

FINDHORN AND KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Council held in the Stable Inn Kinloss on Thursday 26th April 2007

Present:

R Walker (Chairman), R. Shand, L.Morgan, H.Morton, G. Sutherland, G. Verner, S MacGregor, J. Willoner, T.Negus (Secretary)

In Attendance: J.Innes (RAFLO), Eva Ward (FFLO), Tanya McLaren (Forres Gazette).

Also in Attendance: 6 members of the Public.

ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from I Brodie, Cllr Hamilton, Sgt MacDonald.

Public Session

ITEM 2.PRESENTATION BY MR BILL HENDERSON

2.1 Mr Henderson, managing director of Dunelands, gave a brief explanatory presentation on an outline planning application which had been submitted to Moray Council to develop part of the Northern Runway area at the Findhorn Foundation. The proposed development included 40 dwellings together with some non-residential units. An element of affordable housing has been included and the site footprint is confined to the area marked R2 in the 2000 local plan. In the long term (post 2012) Dunelands propose to develop the area to the north of the phase 1 site as far as the high dune ridge. Mr Henderson answered a number of questions from both councillors and the public.

ITEM 3. ANY OTHER COMPETENT PUBLIC BUSINESS

3.1 Mr Willing raised the topic of the closure by Moray Council of the public toilets in the west beach car park. The secretary gave a brief resume on the situation to date. Mr Willing reported that he had received a reply from Councillor Hamilton to his request for an urgent meeting of the Findhorn Bay Local Nature Reserve committee to try to reverse the decision. Cllr Hamilton had pointed out that this would not be possible since FBLNR is a Moray Council sponsored organisation and could therefore not pursue a course of action that attempted to rescind a recent Council decision. The Secretary reported that the toilets had already been locked but despite his request that Moray Council place notices to direct visitors to the remaining available facility, signage was woefully inadequate. The door of the ladies still carried a sign saying that it was open to the public from 1 April to 31st Oct whilst the door of the gents carried a sign that the 'West Block' was open. It was felt that this was of little help to visitors who did not know Findhorn well. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Chief Executive of Moray Council reflecting the strength of local feeling at the closure including the complete absence of any prior consultation. It was also felt that this made a mockery of the much vaunted 'Community Planning' process where the promotion of tourism was a key strategy of the 'working for increased prosperity' theme group yet at the same time Moray Council had closed an important facility which supported the extensive tourist activity in Findhorn.

Action T Negus

3.2 Mr Thompson of 7 Manse Road raised the topic of speeding road traffic on the Findhorn Road on the edge of Kinloss. He said that he had been concerned about this issue for many years and had

campaigns previously to get the 30 mph zone extended Northwards. The Secretary reported that the Chairman had already raised this subject on Mr Thompson's behalf at the February meeting and that a letter had been sent to Moray Council asking for a review of the location of the 30mph signs. A reply had been received that the road to the north of the signs did not meet national criteria for 30mph designation. The meeting felt that much of the problem lay in observance and enforcement of the existing speed limit. It was felt that compliance might be improved if there was a 40mph limit from the Stable Inn to the existing 30mph sign which could have the effect of reducing traffic speeds at the entrance to Kinloss village. Similar arrangements are already in place on the approaches to Kinloss from Forres and Burghead. The Secretary was instructed to write again to Moray Council requesting a traffic speed survey and consideration of a 40mph limit from the Stable Inn. **Action T Negus**

3.3 Mr Willing asked if the proposed 20mph speed limit was still planned for Findhorn. The Secretary said that as far as he was aware the project was to go ahead and suggested that concerned Findhorn residents should lobby the new Moray Councillors to expedite this long awaited scheme.

3.4 Mr Thompson said that he and his wife were dismayed by the amount of fly-tipping at the side of the otherwise scenic Kinloss to Mill of Grange road. However, he said that Moray Council were helpful and removed rubbish promptly when it was reported. He suggested the placing of signs saying 'No Dumping' and 'Take Your Litter Home' at regular intervals along the road. The Secretary pointed out that a frequent complaint to the Community Council was that there are far too many signs in a rural environment and also that local experience suggests that illicit fly-tippers pay little heed to signs. He suggested that Mr & Mrs Thompson maintain their vigilance and report any Fly-tipping incidents to the SEPA hotline.

