

FINDHORN & KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Community Council held in the Cumming Hall Kinloss on Thursday 25th April 2013

Present:

L.Morgan (Chairman), P.Carroll, H.Morton, D.Morton, G. Verner, A.Miller, J.Willoner, Cllr Skene, Cllr Creswell, T.Negus(Sec)

In Attendance:

S.Williams (Kinloss Barracks), Tanya McLaren (Forres Gazette), Pete Finch (Findhorn Foundation), D.Haytack (Community Warden) and 1 member of the public.

ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from I.Hampson, R.Shand, Sgt Jones.

Public Session

ITEM 2. GRAMPIAN POLICE REPORT & ANY COMPETENT PUBLIC BUSINESS.

2.1 The Secretary summarised the report e-mailed by Sgt Jones prior to the meeting. The only incident noted relevant to F&KCC was a response to a complaint that a Findhorn resident had a number of bird wings including what appeared to be swan wings hanging up outside his house. The person concerned was spoken to, and said that he was not a shooter and that the wings came from dead birds found on the beach. Other items in the report included anecdotal reports on the new Police Scotland arrangements and an account of a multi-agency drug enforcement operation in Aberdeen (Operation Maple). The Chairman reported that he had been alerted by The Forres Gazette to reports of vehicles and motor cycles crossing or impinging on to the Kinloss level crossing despite the half-width barrier being down. He intended to report the matter to Sgt Jones. The meeting was reminded that following the introduction of the new unified Scottish Force, the Grampian police web address has been discontinued and the new e-address contains the suffix @scotland.pnn.police.uk .

2.2 Mr Haytack (Community Warden) reported on efforts to minimise dog-fouling nuisance in Kinloss and Findhorn. He has liaised with the Kinloss Barracks Welfare Officer to spread information to service personnel and dependants and he has arranged a leaflet drop for the Southside estate. He has carried out a number of patrols in Findhorn and has spoken to a number of dog owners. His patrols have included the area of the Culbin Flats which has been the source of previous complaints. The Chairman thanked Mr Haytack for his all efforts to tackle the dog fouling problems in Findhorn & Kinloss.

2.3 There was no other public business.

Council Session

ITEM 3 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 28th March 2013 were ratified. Proposed G Verner, seconded P. Carroll.

ITEM 4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Communal plastics recycling bin in Findhorn. The Secretary has contacted Fiona Burnett at Moray Council who has agreed to provide a communal bin behind Findhorn Kirk where the bottle bank was previously located. A second location at the other end of the village is under consideration but it was agreed that usage of the facility at the Kirk should be monitored in the first instance to assess uptake. Findhorn residents who wish to return surplus individual plastic recycling bins should contact Fiona Burnett at Moray Council Environmental Services (01343-557068). H. Morton reported that the recycling bins at the Northshore Chalets had not been emptied because the new collection vehicle could not negotiate the narrow access road. (Secretary's afternote: It is understood that Moray Council have since made satisfactory alternative arrangements to service the Northshore Chalet recycling bins).

4.2 Road Markings in Findhorn. The Secretary has forwarded the photos submitted by Mr Grigor to the Roads department.

4.3 Footballers changing in the street at Southside. S.Williams said that the players in question were not service personnel and had no authorisation to use the pitch. Barrack Security staff will include the area in their patrols.

4.4 LEADER funding. It has been confirmed that a new LEADER funding stream for this area will not be in place until 2014/15.

4.5 G.Verner reported that the potholes on the Miltonhill road have been repaired.

ITEM 5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

5.1 The Chairman reported that the JCCM sub group of which he is a member, has been busy finalising promotional material to encourage engagement in the forthcoming Community Council election process. He had attended a recent meeting of the Rafford Community Association and had given a brief presentation on the merits of Community Councils in an effort to encourage re-constitution of a Finderne Community Council

5.2 He has received a letter from Mr Hartland regarding Aircraft Noise Contour restrictions. Moray Council is keen to have these reviewed and mitigated since it is felt that potential housing and economic development in this area is being discouraged. Mr Hartland has requested a meeting with relevant MOD authorities in an effort to resolve this.

ITEM 6. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

6.1 Correspondence: Consultation document on proposed modifications to the Local Plan making provision for Gypsy Traveller Sites. Letter thanking F&KCC for their involvement in formulation of Older Peoples Strategy and notifying an information event in Elgin Town Hall on 1st May. Consultation Document about CC scheme. Poster for NHS Grampian Walk to Work week 13 –17 May. Renewal document for Data Protection registration.

6.2 e-Correspondence. Invitation from NHS Grampian to attend SG event in Aberdeen on prevention of Suicide & self-harming on 15 May. Details of New Lottery Fund Grant System 'Communities and Families Fund' aimed at projects that benefit family and children's groups up to age 8. e-mail promoting Great Moray Bike ride on 23 June.

