

FINDHORN & KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 24th February 2022 - James Milne Institute, Findhorn

Present: A Skene (Chair), C Brenton (Vice), M La Tourelle, D Anderson (minutes), L Mead, S Dominey, J O'Hagan

Attendance: Cllr Alexander, Cllr Creswell, C Low (TFVCC representative), A Griffin (Kinloss Barracks), H Grigor (former FKCC Member) and two members of the public.

Item 1 Agenda:

1.1 Apologies: R Hutchinson, Cllr McLean

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

1.3 A Skene welcomed Jen O'Hagan back to Findhorn and Kinloss Community Council as a co-opted member.

Item 2 Public Session:

2.1 Community Safety/Police Report/Speeding in the community – The most recent Community Safety Report issued had no reports of incidences in Findhorn and Kinloss. There is a new Chief Inspector for the area, Simon Reid.

2.2 There has been no public correspondence during the period between meetings.

2.3 Former FKCC member H Grigor attended to discuss the tasks for organising the Remembrance Sunday events. J O'Hagan volunteered to take on the co-ordination role on behalf of the FKCC. There is a new Regimental Sergeant Major at Kinloss Barracks. A Griffin to liaise with J O'Hagan on how the 39 Regiment may be involved in this year's events.

2.4 H Grigor also suggested that some residents may not know some of the newer members of the FKCC. **ACTION: FKCC members to consider having photographs and short biographies publically available. See also AOCB discussion on FKCC Facebook Page**

2.5 It was also queried as to whether members of the public were now permitted to attend online meetings. **ACTION: A Skene to contact Community Liaison Officer to see if there is a return to online meetings whether it is permissible to enable members of the public to attend.**

Item 3 Ratification of Minutes 27th November 2021:

3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as accurate, subject to an amendment to section 4.5 requested by L Mead, and were proposed by C Brenton and seconded by S Dominey.

Item 4 Matters Arising:

4.1 (2.2) A Skene wrote to the Moray Council to determine the timescales for the development of the settlement plans and request if Findhorn could be looked at early on in that process. She was advised that the new regulations require planning authorities to develop Local Place Plans and issue a 'Call for Ideas' when developing the new Local Plan. A Participation Statement setting out how and when communities and other stakeholders can get involved will be published shortly with invitations to get involved being issued later in the year. There will be dialogue with the JCC setting out the new Local Plan process and to highlight the opportunities for communities to get involved.

4.2 (4.3) S Dominey confirmed that there is an agreement in place for the use of a notice board in The Park to display the FKCC minutes. The noticeboard is outside the Phoenix Shop.

4.3 (4.3) A Skene confirmed that there was no discussion at the most recent JCCM regarding the 'Speeding in Communities'.

4.4 (4.5) There has been a joint meeting of the community groups within Findhorn regarding the Jubilee celebrations and tree planting. See item 5.1 below in FVCC Report.

4.5 (4.6) J O'Hagan has volunteered to organise the Remembrance Sunday ceremonies, see item 2.3 above.

4.6 (8.1) The post of secretary remains open. **ACTION: Any members interested in being the secretary to contact A Skene.**

4.7 (12.1) No comments from members on the re-naming of the eco-village were received. It was noted that the individual views of the FKCC members might not necessarily be representative of the whole community. Therefore FKCC would not comment and advised that the whole village of Findhorn should be leafleted to determine the view of the community.

4.8 (13.1) A response questioning the loss of trees at the site for planning application 22/00023/PPP was sent to Moray Council by A Skene.

4.9 (13.2) A response objecting to planning application 22/00001/APP was sent to Moray Council by A Skene.

4.10 (14.1) A Skene contacted J O'Hagan and the co-option paperwork was completed and submitted to Moray Council.

4.11 (14.2) The Resilience sub-group did not meet in February. **ACTION: D Anderson to set up sub-group meeting during March.**

Item 5 The Findhorn Village Conservation Company update:

5.1 C Low advised that the CAT for the toilets is nearly complete and that TFVCC are currently reviewing the terms attached to the grant received from the Rural Tourist Infrastructure Fund to improve and winterise the toilets with a view to them being able to remain open all year round. Technical information is being gathered for the project and Building Warrant drawings will be prepared.

