

# Strathisla Community Council

## Minute from meeting on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7:30pm by Zoom.

**Attendance:** Karen Pryce-Iddon (chair), James Mark (treasurer), Tracy Whiteaker (secretary), Keith Comrie, Priscilla Gordon-Duff, Rhona Patterson, John Taylor, Adele Williams, Alastair Kennedy, (visitor) Chairman of Moray JCC & Present: Cllr Theresa Coull. Guest speakers Rachel Baird & Kirsty Leiper

**1. Welcome** - Karen Pryce-Iddon welcomed members and introduced guest speaker.

**Apologies** – Cllr. Donald Gatt

**2. Guest speakers** - Rachel Baird & Kirsty Leiper from Anemometry Mast Application – Glenfiddich Forest. The ladies then gave slide show introducing themselves and other members of the team involved for FORL.

Fred. Olsen Renewables Limited have been operating wind farms in the UK for since 1996.

RB & KL went through the range of criteria required to establish as suitable location for a wind farm.

Although early days they are exploring the potential for up to 11 x 200m turbines which would have a total capacity of 82mw.

The turbines would be transported in from Aberdeen and ending their journey moving via A96 & A920. Aberdeen & Moray Councils will have to agree route.

Consultations start now but it will not be till nearer the end of 2022 that they will get any form of decision.

There was then information re the consultation, community opportunities and an in-depth appraisal of the Rothes Wind Farm fund and how it has benefitted the local community.

### Questions

KPI asked whether their proposed 10km radius could be extended to rest of Strathisla?

*KL – that will be addressed at later date.*

PGD was interested in the fact that they were talking to Moray Council re fuel poverty & wanted to know how far they were able to enable the council to deliver a strategic approach. The significant amount of money also needed management.

*KL – Wind farm influence over the council might be limited but their level of support for communities is large with exciting potential. They work with Local Energy Scotland & Community Energy Scotland to bring people round the table to give advice to the community.*

AK – Is there any consideration for community investment? And are there any communities where Fred Olsen has invested?

*KL – There are discussions on another project that is ongoing in the Scottish borders. Nothing has happened yet but there is nothing to stop them from exploring the subject.*

*RB – When explored before there has been a lack of community interest.*

AB – Energising Moray is looking into community investment.

*KL – interested in engaging with Energising Moray.*

TW to furnish KL with AK's contact details.

KPI thanked RB & KL for their excellent presentation.

**3. Police** – No comments circulated report

**4. Co-option of Community Council member** - John Taylor was welcomed a co-opted member of SCC. KPI asked JT if in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Community councils, which he had been sent, would he agree to adhere to the principles of said code whilst he is a Strathisla Community Council member. JT replied yes.

**5. Approval of minutes of the meeting of 3rd March 2021** - Minutes were approved as a true record by Karen Pryce-Iddon & seconded by Keith Comrie.

**6. Matters arising from previous minutes.**

9b) Cllr Coull reported that no reply had come back from re ownership of bridge over Isla at the bottom of the gullet. She will ask Debbie at Moray Council again to try and establish ownership through title deeds.

10d) – KPI reported that permission has been granted for defibrillator to be installed at the garage in Knock & has received ok from Crossroads School. Installation of both should be completed in the next 14 days. Questions raised on the locations of defibs.

**7. Treasurer's report** – Total in the bank at time of meeting - £6547.59. PGD asked if an updated set of account could be sent monthly with the Agenda. TW to liaise with JM. Separate accounts for the Beatrice funding was also requested. The micro fund applications being specifically discussed and KPI agreed to send a copy of all awards made.

The treasurer was asked to provide separate accounts for Beatrice Micro Grants.

**8. Planning applications – weekly wards.**

a) Application # 21/00352/APP

Proposed storage extension at Spey Valley Brewery, Mulben, AB55 6YB

Noted with no issues arising.