ITEM 7. TREASURER'S REPORT

7.1 The amalgamation of No 1 and No 2 accounts is now complete.

ITEM 8. JCCM REPORT

8.1 Next meeting scheduled for 18 May..

ITEM 9. MORAY COUNCILLORS REPORT

9.1 Cllr Creswell reported a busy month particularly in her role as deputy chair of Health & Social Care Committee. She recently attended a lunch demonstrating problems associated with sensory deprivation. Cllr Creswell drew the meeting's attention to the recently formed 'Third Sector Interface' (TSI).

9.2 Cllr Alexander recommended attendance at a forthcoming presentation by Mr Andrew Wright in Forres Town Hall on May 9th on the historical and architectural aspects of the Forres conservation area. The Pipe Band Championship organisers continue to seek volunteers to help with the event. The Equality impact assessments relating to possible changes to bus services and public toilet closures continue.

Cllr Alexander told the meeting of a most interesting and informative evening spent accompanying Forres Police on routine patrol shift.

9.3 Cllr Skene drew attention to ongoing work regarding Rural Schools policy. She has also been involved in an initiative to achieve consensus for the provision of musical instruction across Scotland.

ITEM 10. KINLOSS BARRACKS REPORT

10.1 S Williams reported that Kinloss will be hosting a visiting US Army unit next month to practice joint operating procedures.

10.2 12 Squadron RAF will be carrying out forward air controller training prior to an Afghanistan deployment later this year. This may involve low level passes by jet aircraft across the MOD Kinloss area.

10.3 S.Williams reported that considerable progress has been made towards formulating satisfactory arrangements for the use of the Cumming Hall by Community groups. This is likely to involve a collective indemnity and DIO licensing system. The Kinloss Barracks Welfare Officer, Mr Eric Baker will oversee the management of the facility.

10.4 A bid is being submitted for grant funding to provide carpeting and additional toilet facilities for the Cumming Hall.

10.5 Complaints have been received about litter against the MOD fence near Southside. This is unlikely to be caused by MOD personnel but it has been cleared anyway.

ITEM 11. FINDHORN FOUNDATION REPORT

11.1 P. Finch drew attention to a 'Blazing Fiddles' gig in the Universal Hall on 22 May. (Tickets can be obtained from the Phoenix shop).

11.2 Most of the properties at the Duneland development behind the Universal Hall are now occupied. There have been a few new-build snags.

ITEM 12. PLANNING.

12.1 One application since last meeting – 13/00033/APP fence & gated access to Kinloss House. It is understood that this involves creating a gap in the surrounding wall to the west to give access onto the road leading to the A96. Roads department are working with the applicant to create safe access. No objections.

ITEM 13. CONSULTATION ON REVIEW OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEME. 2013-2017

13.1 The Secretary outlined the proposed changes to the scheme. These can be viewed in full via a link on the Community Councils page of the Moray Council website. The meeting felt the proposed changes to be both sensible and reasonable. Secretary to notify Moray Council to this effect and to point out that references to RAF Kinloss should now read 'Kinloss Barracks'.

13.2 Tracey Rae is reviewing the 'Community Councillors' Handbook'. All CC members are requested to re-read the handbook and to suggest changes, if any, at the next meeting. **ACTION ALL**

ITEM 14 DRAFT COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLAN

14.1 The Chairman reported that progress is being made with formulating a Community Resilience (Emergency) Plan. Recent events following heavy snowfall in Argyll highlighted the value of having such a plan. One Community affected by a prolonged power cut was able to activate its recently formulated Resilience Plan to good effect. The Chairman proposes to circulate the latest draft to F&KCC members in the near future.

14.2 S.Williams indicated that Kinloss Barracks involvement with such a plan may be on 2 distinct levels. As far as military personnel are concerned, there are already contingency arrangements in the form of 'Military Aid to the Civilian Community' whereby following requests via appropriate channels, a military unit may provide assistance to a local community. However, there is nothing to stop military personnel putting their names forward as volunteers on an individual basis.

ITEM 15. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS.

15.1 Cllr Creswell Said that the Third Sector Interface(TSI) is looking for people willing to serve on the board as directors.

15.2 D.Morton said that there were still 36 houses for sale on Southside (7 x 2 bedroom and 29 x 3 bedroom). 15 properties are currently reserved.

15.3 D.Morton reported that Moray Council has agreed carry out a traffic speed survey at Southside to assist with speed limit issues.

15.4 Cllr Skene reported on a single complaint of lack of public access to the Kinloss swimming pool. This was not born out by the new timetable.

15.5 P.Carroll reported on his extremely favourable experience at the NHS audiology clinic at Dr Gray's Hospital. He considered the whole referral process to be an excellent example of the NHS at its best. G.Verner concurred.

15.6 H.Morton reported that he had received a further response to his correspondence about the defective road drain near the Culbin Flats. He was pleased to note that rectification work has been included in the schedule for the financial year 2013/2014.

ITEM 16. FORTHCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS.

None notified.

ITEM 17. NEXT MEETING.

Thursday 30th May in Findhorn.