on in Moray; with the key messages being collaboration between everyone.

14.2 B James advised that this CC have 6 meetings left in their term. The CC members are encouraged to promote interest for the next term.

14.3 H Grigor advised he had noted in the JCC minutes that the Police were not in attendance, as they are unable to use Zoom. It was queried which platforms they can use and if this was addressed, would it help representation at the CC meetings.

14.4 H Grigor expressed that in the Police report, although the crime rate is going down, there is concern that criminals are coming up from the central area.

14.5 H Grigor advised the village notice board in Findhorn (outside the shop) is in a poor state of repair; it is owned by the Findhorn Residents Association. H Grigor enquired whether the CC would share replacement cost with FRA; he also intends to speak to TFCVCC to see whether they would also contribute. B James advised there are funds available in the admin. account and all agreed to contribute up to £100, roughly a third of the costs.

14.6 H Grigor advised that he had circulated an email response from Police Scotland regarding his enquiry about the proposed pavement parking ban. Police Scotland (North East Division) advised the Transport Scotland Bill is in a consultation phase with local councils and will not be live until mid 2022.

14.7 Cllr Alexander advised he and others have had a significant number of letters from an organisation, urging Cllrs to remove local government pension investments in fossil fuel companies. He advised the Council only has one representative on the Investment Advisory Committee and law requires it to be totally independent and it must maximise its ability to pay the pensions. Cllr Alexander advised that a colleague has made some enquiries and only 2.8% of the local government fund is invested in fossil fuels and most of this are in north sea companies who are already moving towards green energy.

Item 15 Forthcoming Community Events:

15.1 – None noted

Item 16 Date of Next Meeting:

16.1 Thursday 25th March 2021 (Zoom meeting) 7pm.