

FINDHORN & KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 25th MARCH 2021
(ZOOM MEETING DUE TO COVID19)

Present: A Skene (Chair), H Grigor (Vice), B James, D Anderson (minutes), L Fraser, C Benton, S Dominey

Attendance: Cllr Creswell, Cllr Feaver, C Low (TFVCC representative), S Kane (BSO Kinloss Barracks)

Item 1 Agenda:

1.1 Apologies: M Hannon, J O'Hagan, Cllr Alexander

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

Item 2 Public Session:

2.1 Police Report – One incident of threatening/abusive behaviour was reported in Findhorn in the report dated 10 March 2021. Careless driving was reported in Kinloss.

2.2 No public present, due to COVID-19. One piece of public correspondence had been received in relation to the litter revealed after the recent cutting back and clearance of gorse from the B9011 Kinloss to Findhorn Road. This was passed to S Kane with action being taken by members of Kinloss Barracks.

Item 3 Ratification of Minutes 25th February 2021

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

Item 4 Matters Arising:

4.4 (4.11) Community purchase of Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) in Findhorn. C Low confirmed that the prospect of VAS in Findhorn was raised at the last FVCC meeting and a number of questions were posed in particular with regard to siting (away from properties). However, TFVCC have agreed to consider making a contribution to any community purchased VAS.

ACTION: VAS and Speeding in Communities to be kept on the Agenda as a separate item. See 7.2 below.

7.1 Covid testing in Forres, A Skene put up Covid-19 testing posters in Kinloss.

From Previous Minute: B James provided an update on the vehicle which has been parked at the Bird Hide car park for a significant period of time. The Police have confirmed that they have checked the vehicle and driver documents and advised the party that they are parked on private land.

Amendment to November 2020 Minutes

It was agreed that Item 14.1 is amended to read 'It was unanimously agreed that FKCC would donate vouchers to the Kinloss Christmas boxes. £600 worth of Tesco vouchers were provided'.

Item 5 The Findhorn Village Conservation Company update

5.1 C Low reported that works for the Motorhomes stop over park at the West Beach is nearing completion and TFVCC are awaiting Moray Council to sign off the waste disposal application and determine the planning application for the height restriction barriers. TFVCC cannot proceed with ordering the items and materials to provide the waste disposal and the barriers until the applications are determined. There is a significant lead in time for ordering these items which means that delays at this stage may result in the waste disposal and barriers not being in place by 26 April 2021 (when it is anticipated that travel restrictions will be lifted in Scotland).

5.2 The CAT for the toilets is still proceeding however TFVCC have just taken on the lease of the North toilet block. The condition of the toilet block is very poor, so TFVCC will be winterising, cleaning, insulating and clearing out gutters to make the toilet block more hospitable and energy efficient.

5.3 TFVCC will soon be planting marram grass on the bare slopes created during the works at the West Beach Car Park and the two sets of steps near the Beach Huts have been repaired. The remaining sets of steps require significant work and therefore will remain closed until funding or volunteer support can be secured. The Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund has opened again for

applications. However, funding will not be awarded until November this year so would be no use for the current tourist season.

5.4 B James highlighted that Forres in Bloom have community litter picking equipment and passed contact details on to C Low. He also reported that stickers have appeared in locations across the village and offered to photograph the locations and share with the TFFVCC. C Low reported that there has been vandalism in Findhorn and at the West Beach Car Park although it has not been mentioned in the most recent Police Report.

Item 6 Kinloss Barracks Report:

6.1 S Kane has corresponded with A Skene regarding the new allotments at the Barracks. She confirmed that the location of the allotments is not the same as the area investigated previously for the siting of allotments for the wider community and were funded from a new source. Approximately £36,000 remains in a separate account for community facilities associated with the sale of the Southside development. S Kane would like to discuss the potential uses for this funding with representatives from the Southside community and asked for a meeting to be arranged.

ACTION: A Skene to arrange meeting with relevant parties.

6.2 S Kane confirmed that works to decommission the runway at Kinloss Barracks are ongoing and that the airfield will soon be available for use by the Regiment and their families. H Grigor suggested that the 'Aircraft Viewing Area' have the signage removed, S Kane said she would take that back to 39 Eng Regt.

