

## FINDHORN & KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of the Community Council held in the Cumming Hall Kinloss on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2013

#### **Present:**

L.Morgan (Chairman), P.Carroll, D.Morton, G. Verner, A.Miller, J.Willoner, I.Hampson, R.Shand, Cllr Skene, T.Negus (Sec).

#### **In Attendance:**

S.Williams (Kinloss Barracks), Tanya McLaren (Forres Gazette), Pete Finch (Findhorn Foundation), D.Haytack (Community Warden), PC Brain & colleague (Police Scotland) and 4 members of the public.

#### ITEM 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from H.Morton, Cllr Creswell, Cllr Alexander, Cllr McLean, Sgt Jones.

#### **Public Session**

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

- 2.1 PC Brain said that recent local incidents included the theft of a car from Kinloss Barracks. The vehicle was quickly traced by police and an individual has been charged with a number of road traffic offences. Local Officers have followed up on points raised at the last meeting relating to the theft of outboard engines from Findhorn Boatyard and the RFYC dinghy park. The apparent lack of response from local Officers was the result of the failure of the Aberdeen Service Centre to pass any report on to locally based police. Officers have since been to see the Boatyard owner and the Commodore of the RFYC and enquiries are ongoing. A 'Marksman' speed check has recently been carried out in Kinloss near the level crossing and around 8000 vehicles were monitored over the course of a week. Average recorded speeds were between 25mph and 33mph but a few instances of speeding were noted. Intermittent speed checks will therefore continue. The Chairman said that he has been informed by residents that the main times that cars appear to travel at excessive speeds are around 0800hrs and 1800hrs. PC Brain gave details of a recent action day targeting domestic abuse. A video highlighting the problems of domestic abuse has been added to the local force corporate Facebook page in an attempt to encourage victims to report abuse. The Chairman thanked PC Brain for his report.
- 2.2 Mrs Hunt reported that the Findhorn Conservation Company had notified an interest in acquiring the Northern toilet block at the West Beach Car Park in the event that it is declared redundant by Moray Council. However, the council has sent details of a possible leasing agreement which is not what the Conservation Company has in mind. Cllr Skene agreed to try to clarify matters. **Action Cllr Skene**  
The Chairman congratulated Mrs Hunt on her recent award of the MBE.
- 2.3 There was no other public business.

#### **Council Session**

##### ITEM 3 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

- 3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2013 were ratified. Proposed R.Shand, seconded I.Hampson.

##### ITEM 4. MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 Communal plastics recycling bin in Findhorn. A can and plastic bottle recycling bin has been placed near Findhorn Kirk in the same location as the former bottle bank.
- 4.2 Community Council Handbook. The Chairman has notified the suggested changes required for a new edition of the Community Councillors handbook to the Community Council Liaison Officer.
- 4.3 Unauthorised Encampment on MOD land. S.Williams reported that the person who had set up an unauthorised encampment in the WW2 pillbox west of the Findhorn road has been evicted. It was suggested that the Barracks guard force be asked to make occasional visits to the location to ensure that the person concerned does not return. **Action S Williams**
- 4.4 Additional Representation at August JCCM Meeting. I.Hampson and T.Negus will attend the JCCM meeting on 8 August together with the Chairman. Richard Lochhead MSP is expected to attend and will answer questions, preferably submitted in advance. **Action L.Morgan, I.Hampson, T.Negus.**

4.5 Leaflet Drop at Southside. Mr Haytack (Community Warden) said that he has been patrolling Southside at regular intervals and posters highlighting the problems of dog fouling have been placed. A joint initiative with a local Scout group is proposed which will include the distribution of leaflets. R.Shand asked for a copy of the large poster which will be placed by the Residents Association on the Findhorn playing field near the children's playpark. Mr Haytack agreed to leave a poster at the village shop to be collected by R Shand. The Chairman thanked Mr Haytack for his efforts. **Action. D Haytack, R Shand.**

#### ITEM 5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

5.1 The Chairman said that the final (fifth) draft of the proposed Community Resilience Plan is now ready and has been circulated to Community Council members for consideration and approval.

5.2 No further action appears to have been taken in respect of relaxing noise contour planning restrictions following the cessation of operational flying at former RAF Kinloss. The Chairman will send a hastening letter to Mr Hartland at Moray Council. **Action L.Morgan**

5.3 Traffic Issues at Station Road Kinloss. In addition the speed surveys carried out by the police, the problems of vibration noted in nearby houses are being investigated by the Roads department of Moray Council.

5.4 The Chairman informed the meeting that he is awaiting admission for elective surgery and may not be available for the August meeting. In that event R.Shand (Vice Chairman) will officiate.

#### ITEM 6. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

6.1 Correspondence: Final Consultation on changes to Community Council Scheme. Meeting happy with changes. Secretary to inform Elections Office accordingly. **Action T Negus**

Briefing note on Changes to Public Entertainment Licensing arrangements in Moray. Sec to forward to SW, HM & RS.