3.5 Mr Thompson drew the meetings attention to the unsightly appearance of the piece of land opposite the Chinese take-away in Kinloss. The Chairman informed the meeting that the land in question had been bought by Moray Council as part of the cyclepath project. The Secretary was instructed to write to Moray Council requesting that they tidy up the area. **Action T Negus**

Council Session

ITEM 4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 29th March were ratified following the addition of Cllr Hamilton to the list of apologies. Proposed L Morgan, Seconded G Verner.

ITEM 5. MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Cyclepath. The Secretary said that he had written to Moray Council advising them of the unanimous support recorded at the last Community Council for a definitive end to the cyclepath at the Cullerne House entrance.

5.2 Signs at Milton Brodie turning off B9089. In the absence of Cllr Hamilton it was agreed that G Verner would contact Moray Council to find out if such signs were permitted. **Action G Verner**

5.3 Damage to verges outside Kimberly. R Shand reported that matters had improved slightly in recent weeks. However, it was felt that a long-term solution required the acquisition of the land in question by the Residents Association along the lines agreed at the recent meeting with Novar's Agents. Until this had been achieved it would not be possible to regulate vehicle movement in the area. The Secretary agreed to write to Bowlts in an effort to expedite matters. **Action T Negus**

5.4 Covering of Groynes on Back Shore. In the absence of Cllr Hamiton it was agreed that Mr Shand would make contact with the relevant department at Moray Council. **Action R Shand**

5.5 Closure of West Dunes toilet block. See 3.1 above.

ITEM 6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

ITEM 7. SECRETARY'S REPORT

7.1 Correspondence. Letter from Scottish Executive in response to our letter about Crown Estates stating that this is a reserved matter and any changes require approval of UK government. Thanked us for our input. Papers for JCC meeting. (passed to L Morgan). Email from Mr Johnson 120 Findhorn about traffic issues in area of Kimberly. (see 5.3 above - reply sent). Notice of M.A.P. annual gathering. Invitation to launch of Forres Credit union. letter from Peter Peacock MSP as follow up to questionnaire on post office closures. Courtesy copy of Letter from Mr Willing to Cllr Hamilton requesting FBLNR meeting.

7.2 Flyers & Newsletters.

M.A.P. News

Paths to Health

Right Track

Election circulars from SNP. Manifesto includes plans to reform Community Councils to mirror new council wards.

ITEM 8. TREASURER'S REPORT

8.1 Movements on account since last meeting:

Cheque for £20.50 to James Milne Institute for room hire.

Cheque for £15 for annual subscription to ASCC.

ITEM 9. MORAY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No report in absence of Cllr Hamilton

ITEM 10. RAFLO REPORT

Nothing to Report

ITEM 11. FINDHORN FOUNDATION REPORT

11.1 Eva Ward reported that the Scottish Chamber Orchestra would be playing at the Universal Hall on 23rd June.

11.2 She drew the meeting's attention to the Moray Civic society's 'Doors Open Day' on Sunday 29th September which would include a number of buildings in the Foundation together with some in the Village and the Heritage Centre and Icehouse.

ITEM12. LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM REPORT

No report in absence of I Brodie.

ITEM 13. PLANNING

13.1 Correspondence. Letter from Moray Council acknowledging receipt of our letter of enquiry about the relocation of the Community Council notice board. The Secretary has spoken with the planning officer concerned who says that planning permission is not required. Written confirmation awaited. Letter from Moray Council informing us that the application in respect of 116 Findhorn has been approved. Letter from Friends of the Earth Scotland offering training on Planning issues. Information received about building work opposite Culbin Flats.

13.2 Applications Received since last meeting:

Kinloss.

None

Findhorn Foundation

None

Findhorn Village.

12 April. Replace kitchen window and front door at 86 Findhorn. No Objection

ITEM 14 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

14.1 The meeting noted that at present the post of Vice Chairman on the Community Council is vacant. In the event of Mr Walker being elected to Moray Council on 3 May the Council would be without a Chairman. However, in the absence of Mr Brodie it was not felt possible to discuss this fully. It was agreed that if necessary a new Chairman would be elected at the start of the next meeting.

14.2 The meeting formally endorsed L Morgan as our representative on the Joint Community Councils of Moray. Proposed T Negus, Seconded R Walker.

14.3 R Shand reported that two further Chalets were to be built at the Northshore development. These had been included in the original plan but never completed.

ITEM 15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 31st May 2007 in the Osprey Room of the James Milne Institute Findhorn.