6.3 A new cash machine has been provided at the Barracks, outside the wire and therefore accessible to the public. Parking spaces have also been provided with a crossing point highlighted between the parking and the cash machine.

6.4 S Kane also confirmed that at this time part of the regiment is present at the Barracks however, others are currently deployed to support COVID-19 related activities.

Item 7 Chairperson's Report:

7.1 A Skene attended the Moray Climate Assembly on 2 March 2021 which was described as a 'cross sector melting pot' with the intention to Inspire, Share and Connect. Various organisations were present including REAP, MSEN, HIE and Energising Moray. Information was shared but at this time no clear actions were determined.

7.2 On 9 March 2021 A Skene attended a JCC focus group on speeding in communities which was attended by representatives from 14 Community Councils. This meeting was followed up by a smaller meeting attended by A Skene, J Martin, Chief Inspector (CI) N Stevenson from Police Scotland and N Moss Moray Council's Transportation Manager when legislation, speed monitoring, perceptions of speed and the types of signage available were discussed. It was suggested that a partnership is formed with Moray Council, the Police and representatives from CC's which meets quarterly to discuss community needs, engage in consultation and education, and discuss the roll out of temporary 'smiley' speed signs. The CI will write a brief on how a smaller focus group would work to look at the key priorities of education, enforcement, engagement through social media and the consideration of infrastructure. The CI will also attend the next meeting of the current focus group to update the discussion with a view that it becomes a permanent item on the JCC Agenda.

7.3 A Skene also attended the 'Join the Dots' conference on 24 March 2021. Held by TSi Moray. The theme was shifting perspectives and the keynote speaker was Cormac Russell from ABCD (Asset Based Community Development) who gave a talk on rekindling democracy in communities by making changes to the relational power between communities and agencies, including the de-centering of agencies and the re-centering of communities by relocating resources and power to them.

Item 8 Secretary's Report:

8.1 Correspondence received from members of the public were discussed under item 2.2.

Item 9 Treasurer's Report:

9.1 B James provided information regarding the accounts. There is £3,154.49 in the account, made up of £1,177.36 in the admin account, £977.13 in the capital fund and £1,000 of SSE grant.

Item 10 JCCM Report:

10.1 A Skene advised that at the JCC meeting on 11th March 2021 she raised the CC's concerns about the expected influx of people and traffic when travel restrictions are lifted and asked what preparations were being made by Moray Council and Police Scotland. There is a PAN Grampian group looking at public safety and visitor management and there is a local Moray strategy group with representation from Moray Council and the Police. A Skene requested that communities were kept informed of development and actions.

10.2. There is now a Moray Community Resilience Plan guide available to CC's and J Martin has offered support to CCs writing their plans. It was agreed to send a draft version of the Findhorn report for information as it had previously been shared with Moray Council's Resilience officer. **ACTION: H Grigor to send report to J Martin.**

10.3 Community Council elections are in October. The JCC intend to have a sub-group to promote the elections and it is possible that, as in the past, CC's will be asked to contribute £75 to advertising costs.

Item 11 Moray Councillors' Report:

11.1 Cllr Feaver reported vaccination across Moray is generally going well although some letters sent went missing. If someone is in one of the priority groups and has not yet received a letter then they need to call the NHS. It appears from the data that uptake of the vaccine has been lower in Findhorn and Forres and Cllr Feaver urged people to consider others who cannot have a vaccine for health reasons when making their decision as to whether to receive the vaccine. Cllr Feaver also attended the Moray Climate Assembly and was able to impart information to groups about the policies in the Moray Local Development Plan which sought to support taking action on Climate Change as part of new developments.

11.2 Cllr Creswell has been working at the Forres Credit Union which supports individuals in the community who are facing financial hardship. She also attended a meeting on the investment of pension funds in companies that made profits through activities which were Carbon intensive. Cllr Creswell attended the 'Join the Dots' conference and highlighted that TSi Moray are currently mapping community organisations. TSi will no longer be based on Elgin High Street and will in the future be working remotely and within communities. TSi have requested feedback on what they should be doing in the future. Cllr Creswell suggested that they streamlined the funding opportunity reports to include only or highlight opportunities applicable to Moray.