C Low questioned the inclusion of the route between the two car parks at the beach as an emergency access in the Resilience Plan and whether a contribution from the FKCC should be made for the potential wear and tear on this route. H Grigor confirmed that the route was for emergency vehicles only (police, ambulance, fire services) and not for the general public.

Planning permission for the Armstrong Garages has now been issued.

5.2 C Low advised that a meeting took place on Wednesday 23 February attended by representatives from the various community groups within Findhorn to start organising the celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee in June. The current plan is for a 4 day series of events which would include: the lighting of a Beacon at The Piers, an open day at the Bowling Club, an activity day at the Findhorn Village Centre, a 1950's Ball at the James Milne Institute, a Treasure Hunt, Garden Party at the Yacht Club, a dog show, a Maritime Parade, Street Party and various exhibitions and competitions. There will be a letter drop to residents setting out a draft programme for the events and seeking volunteers. A follow up open meeting will be held on Wednesday 30 March at 7.00pm at the James Milne Institute. Locations for tree planting for the Queen's Canopy are still being sought.

5.3 There has been an on-site meeting with representatives of 39 Regiment at the steps onto the Beach. It appears that the foundations and upright supports are in better condition than anticipated. It may be that more repairs can be undertaken, if materials costs are less than initially considered.

Item 6 Kinloss Barracks Report:

6.1 A Griffin stated that some of the 39 Engineer Regiment are currently on deployment. Nevertheless planning is on going for 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee' (the Queen's Green Canopy) at The Barracks. There will be two trees set aside for the FKCC members to plant at the community-planting event near the Cummings Hall. The Regiment will also be lighting a beacon for the Jubilee on the beach at Kinloss on 2 June. In June it will be the 10 year anniversary of the arrival of 39 Regiment at Kinloss. There will be more news on a celebration for this anniversary nearer to the time.

6.2 S Dominey asked if there would be further private motor sports events on the old runway as there was some noise heard within The Park. A Griffin confirmed that the event had been very successful and there was likely to be similar events in the future.

6.3 A Griffin provided an updated statement from 39 Regiment for inclusion in the Resilience Plan.

Item 7 Chairperson's Report:

7.1 A Skene reported that on 31 January she attended a visit to Orbex, the launch services company at Forres Enterprise Park with R Hutchinson. Orbex is developing a micro-launcher, which will launch small satellites into low earth orbit for scientific data gathering and communications. The small 'rockets' are designed and manufactured in Forres, and tested at Kinloss Barracks. The testing is in-situ with no part of the rocket leaving the ground. NOTE: For more information on the visit please email findhornkinloss@gmail.com

7.2 A Skene, C Brenton and J O'Hagan attended a Kinloss Community Engagement meeting on 8 February 2022, with S Jamieson of Morayvia and A Griffin. The Spring Family Event will be held at Morayvia on Saturday 12th March from 10.00am to 3.00pm. There is no booking required for this event and entry will be free. At the event there will be an opportunity for Kinloss residents to highlight what they like about Kinloss and what needs to change. There will be a follow up consultation as part of the tree-planting day near Cumming Hall on Saturday 2 April. Morayvia are looking to install a kitchen within the building, which will enable hot catering for 'Soup and Sweet' events for older members of the community.

Item 8 Secretary's Report:

8.1 There has been no exceptional correspondence since the last FKCC meeting.

Item 9 Treasurer's Report:

9.1 C Shreenan was unable to attend the meeting. POST MEETING NOTE: the accounts stand at £1,506.46 in the administration account, £1,022.13 in the capital account and there remains £500.00 from the SSE grant.

Item 10 JCCM Report:

10.1 A Skene confirmed that she and C Brenton attended the Joint Community Council Meeting (JCCM) on 10 February. There was a presentation on the Moray Council Growth Deal Bus Revolution project by the project manager J Montgomery. Bus Revolution is an electric bus service, which is on demand and will be able to be booked in real time via an App. The service will be for areas and times of the day where/when there is no commercial bus service. The project is looking to connect communities to work and education and reduce social isolation in rural communities. The project will be phased over a 10-year period and will aim to have 20 vehicles. The launch of the first part of the service is anticipated to be in July/August.