**9. Strathisla updates**

**a) Boharm/Mulben** – Nothing to report & Cllr Coull is still waiting to hear about verges.

**b) Botriphnie/Drummuir** – PGD was sent video relating to rubbish on the ground at the lay by on the B9014 above Loch Park. They had stopped in Loch Park lay by and could not believe the layby had become a dumping ground. Cllr Coull had stated in the past that the rubbish was on the Drummuir estate but PGD feels that they and Moray Council should/could work together to make fly tipping at the lay by impossible. PGD to approach Moray Council Waste department to see if they can help with removal of rubbish.

JM as Cllr Coull to find out the reason for white lines on the B9115 at Pitlurg. The work was substandard as the lines are already fading.

There has also been patching of the road which is false economy as really needs to be resurfaced.

Cllr Coull will ask relevant department if there is scheduled resurfacing.

Also, there was rubbish in Pitlurg Woods which has been removed.

**c) Grange** – JT reported that AW asked on Grange Community Facebook page for any questions from residents. There were enquiries about Meikle Cantley lights. Perhaps a sensor would be more practical than the timed light.

Cllr Coull interjected with news that the repair for the bridge is out to tender. JT also mentioned that the A95 through Grange is having remedial surface work done. Unfortunately, not a lot of social distancing from the workforce. There were also thanks from the Grange SWI for the Beatrice Micro Grant. Broadband was mentioned. TW said there had been no real progress with any positive decisions, but many people were now opting for the Router with 4G sim card to deliver their internet access. It had been mooted that if customers used this route rather than sticking with Openreach that if a rollout of superfast broadband ever happened these folks would not be a priority.

**d) Newmill/Rural Keith** – Nothing to report

**e) Rothiemay/Knock** – A defibrillator alarm was set off in Rothiemay and it transpires some local teenagers were just being inquisitive but failed to recase correctly. Sandra from Keirans Legacy called Michael Whiteaker who went down and replaced batteries and ensure it was in working order.

KPI has spoken to Sandra who has said once the training starts, she will include the teenagers so they can understand the value of the defibs.

Sandra also asked if you could ask people in your areas if they would like to be trained to use the defib in an emergency. So, if you get any volunteers, please send to Tracy, the secretary of Strathisla CC who Sandra has asked to collate info per area. Once Keiran's Legacy start the defib lessons it will 6 people per training instruction at 2 session per day.

Defibrillator being installed at Knock garage this week.

## **10. Correspondence**

a) George Gartly / Rubbish at Newmill – RP does not feel it is a huge problem in Newmill but there unfortunately are a number of unadopted lanes in Newmill for which the Council have no responsibility.

It was suggested that perhaps Mr. Gartly may like to organise a 'litter picking group' like the one in Keith. Cllr. Coull said the council would provide bags plus the litter grabbers and would liaise with Mr. Gartly re collection should he feel this is the way to go.

TW will write a reply to him but will first confer with RP to ensure response is appropriate.

**11. Joint Community Council of Moray** – No comments registered

## **12. AOCB**

a) KPI said a further £2500 has been requested from Beatrice Wind Farm for Micro Grants.

b) KPI informed the meeting that from September 2021 to August 2022 the meeting room at Keith Pool had been booked for the first Wednesday of every month for meetings to resume there assuming covid restrictions do not change. We must do risk assessment. KPI asked meeting if everyone was ok with return. PGD said good to have in place but decisions should be taken nearer the time. JM mentioned we should have all had our covid jags by then!

c) Social Media – if there is anything that you wish to put on SM that has come directly from a SCC meeting you must wait for the minutes to be ratified so no incorrect info is out there that reflects detrimentally to the committee or elected embers. What goes on your private pages is immaterial to SCC but on a public group it is not acceptable to misrepresent anything that a Strathisla Community Councillor or Elected Councillor says. Should you feel the issue is too important to wait

for minute endorsement please send to SCC Chair or Secretary to agree with facts pertaining in post. Discussion ensued.

d) RP then advised of the great success of posters initiative in Keith and the Doric flags! She also mentioned the Shop Local flyer which over 9,000 homes should have received.

Meeting closed at 9.35pm

**Date of next meeting – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom**