

FINDHORN & KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 29th April 2021 (online meeting due to COVID-19)

Present: A Skene (Chair), H Grigor (Vice), B James, J O'Hagan (minutes), D Anderson, C Brenton, S Dominey, L Fraser, M Hannon

Attendance: Cllr Creswell, Cllr Alexander, C Low (TFVCC representative)

Item 1 Agenda:

1.1 Apologies: Cllr Feaver, A Griffin (BSO Kinloss Barracks).

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

Item 2 Public Session:

2.1 Police Report – A Skene had circulated the Community Safety Partnership Report prior to the meeting and drew attention to the statement therein, by Chief Inspector for Moray, Norman Stevenson, as it related to 2a on our agenda for this meeting. It was reported that road safety is very high on his agenda and there has been a recent meeting with the Joint Community Council (JCC) Liaison Officer, the Local Authority and F & K CC to collectively gather information from communities. A follow up meeting was held with the JCC to support Community Councils to drive forward the road safety agenda in a meaningful way and deliver in the areas that matter; a strategy is being devised along with an action plan.

2.2 A Skene advised that she has received a few letters about a planning application in Findhorn village; these will be discussed under planning. C Low had forwarded on a letter to A Skene, from a resident who was complaining about campervans being parked along the bay and blocking access for the bus, asking about a possible by-law. C Low had posed questions relating to this issue at one of the meetings above, but did not feel that she had been given a full answer. C Low expressed that we needed guidance of what we should be saying to people and what actions need to be taken; she advised she will await a full response to her questions.

Item 3 Ratification of Minutes 25th March 2021:

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

Item 4 Matters Arising:

4.1 (6.1) AS to arrange meeting with relevant parties to discuss Kinloss funding. **Completed.** AS, CB and JOH met to discuss history and where to go next. CB and JOH met subsequently and have devised a plan to engage the community. A post was put on the Southside Residents FB page alerting them to the funding again and also asking for ideas. A question/answer session will take place outdoors in Southside on 15th May.

4.2 (10.2) HG to send Findhorn resilience plan report to J Martin. **Completed.**

4.3 (13.1) HG to send a response asking the planning officer to check the proposed development against the Scottish Government Hutting Guidance. **Completed.**

4.4 (14.2) DA to email link to fault reporting page to all CC members to share with community members as necessary. **Completed.**

Item 5 Findhorn Village Conservation Company update:

5.1 C Low advised the motor home car park opened on 26th April in line with Scottish Government guidance; they have received some good verbal feedback so far. There will be a booking and barrier system in place by 16th May for campervans and a height barrier being put in place for the car park, to prevent campervans accessing that specific area. Extra bins will arrive tomorrow, with the possibility of another being ordered by June. It was noted that public bins in the village were full last weekend and this has been raised elsewhere. C Low advised that the majority of the newsletters have been distributed and positive feedback has already been received regarding the article on allotments/community gardens. C Low advised she would be happy to hear from anyone with knowledge and experience of setting up such projects, to share their learning. The 'sleeping policeman' has been repaired on the way to the marina. Permission was granted for a chemical disposal unit in the motorhome car park and TFVCC are waiting to hear from Moray Council regarding possible access to the coastal community fund. Minimal signage

will be going up in the car park, with guidance around rules e.g. fires, litter etc. M Hannon enquired about the height barriers going up, raising important points regarding the height of some vehicles e.g. small vans and some vehicles designed for those with disabilities. This led to a discussion generally regarding parking of other types of vehicles and the lack of disabled parking in Findhorn and Kinloss and also what could be enforced on private land. C Low advised that she would take this back to TFVCC to discuss further. There was also thanks given to local residents who have been involved in the litter picking in the village.

Item 6 Kinloss Barracks Report:

6.1 A Griffin provided some information to A Skene prior to the meeting. A Griffin advised that 39 Eng. Regt. would be happy to rebuild/repair the steps at Findhorn beach, with a few stipulations: the liability would not sit with them going forward and a signed declaration to that effect should be in place, that materials would be provided by others and that they would need to be content they are not taking trade from local providers. A Griffin advised they are awaiting a response from RAF Lossiemouth regarding the future of the spotters hut. A Griffin advised that military personnel have travelled to different areas of the UK, however, confirmed that Kinloss Barracks is a place of work and therefore, permitted under Scottish Government regulations for travel. A Griffin advised that personnel had been deployed on Operation Rescript, which is due to end in May. A Griffin advised that she had read through H Grigor's paperwork regarding proposed emergency planning to redirect traffic should the B9011 be closed. She advised that Moray Council and CO 39 Eng. Regt. are already in discussions regarding this. A Griffin asked for any update regarding the Southside funds. Following discussion, the CC was satisfied that we should ask 39 Eng. Regt. to undertake the work and joint funding was suggested from willing community groups. It was agreed to approach 39 Eng. Regt. to establish required materials and thereafter seek quotes.