10.2 There was also a short presentation from the new Police Scotland Chief Inspector Simon Reid who talked about the importance of partnership working with the communities and about the new Police recruits who will be coming to the Moray and wider Grampian area.

10.3 Moray Council officer R McNicol highlighted that SSE Resilience Funding will soon be open for applications for items such as external plugs, generators and grab bags. It is understood that priority will be given this year to applications from communities affected by power outages associated with the recent storms.

Item 11 Moray Councillors' Report:

11.1 Cllr Creswell advised that council budget had been passed with a 3% rise in Council Tax. A recent report on the Social Work Service highlighted the need for re-organisation and a shortage of care at home practitioners. The Community Support Unit is now fully staffed and M Roberston is the officer for the Forres area. Scottish Water are meeting with the Council regarding water issues within communities, including surface water problems in Rafford and Findhorn. However, there may not be funding available to undertake works necessary to address the problems.

The Osprey Bus is still looking for volunteer drivers and Cllr Creswell will be attending the Spirit of Community event on Saturday 2 April.

11.2 Cllr Alexander highlighted that as part of the Council budget rents for council owned properties will rise by 1.5%. However, there will be no rise in other charges and no cuts in the coming year. In addition to the Social Work Service report, it is noted that the waiting times for social care assessments are long. Cllr Alexander also highlighted that as part of the budget the Council's decision to pay staff the Real Working Wage will be backdated.

Item 12 Findhorn Park Eco-village Report:

12.1 S Dominey highlighted that there is a programme of events at the Universal Hall and that residential retreats and courses are now starting again at the Findhorn Foundation. The Hinterland Group has opened a new facility at the top of The Runway at The Park.

Item 13 Planning:

13.1 There have been four planning applications submitted of interest;

- 21/02001/APP construction of accommodation building and carpark at Kinloss Barracks;
- 22/00094/APP for a new dwellinghouse within the garden ground of 211 (Ranmoor) Findhorn;
- 22/00181/APP for the change of use of a community facility at West Whins in The Park to a dwelling; and
- 22/00071/APP for a replacement sunroom and garage at Muirhead Farmhouse, Kinloss.

13.2 There were no queries or concerns raised for any of these recent planning applications.

Item 14 Any Other Competent Business:

14.1 Leancoil Trust have funding for training members of the community in gathering histories of the hospital. The training will take place on 12, 13 and 15 March and there are two places available for Findhorn and Kinloss. Any volunteers to contact J Lenihan at info@leancoiltrust.org

14.2 D Anderson confirmed that shared access to the Gmail account would require members to register a Gmail account in their name. Members were not supportive of this so L Mead volunteered to set up a new account on her server to enable access to all members.

14.3 A Skene asked if there was interest in forming a FKCC team for the forthcoming village quiz. Teams are up to six members. As four members were interested, she agreed she would enter an FKCC team.

14.4 C Brenton asked if there was interest in setting up a FKCC Facebook page. There was however, an existing page, which has been dormant since 2014. **ACTION: C Brenton and L Mead to investigate Facebook page and see if existing admin rights can be transferred or set up new one.**

14.5 S Dominey spoke about a new service for domestic abuse response called RADAR.

14.6 D Anderson raised the recent communication on a workshop Electric Vehicle charging facilities in Moray on 2 March 2022. No FKCC member was available to attend. **ACTION: A Skene to send written response to workshop organiser.**

Item 15 Forthcoming Community Events:

15.1 The following forthcoming events were shared:

- Family and Community Open Day at Morayvia on 12 March 2022 from 10.00am to 3.00pm.
- Findhorn Village Quiz at the James Milne Institute on 8 April 2022 (open to community groups only).
- Disappeared Village – Culbin Forest exhibition daily at Elgin Library until 16 March 2022.
- Films, shows and other events at Universal Hall, details of which can be found at: www.universalhall.co.uk

Item 16 Date of Next Meeting: 31 March 2022 at 7.00pm at James Milne Institute, Findhorn (Covid-19 restrictions permitting)