

HELDON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on 30 May 2023
Mosstowie School

Chairman	Mr J Mountford – Dallas	
Treasurer		
Secretary		
	Mrs M Evans – Duffus	Ms Jo Kirby - Miltonduff
	Mrs S Hodder - Pluscarden	Mr W Mustard – Fogwatt and Birnie
	Mrs D Kelly - Alves	Mr K Milne - Miltonduff
	Mr N Sutherland - Dallas	Mr W Duncan – Fogwatt and Birnie
	Mr A Lyons - Roseisle	Mr C Souter - Miltonduff
Attendees	Councillor Bridget Mustard	Ms Debra Duke CCLO Moray Council
	Councillor Neil Cameron	
		Mrs Sheila McInnes
		Mr Kevin McInnes
Apologies	Mrs L Smailes - Pluscarden	
	Mrs H Stewart - Roseisle	

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He welcomed in particular Debra Duke, our Community Council Liaison Officer, and Mr and Mrs McInnes. The Chairman also thanked our two Councillors for all their hard work on our behalf.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Mrs L Smailes and Ms H Stewart

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 18 April 2023 were approved.

Proposed: Ms D Kelly Seconded: Ms S Hodder

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) Cloddach Bridge: £30,000 is required for a feasibility study from which we will have a report. A more detailed report will then follow to satisfy the Government which will hopefully be funding half of the cost of £3,000,000 for a replacement bridge. This will all be raised at a full Council meeting on 28 June. A minimum five-year temporary measure had been agreed but it was pointed out that at the end of this period we would be back at the beginning again so it is important that we re-energise the steering group to keep up the pressure. There is still a long way to go but this is the next step.

b) Kellas Drum Wind Farm new transmission line: an invitation had been issued for a representative to attend our meeting but this had been declined. Discussions are still ongoing. There are two possible routes, the second of which passes through some protected woodland. The line could pass

near Fogwatt but so far no concern has been expressed on that front. It will be raised at the next Fogwatt meeting. It was agreed that if the line runs near Dallas we could object.

c) Meeting with Rothes Wind Farm: a number of points were raised:

- Completion of Rothes 3 is planned for 2027 but this is dependent on approval from RAF Lossiemouth and Inverness Airport.
- The Community Benefit from Rothes 3 will be Moray-wide rather than focused on nearby communities. It has not yet been decided who will administer this. It was suggested that there could be a 'scoring matrix' so that those communities nearer to the Wind Farm would score more highly than those further away. This does not have to be declared in the planning application but the Moray Council Economic Development Group is writing the policy for it.
- It is now anticipated that the life of Rothes 1 will extend beyond 25 years and the Community Fund will accrue till this is over.
- The guidelines have been amended so that, for example, playparks on Council-owned property can be funded. It was pointed out that if an agreement is made with a third party then that third party must assume responsibility afterwards.
- Kirsty is willing to help communities access this funding so that it can be spent for maximum community benefit.
- Applications from wider projects such as scholarships or schools are acceptable but the benefits must be for the community, not for private individuals.
- It has been recognised that it is not always possible to obtain two full estimates. One detailed one will be acceptable.
- Some projects could be part-funded.
- We need to think ahead as funding will only increase. It had been suggested that a Funding Officer could be appointed but this did not feel useful.

d) Thomshill barrier: a letter has been sent but no reply has been received so far.

e) Roseisle traffic strips: these were installed in the wrong area but have now been removed. This will be followed up and a report produced for our next meeting.

f) GDPR policy: we are registered with the IOC and we do have a policy of destroying all records after funding applications have been completed unless they are needed for accounting purposes. We have been promised a new Wind Farm application form which will include a tick-box for permission to use the information.

g) Miltonduff Distillery: this has been approved but with twenty-five recommendations and many conditions attached. There are certain restrictions on noise and light but we need a measurement of condition so that monitoring can take place, for example on the number of lorries per day. The existing distillery will close after Phase 1 rather than after Phase 2. It was agreed that much has been achieved in terms of modifications and thanks were offered for all the work carried out on this.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Most correspondence had been circulated to all members but some might need further action.

a) Scottish Boundary Commission: no change is projected for Moray.

5. FINANCE REPORT

The Treasurer submitted her report and accounts in advance.

No major transactions had gone through other than two cheques for Roseisle Hall.

Roths 1	£ 29,217.57
Roths 2	£ 19,509.59
HCC balance	£ 1,563.44
Total	£ 50,290.60

The Treasurer indicated that owing to increasing commitments and additional professional requirements she would be stepping down at the next year-end on 30 September.

6. PLANNING ISSUES

All planning details had been circulated.

- Acorn Bioenergy planning application near Longmorn: so far twenty-nine neighbour objections have been lodged but the more objections there are, the more influence these will have. HCC will also submit an objection. The Roads Department has also objected as the transport assessment needs further information. Access does not comply with Council policy with eighty-three daily movements expected. Noise, smell and light are also causes of concern. A letter will be written outlining our concerns.

7. Communication: this has been postponed to the next meeting.

8. A.O.C.B. to include area reports

- a) Miltonduff bridges: two bridges in the area have been struck – the Allarburn Bridge and the railway bridge on the road from the A96 to Miltonduff, causing further delays and diversions. Moray Council stopped bridge maintenance two years ago and it was pointed out that the whole network is fragile, not just the HCC area.
- b) Pluscarden: Torrieston Woods car park: charges of £1 for an hour and £3 for a day are now being levied and concern was expressed that cars would now be parked on the road rather than in the car park. It was pointed out that it is even more important now that a 'Passing Place' sign is installed near the bridge to prevent parking.
- c) Dallas: the bushes have still not been cut.
- d) Fogwatt: a) the Cloddach bridge cannot be opened for under 3 tonnes or for pedestrians.
b) the online meeting with Debra was useful but face-to-face meetings would be preferred.
- e) The planning application for the Millie Bothy has been turned down. We must look out for an appeal.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Date of the next meeting:

Tuesday 11 July 2023 at 7.30 pm at the Houldsworth Institute, Dallas