ACTION: A Skene to feedback to A Griffin on the beach steps and Southside funds

Item 7 Chairperson's Report:

7.1 A Skene advised her report would be covered in Item 10.

Item 8 Secretary's Report:

No report submitted. All CC members to check Gmail.

Item 9 Treasurer's Report:

9.1 B James advised there is £1052.36 in the admin fund (the admin grant is overdue £364 is due in this account), £1142.13 in the capital fund and £1000 of the SSE grant, a total of £3194.49.

Item 10 JCCM Report:

10.1 A Skene advised that a member of Moray Speyside Tourism had given a presentation on the Toolkit for Community Ownership and Management of Toilet Facilities, which could help communities and CCs to take responsibility for toilets. The toolkit provides information on funding opportunities, short/long term leases/ownership and the CAT process. Moray Speyside Tourism propose a central funding model for small community projects. It was highlighted that toilet facilities are not a statutory responsibility of Moray Council.

10.2 A Skene advised that Moray Council have allocated 5 new areas for campervan parking on existing council land at: Burghead, Portknockie, Portgordon, Ballindalloch and Craigellachie, at a cost of £150,000. Waste disposal units will be installed on the sites and extra staff will be hired to keep the sites tidy, clean the toilets and provide advice for visitors.

In addition to the council sites, there are 2 private sites being developed in Findhorn and Cullen and waste disposal units will be in place.

10.3 A Skene advised that an extra JCC meeting took place on 22nd April 21, this was in relation to toilet and campervan facilities, parking and management. A Skene advised that 3 presentations were given from 1) Chief Inspector Norman Stevenson, who talked about the pan Grampian collective which includes: tourism, local authorities, emergency services, NHS, Police Scotland and the Coastguard. Whilst all wanted the economy opened up, safety is a top priority and local infrastructure needs to meet demand. Well-developed communication is important, as is visits to communities to address concerns and issues. A Moray group has been formed with additional reps from landowners and forestry. All groups will be working together and linking in. Additional staffing is to be in place for dealing with litter and movement of

traffic. 2) Moray Council advised of the 5 new halting sites for motor homes/campervans as noted above. Hot spots such as coastal villages will be prioritised for resources. 3) Moray Speyside Tourism stressed the importance of awareness of good communication so that issues may be addressed quickly and that some areas will have an influx of visitors. All 5 new halting sites will have waste disposals in place by the end of May. The forestry groups will increase facilities for overnight camping too. All seasonal toilets will be reopened. Should any issues arise, please advise Moray Speyside Tourism and Moray Council.

Item 11 Moray Councillors' Report:

11.1 Cllr Creswell advised that she had attended CCs and Parent Councils. She had shared information on road safety and speeding with Parent Councils and most are considering renewing their constitutions at present. Cllr Creswell advised that she took part in Forres Academy's Parent Council last night and parents were concerned regarding assessments rather than exams; this was an open session with lots of questions raised. Cllr Creswell advised she continues to go to the Credit Union every day. Cllr Creswell advised that she has passed on all information that she held regarding the allotments from years gone by, (to be picked up from the school by Barracks Staff Officers).

11.2 Cllr Alexander advised he had been busy attending meetings; 2 of which discussed the council's paper that should be at full council on 12th May. This report is on the improvement and modernisation programme with high expenditure. Cllr Alexander advised that Council Officers have been working diligently on this for a long time. Cllr Alexander advised that he would follow up on a comment made earlier in this meeting, regarding different stipulations of spacing between motorhomes/campervans. From earlier in the meeting, it appeared that some sites were expected to provide 4 meters between and others, 6 meters. Cllr Alexander advised that he has already had quite a lot of correspondence regarding problems with seagulls. Cllr Alexander enquired whether there had been any progress regarding a crossing outside Kinloss Primary; D Anderson advised that the survey had taken place during week commencing 26 April 2021 and that subject to staff availability it will take about 2 to 3 weeks to analyse the data from the survey, which would give the number and speed of traffic etc.