Consultation on lettings plan for new Council Houses in Forres. Forward to RS.

Information from Scottish Land Fund Scheme that the scheme has been extended for a year until March 2016 with a further £3m added to the fund.

#### ITEM 7. TREASURER'S REPORT

7.1 No movement on the account this month.

#### ITEM 8. JCCM REPORT

8.1 Sub group meeting to take place on 4 July. Leaflets promoting Community Council scheme are ready for distribution in both Doric and English format. Full promotion of the scheme will take place once Moray Council have approved the new arrangements.

#### ITEM 9. MORAY COUNCILLORS REPORT

9.1 Cllr Skene reported that a lot of time had been taken up in respect of the REDCO Milne application for a retail development in Forres. This has involved site visits, a planning hearing and various public meetings. Outline planning permission has been granted but this was solely on planning grounds. Whilst the topic is attracting vigorous debate which is healthy, Cllr Skene stressed the importance of such debate being based on factual information rather than rumour and speculation. Cllr Skene has been active on a number of issues relating to Children and young people including an interschool quiz, young peoples awards and the official opening of the new Elgin Academy. Work has started on the new Forres Health Centre. A comprehensive and long-term review of the school estate in Moray has just begun. Cllr Skene emphasised that this was not simply about closing poorly attended schools but rather a fundamental in-depth reappraisal of the best way to provide education in Moray in the future.

#### ITEM 10. KINLOSS BARRACKS REPORT

10.1 S Williams reported that The Armed Forces day in Lossiemouth on 23<sup>rd</sup> June was a successful event despite atrocious weather.

10.2 S.Williams said that he was aware of rumours that the Kinloss swimming pool may close and he urged that these should be discounted. He said that there appears to be considerable confusion about the status of the pool which he feels should be clarified. The pool (located on MOD land) was originally provided by the Nuffield Trust, a forces welfare organisation which provides recreational facilities specifically for service personnel and their dependants. However, for many years, members of the local community have been allowed to use the facility and recently the changing facilities were upgraded thanks to funds from the Southside Community Grant Scheme. However, in the past, the substantial running overheads were largely covered by fees paid by the RAF in respect of use of the pool for operational training, particularly dinghy drills for aircrew. This source of income has now ceased

following the closure of RAF Kinloss. 39 Engineer Regiment itself does not have the resources to cover ongoing running costs and the unit is actively seeking ways of assuring long term funding. All parties are keen that the facility continues to be used by both the military and civilian communities. In the shorter term, access will continue much as before including swimming lessons although there may be some changes to instructing staff.

10.3 D.Morton asked about progress on Cumming Hall arrangements. S.Williams said he would speak with the Unit Welfare Officer who is responsible for this.

10.4 A. Miller asked if there were Children's activities planned for the summer holidays as in previous years. S.Williams agreed to find out.

10.5 P.Carroll asked if there is an Anglican Padre at the Barracks. S.Williams agreed to enquire and let him know.

#### ITEM 11. FINDHORN FOUNDATION REPORT

11.1 P. Finch drew attention to a Scottish Chamber Orchestra concert at the Universal Hall on 9<sup>th</sup> August and a Choral recital on 30<sup>th</sup> August.

#### ITEM 12. PLANNING.

12.1 No Applications notified since last meeting.

#### ITEM 13. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS.

13.1 R.Shand reported that the Findhorn Residents Association are negotiating with Novar Estates to lease the land on the bay side of the slip road to the piers. At the moment the area is unsightly with a number of broken boats lying around. Novar are happy with the idea but they would like evidence that the plan meets with Community approval. Sec to write a letter of support. **Action T Negus**

13.2 R.Shand passed on reports that Council representatives had been asking about use of the scaffie shed in Findhorn. The Secretary will make enquiries to try to clarify the situation. **Action T Negus**

13.3 G.Verner noted that an overgrown hedge near a junction in Milton Brodie is obscuring visibility and may be a possible road safety hazard. Cllr Skene offered to speak to the owners of the property concerned. **Action Cllr Skene.**

13.4 D.Morton gave an update on the current sales situation at Southside where there are 4 two bedroom and 29 three bedroom properties still for sale.

13.5 L.Morgan noted that following reports from D.Morton about tree branches obscuring visibility at the junction of station road Kinloss with the Burghead road, the trees have now been cut back. Despite this, sight lines at the junction appear to be less than adequate. Apparently this is a long-standing problem and in the past a mirror has been placed on the opposite side of the road to aid visibility. Whilst the frame of this mirror remains, the glass is broken. Cllr Skene agreed to look into this. **Action Cllr Skene**

#### ITEM 14. FORTHCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS.

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July. Findhorn Heritage Annual Tombola – James Milne Institute.

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July. Start of Findhorn Sailing Regatta

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July. Findhorn Fair

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August. Findhorn Village Centre Fun Day on Findhorn Playing Field.

#### ITEM 15. NEXT MEETING.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August in Findhorn.