

FINDHORN & KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (F & CC)

Minutes of meeting held on 27th February 2014 at James Milne Institute, Findhorn

Present: Frank Allan (Chair), Patrick Carroll, Sue Finnegan, Harvey Morton, Derek Morton, Francine Rietberg, Mo Hyde, Jade Kellas, Tom Brown, Jen O'Hagan (sec/mins), Cllr Skene, Cllr Alexander, Cllr Cresswell

In attendance: David_Haytack (Community Warden), Pete Finch (Findhorn Foundation), Tanya McLaren (Forres Gazette), 2 members of public

Item 1 – Apologies: Les Morgan (Chairman), Cllr McLean, Sel Williams (39 Engineer Regiment), Sgt Jones (Police Scotland), Heather Schoeman

Item 2 – Public session:

2.1 Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Tom Brown (To be co-opted).

2.2 Police Scotland report as detailed by Sue Finnegan **1)** several speeders been caught in Kinloss area – fixed penalty tickets or reported to Procurator Fiscal. **2)** 2 persons in car found in possession of personal quantities of controlled drugs **3)** Vandalism at former Rose Abbey School – under investigation **4)** Incident at Milton of Grange Farm – bags of fertiliser cut open and now unusable.

Police Scotland - Officer recruitment campaign launched this week. This will include TV adverts, promotion on social media, posters and displays in prominent places.

'Stay Safe Online' campaign for children launched. Aims to help children, parents, teachers and carers improve knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe online.

2.3 Community Warden 2 incidents of dogs barking have been dealt with in Kinloss.

2.4 Concerns raised from member of public, Mr Willing re: accident on footpath beside the bay in Findhorn. Shared concerns that the footpath is a hazard. Having been observed by some CC members, discussion took place and solution offered. This would entail approaching the Findhorn Yacht Club to negotiate moving their fence back and sharing the costs with the CC if agreed. Harvey Morton has made some initial costings.

Action: Harvey Morton – Discuss issue with yacht club, dependent on outcome, then further actions re cost to be pursued.

Thanks from Mr Willing for raising this issue at the meeting.

Item 3 – Minutes of last meeting:

3.1 Minutes of meeting held on 30/01/14. Note from Sel Williams (10.3) – To clarify, Regiment are there "...as part of an operational commitment" (as opposed to support). "It is in the Falkland Islands and Kenya that we are conducting training exercises."

Minutes of meeting thereafter ratified. Proposed Pat Carroll, seconded Derek Morton.

Item 4 – Matters Arising:

4.1 Street lighting – Sue Finnegan advised 76 responses to questionnaire so far. Preliminary results show mixed views and raise issues such as navigation safety along the bay, lighting being a deterrent for crime and issues with alternate posts being lit. Sue has agreed to collate all the responses. Findhorn Residents Association would like to be consulted on this matter, given they are considering 240 volt sockets to enable them to use lighting during celebratory periods.

4.2 Les Morgan has replied to Findhorn Village Conservation Company.

4.3 Les Morgan has sent letter to Mrs Milton re: Spaceport.

4.4 Jade Kellas reported admin to Facebook has been sorted. Heather Schoeman and Jade have met in brief to discuss some ideas of how to use social media.

4.5 Banking signatories still not yet resolved. Francine Rietberg is awaiting the bank tracing the account.

4.6 Southside Housing – There has been no decision made on repurchase of the Southside housing.

4.7 Constitution – item on agenda.

4.8 Tom Brown is to be co-opted to the Community Council.

4.9 Litter pick – Jen O'Hagan advised she has spoken with relevant person in Council. Any litter pick would be organised in partnership with Community Warden. Given time frame attached to this, she has done 2 litter picks recently to resolve the current issue.

5.0 Change of venues – Les Morgan has emailed a copy of revised venues to all.

5.1 Bus timetables – Harvey Morton contacted controller re: No. 34. Their timetable does not show a restart in Findhorn as timetable in Findhorn displays. Bus stop visited and information is incorrect. Harvey was advised that Moray Council should keep this updated.

5.2 New notice board in Kinloss – Notice board relocation from aircraft viewing facility to Kinloss shop/PO has been agreed in principle. Mounting needs to be considered before erection and Les Morgan has confirmed permission has been granted by shop. Issue of key was raised and query whether notices could be posted free of charge.

Item 5 - Chairman's report:

5.1 Les Morgan will distribute draft Emergency Plan for comment, with view to finalising in March. Having draft Emergency Plan was commended.

5.2 Les represented CC's in Edinburgh on 26/02/14 re: Community Empowerment.

Item 6 - Secretary's report:

6.1 Letter from Samuel Craig from DIO highlighting **EXERCISE JOINT WARRIOR 25 MARCH – 15 APRIL 2014**. This exercise will include concentrated tactical activity by ground troops. Routine movement of vehicles between locations is expected. Loch Ewe – Inverasdale and Gairloch Estates, North East of Elgin – Lossie Forest and Miltown airfields and surrounding areas, Kinloss – airfield and surrounding areas, Cape Wrath – live firing activity, Eriboll – low level activity. Permission sought for use of privately owned land. Out of hours flying has been authorised and noise disturbance may be experienced – low flying helicopter in particular. Ground exercise made up of NATO troops (approx 500) who will carry weapons with blank ammunition.

6.2 Proposed changes to Kinloss Post Office highlighted – online questionnaire at postofficeviews.co.uk or Freepost comments@postoffice.co.uk. Responses open until 21/03/14.

6.3 Letter from Richard Lochhead MSP – attached letter from Moray Council highlighting their Litter Strategy; a campaign is planned for April 14. This will include litter picking events, free collection and disposal of all waste and direct action by Community Wardens re issue of Fixed Penalty Fines.