Item 12 Findhorn Park Eco-village Report:

12.1 S Dominey advised she had attended a COVID Action Group today; an eclectic group who have met weekly for the past year. They have talked about things such as mental health, resilience plans, etc. S Dominey advised that there was an official statement made regarding the fires on the site; the buildings were insured, however, other funds have generously come flooding in at this time. S Dominey advised one of the NFA Listener Conveners has retired. S Dominey advised there is a lot of change going on in the Park and there is a new Listener Convener; there is quite a shake up with member changes on the Park Council. S Dominey feels this is a time of opportunity, especially with neighbours e.g. Findhorn village. On a personal level S Dominey feels there needs to be time to reflect, time to slow things down and to look at resources amongst us and how we can invest in community relationships that brings us all together. A question was asked regarding the development of a resilience plan on this site and S Dominey will take this forward for discussion on the NFA council. Unfortunately, with COVID and the impact on staff numbers, the resilience plan has not yet progressed.

Item 13 Planning:

13.1 A Skene advised that the application for 10 dwellings at Kinloss Park has been withdrawn.

- a) 21/00302/APP** Revise house design, Plot 9 Fairway Heights, Kinloss – no objections.
- b) 21/00387/APP** Erect summer house and ground level timber decking at 135 Findhorn – H Grigor advised the drawings had been mis-labelled; he has drawn this to the attention of Planners. – No objections
- c) 21/00413/APP** Alter and extend 6 Beach Chalets, Findhorn – no objections
- d) 21/00374/APP** Erect 2 cottages on site at 133 Findhorn – H Grigor and B James declared a conflict of interest regarding this application. A Skene advised she has received 2 letters from Findhorn residents. There was concern regarding over development of the site. A Skene referred back to old maps of Findhorn, whereby 2 cottages had been on that site previously. A further question had been raised regarding the loft space. A Skene had spoken with the applicant for clarity and was satisfied with the outcome. H Grigor expressed that the plans on Moray Council website appear to be outdated. It was agreed A Skene would raise this with planners. There was concern from neighbours regarding parking.

Neighbours asked whether stipulations could be made in the planning deeds for one family car only and no vans etc. to be parked on the site; this was not thought to be possible.

ACTION: A Skene to contact Planners in MC re outdated plans on website.

e) 21/00426/APP Variation to planning app at Kinloss Test Facility, Kinloss Barracks – no objection

f) 21/00488/APP Revise house design, Plot 8 Fairway Heights, Kinloss – no objections.

g) 21/00578/APP 80 Findhorn, removing asbestos tiles from roof and replacing with reclaimed Welsh slate – no objections.

h) 21/00606/APP 1 holiday cottage - approved

Item 14 Any Other Competent Business:

14.1 M Hannon raised the issue of the lack of disabled parking in Findhorn and Kinloss. D Anderson advised the provision of on street disabled parking, tends to be associated with a specific residents' needs, although any Blue Badge holder could use a designated space. D Anderson advised any request for on-street disabled parking -would need to be specific and defined for the council and related to a need identified by blue badge holders. It was helpful to hear D Anderson's knowledge regarding stipulations on public and private land and she provided some pointers. D Anderson agreed to speak to her colleague who deals with residents' disabled parking for general advice on how to take this forward. D Anderson advised it is also better to speak to groups representing persons with impaired mobility to hear their views.

ACTION: D Anderson to make enquiries re disabled parking

14.2 Resilience Plan – Kinloss C Brenton advised that she has adapted the Findhorn RP to fit Kinloss; she has sought advice re the SEPA maps from H Grigor and she will send the points of interest to D Anderson. It was discussed that once Findhorn Park Eco-Village have completed their plan, then plans can be published. S Dominey advised that she would be willing to organise a meeting at the Park to move the RP forward and H Grigor agreed to attend given his experience to date.

ACTION: S Dominey to arrange a meeting with relevant individuals to discuss the Park RP.

14.3 H Grigor raised the subject of unwanted telephone boxes. Following discussion and criteria for applying for them, C Low advised TFVCC are potentially happy to complete the application, however, this should then be managed by a committee; C Low will take to TFVCC meeting.

14.4 Closure of B9011 - H Grigor raised the issue of alternative routes again and asked others to think about possible solutions.

14.5 B James wished to express thanks to Nancy Hirst, Sarah Theman and others who have organised the litter pick in Findhorn. Thanks were extended from the CC to all.

14.6 B James raised the issue of having gratitude parties when restrictions lift to say thank you to all those who have worked so hard during the pandemic. This was thought to be a good idea and will be revisited when appropriate.

14.7 L Fraser has been asked by a resident to raise the issue regarding the concreting of a gate in the village, which had previously been an access point. It was acknowledged that this had been raised before and the CC have no role here.

Item 15 Forthcoming Community Events:

None noted

Item 16 Date of Next Meeting 27th May 2021, 7pm (Online)