

DRAFT

HELDON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held 07 December 2021 via Zoom

Chairman	Mr J Montford – Dallas	
Treasurer	Mrs L Smailes - Pluscarden	
Secretary		
	Mrs A Masson – Alves	Mr K Milne - Miltonduff
	Mrs M Evans – Duffus	Mr N Sutherland - Dallas
	Mrs S Hodder - Pluscarden	Ms J Kirby - Miltonduff
	Mr W Duncan - Fogwatt	Mr W Mustard – Fogwatt & Birnie
	Mrs D Kelly - Alves	
Attendee	Councillor R Edwards	
Apologies	Mr C Souter - Miltonduff	

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

An apology had been received from Mr C Souter.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 26 October 2021 were approved.

Proposed: Mr W Duncan Seconded: Mrs A Masson

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) Brumley Brae junction: the sightline to the right is better, perhaps because the vegetation has died down.

b) Cloddach Bridge: cameras are due to be installed. While it is hoped that these will put motorists off there was no indication as to whether there will be any prosecutions. A meeting had been held with Moray Council and it was agreed that the alternative route was unsuitable as planned, especially for school buses. It was taken on board that the signage was inadequate and it was felt that this would be more suitable at a point some 100 metres towards New Elgin. A turning circle is proposed at Dykeside Farm.

c) Foths Bridge/Rashcrook: no further progress but the drainage from the field is working well. It was decided to wait and see what happens.

d) Election publicity: Heldon had paid the required amount but as many of the letters had gone astray it was hoped that we would receive some reimbursement.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Most correspondence had been circulated to all members.

- a) Wind Farms update: a meeting has been held with Peter Kane of Berry Burn 2. At the moment everything is on hold until they hear from Edinburgh. The Council has not objected to Berry Burn 2.
- b) Money for Moray: The Joint Community Council monitor this and how widely it is advertised. It is important to make people aware of this funding, which is for individual groups, so it should be put on local social media.
- c) Covid booster: we can encourage people to have their vaccinations but we can't insist that they do so.
- d) Thomshill woodland extension: this is a local issue and seems fine.
- e) Community Council constitution: this has to be signed by three members. The chairman will print off the last page then it will be signed by Mr W Duncan and Mr W Mustard.

5. FINANCE REPORT

The Treasurer had submitted her report in advance to the Chairman and the Minutes secretary.

Balance of funds:

Roths 1	£ 46,265.61
Roths 2	£ 5,754.65
HCC	£ 722.01
Total:	£ 52,742.27

The Honoraria have been paid to the Treasurer and the Minutes Secretary.

It was pointed out that invoices for the Wind Farm funding should be made out to Heldon Community Council. If there are receipts for a project which are not made out in this way then these should be clipped behind a covering invoice made out to HCC.

The applications for the next round of funding should be submitted by 31 January 2022. This is for the Roths 2 funding and the Treasurer will circulate the application forms to all members.

There was some discussion as to the purchase of outdoor equipment. It was pointed out that some firms will provide packages specifically designed for a particular place and information about this will be circulated.

6. PLANNING ISSUES

All planning details had been circulated and there were no issues. Members were reminded that any issues should be submitted promptly and should not be held over to the next meeting.

7. AOCB – to include area reports

- Concern had been expressed by new residents of the Birnie Kirk Road as to speeding vehicles. The Kirk Session will be contacted and there has been ongoing discussion. The activation of a speed limit was felt to be unlikely.
- There was an enquiry as to how a sign could be erected to indicate the way to Alves Hall. A sign on the A96 would be a matter for BEAR Scotland but a sign on the lane would be a Council matter. Councillor Edwards will look into this.
- The 30 mph sign at the Elgin end of the Dallas road has been either knocked down or has rotted. Members were reminded that Wind Farm funding can be used for tailor-made signs for villages.
- The problem of encroaching trees on the B9010 Dallas to Kellas road can only be dealt with by the Forestry Commission on receipt of an official letter. It was felt that a letter from Moray Council would be more appropriate than one from the Community Council. Councillor Edwards will pursue this.
- Fly-tipping had been reported at Buinach but it was two weeks before this was cleared which only encouraged others to add to it in the meantime.
- A car which had been involved in an accident about a month ago was still in place at the side of the road with 'Police aware' signs. As it is just round a bend in the road it was felt that this constitutes a danger to other road users. There was uncertainty as to whose responsibility it was as abandoned vehicles and accident vehicles are not in the same category. Councillor Edwards will follow up.
- Fly-tipping has recently been noticed in the Pluscarden area and this will be reported.
- Responsibility for the maintenance of the Crosshills Road in Duffus is owned jointly by the Duffus Estate and the residents. There was uncertainty as to whether this could be approved for Wind Farm funding. The estate owner will be asked to submit further information.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Date of the next meeting:

Tuesday 18 January 2022 at 7.30 pm.

In the light of rising Covid-19 numbers it was decided to continue to meet via Zoom for now.