6.4 Letter from Local Energy Scotland - they offer a free and impartial service through which you can access Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES). Grants and loans can help community groups become involved in renewables. More information on www.localenergyscotland.org.

6.5 Letter from SAC Consulting – can offer independent advice to help identify and progress renewable projects. More information at www.sruc.ac.uk/ruralpolicycentre.

6.6 Tel: call from Mr Hoseason in Findhorn re: concerns of erosion on North shore. He is concerned re: flooding and is suggesting action now would be in everyone's best interest. Mr Hoseason has also written to CC and provided photographs for consideration. Following discussion Harvey Morton has agreed to follow up enquiry with Liaison Officer.

Item 7 – Treasurer's report:

7.1 Francine Rietberg reports no movement in finances, with balance remaining £3,275.87.

Item 8 – JCCM report:

8.1 Les Morgan and Pat Carroll attended meeting on 13/02/14. Les Morgan has been appointed Vice-Chair of JCC.

8.2 SEPA - new tel no. 0345 988 1188 (local call rate). Updated flood maps available on their website.

Item 9 – Moray Councillor's report:

9.1 Cllr Cresswell and Cllr Skene met with Duncan Bryden on 24/02/14. This was to hear about the work Mr Bryden has been doing on behalf of Conservation group. Comment that this had been very interesting.

9.2 Cllr Cresswell has offered Forres CC a meeting on 06/03/14 at the Tolbooth. This is intended to raise awareness of Committee Council structures and Community Planning terminology. All welcome to attend.

9.3 Cllr Skene gave an update on the Sustainable Education review and was encouraged by responses so far from an online survey (800 responses to date). This was viewed as positive engagement.

9.4 Cllr Skene advised of discussions with Diageo re: 'Breakfast in Elgin' Career Academies for young people in 5th and 6th year, giving them opportunity to link with a business for career advice. Summer interns in the senior phase of education is an exciting prospect.

9.5 There are interviews planned for senior teaching staff in schools. The Moray Council is now appointing on a permanent basis.

9.6 Cllr Alexander – New Health Centre to open beginning of June. NHS Grampian has a communication group and involved Forres Patient Participation Group. New members are welcomed on this group. There is a special interest re: military wives and those from Findhorn Foundation, to ensure representation.

9.7 Cllr Alexander – in relation to question raised, there will be no decision regarding plans for Leancoil Hospital, until after the Health Centre is complete.

9.8 Derek Morton raised issue of the takeover of Rose Abbey School in Kinloss and access. Cllr Skene advised that this issue had not been reported on the paper to Committee.

Item 10 – Kinloss Barracks Report:

10.1 A number of personnel are supporting the Environment Agency in Chesil Beach area working on flood defences. A number of personnel will be supporting the assessment work being conducted by the EA, on the integrity and functionality of structures designed to control flow of water.

10.2 – notice board at Kinloss – previously discussed.

Item 11 – Findhorn Foundation Report:

11.1 Peter Finch advised that in his absence, Francine Rietberg has kindly offered to speak to his report.

11.2 An innovative car sharing scheme is being promoted. Details can be found on Findhorn Foundation website.

Item 12 – Planning:

12.1 Nothing reported for Kinloss. Harvey Morton has addressed Findhorn applications and shall follow up one application with Francine Rietberg.

Item 13 – AOCB:

13.1 Revised Constitution – approved by all CC members. Les Morgan to arrange 3 signatories.

Action: Les Morgan

13.2 Permission sought from new members to have their names and contact details added to list and displayed on notice boards. Those present agreed.

13.3 Item 6.2 above – Derek Morton raised concerns re: loss of parcel service and confidentiality issues. He queried whether staff would be trained. Following brief discussion, it was understood that proposed changes are well advertised and individuals are encouraged to respond should they so wish.

13.4 Derek Morton raised subject of what to do with the joint community/military allotment funds. This is a considerable amount of money and raised some questions re: the suggestion that money would be transferred for further work to Cumming Hall. There was a suggestion that monies paid for a contamination report should be paid back, as there are to be no allotments on the allocated land. After some debate, it was agreed that further discussion needs to take place to investigate other possible uses of the community/military allotment funds.

13.5 Sue Finnegan sought clarification on the arrangements for the piper on Remembrance Sunday. She is aware of a young piper with military family history in the village and would like to approach him, as long as no offence was caused to previous piper. All agreed this was appropriate and would be well received.

13.6 Further discussion on erosion. Note that current SEPA flood plans do not highlight concern re: area noted by Mr Hoseason. Harvey Morton agreed to write to Liaison Officer as above and contact SEPA.

Action – Harvey Morton

13.7 Francine Rietberg produced a booklet from Association of Protection of Rural Scotland. Query whether CC has subscription noted. Francine to arrange change of address to ensure we receive appropriately.

Action – Francine Rietberg

13.8 Co-option of Tom Brown and Francine Rietberg raised. This will be arranged following signed Constitution.

13.9 Concern re: pot holes on Dunes Rd. No action at this time agreed.

Item 14 – Forthcoming events:

14.1

- Joan Armatrading appearing at Universal Hall on 24/09/14. Tickets priced £27.50. Further info on their website and displays.
- Findhorn Centre 1st Saturday of every month – Scottish teas.
- ‘Yes’ campaign at Tolbooth – drop in cafe on 15/03/14 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Item 15 – Date of next meeting: 27th March 2014 in Kinloss

The Chairman closed the meeting 9.20pm, thanking all for attending.

Minutes by Jen O’Hagan