Item 12 Findhorn Park Eco-village Report:

12.1 S Dominey stated that she believes that the Caravan Park will be reopening from 26 April for Scottish visitors only and that there is a lack of responsibility for the public toilets within The Park. There is a survey currently being undertaken by the Findhorn Foundation which S Dominey considers should also include the wider community. S Dominey offered to forward the link to the survey so members of the CC can make their views on the Findhorn Foundation known.

12.2 There will be Covid aware Easter Carousal in The Park over the Easter weekend. The Covid Action Group in The Park have highlighted the need for a Resilience Plan but S Dominey does not know if the Findhorn Foundation will be proceeding with developing one as many staff have been made redundant. The Plan is believed to be currently with the Listener Convenors.

12.3 The Silvertrees housing development is nearing completion and infrastructure works are currently taking place at North Whins. Ekopia have taken over the Moray Art Centre. Art classes will continue and a community cafe is planned.

Item 13 Planning:

13.1 Four planning applications were discussed - 21/00215/APP a replacement garage at 4 Fyrish Road, 21/00220/APP a new house at Kinloss Golf Club and 21/00266/AAP sewage treatment plant at Seapark Cottage, Kinloss. The CC had no concerns regarding these applications. The fourth application 21/00272/APP is a resubmission of planning application 20/01393/APP and makes the case for the change of use of a garage to become 'Hut' accommodation. The CC queried the

application in terms of meeting Scottish Government Hutting guidance and will send a response asking the planning officer to check the proposed development against the guidance. **ACTION: H Grigor**

Item 14 AOCB

14.1 A Skene asked on behalf on M Hannon if there was any formal disabled parking in Findhorn village. There is currently no signed disabled parking in the village although there is signage for disabled parking on TFVCC land.

14.2 H Grigor confirmed that the pavement on the Bay side of the Dyke which was damaged by contractors working on the rebuilding of 135 Findhorn has recently been repaired by Moray Council. B James highlighted that there are other locations in Findhorn where there is a need for repair. D Anderson stated that there is a fault reporting system on the Moray Council website which can be used.

ACTION: DA to email link to fault reporting page to all CC members to share with community members as necessary.

14.3 There is a possibility for physical meetings of the FKCC to resume prior to the end of its term. H Grigor emailed the meeting dates and locations to remind CC members.

14.4 H Grigor stated that the Dunes Trust will soon be marking more of the concrete blocks at the top of the Dunes Road with warning signage as they are in danger of falling into the sea. The Police and Moray Council have been made aware that this is soon to happen.

14.5 S Dominey highlighted that she witnessed two large, out of control dogs pestering a person on the beach. The owners took no active steps to intervene and put their dogs onto a lead. Cllr Feaver confirmed that it is the law for dog owners to keep them under close control when in public spaces and that such incidents should therefore be reported to the Police.

14.6 C Benton said that she had been approached by residents of Southside regarding safety concerns when they cross the road at Kinloss Primary School. In her role as a Moray Council Transportation officer, D Anderson confirmed that pedestrian and vehicle surveys will take place once schools are open and travel restrictions have been lifted. Whilst schools are currently open to all Primary pupils, only essential journeys are to be made at this time which will mean that there would be fewer cars recorded which would be an under representation. She asked for the communities' patience on this matter.

14.7 H Grigor asked if members could acknowledge emails highlighting planning applications, even if they have no concerns.

14.8 Cllr Creswell has found historic documents in her files regarding the stryplies in Findhorn village and the development of guidance which could be made available to new householders and local solicitors who may be acting for buyers/sellers. C Low stated that TFVCC have looked into developing such guidance but at this time the cost is prohibitive.

Item 15 Forthcoming Community Events:

15.1 Findhorn village volunteers' group are organising an Easter Egg trail around the village for Easter weekend.

Item 16 Date of Next Meeting:

16.1 Thursday 29th April 2021 (Zoom meeting) 7pm.