

**FINDHORN AND KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Meeting held on 26 February 2015 - Kinloss Church Culbin Room**

**Present:** L Morgan (Chair/Minutes), M Hyde (Minutes Notes), S Finnegan, F Allan, P Carroll, T Brown, J Devlin, F Rietberg, H Morton.

**In attendance:** Capt A Oehring (Kinloss Barracks), Cllr Skene, Cllr Alexander, Cllr Cresswell, T McLaren (Forres Gazette) and 3 members of the public.

**Item 1 Apologies:** J O'Hagan, Sgt McCarthy, S Jamieson.

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

### **Item 2 Police report and public business:**

2.1 As the police were unable to attend, S Finnegan read the salient points from the police report. During the period from 26 January until 22 February 2015, there have been 2 reports of crime being committed within the Findhorn and Kinloss Community Council area. To date 1 offender has been identified. Police are currently investigating a crime of Theft which occurred overnight on Saturday 21 February 2015. An insecure vehicle parked outside the church at Kinloss was entered and a quantity of clothing in a container stolen. Officers within the local policing team attended 220 incidents during this reporting period. Anyone with any information on the crimes mentioned above and any crimes in the Forres Community Policing Area should contact the Police Scotland on 101, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or call in person at the Forres Police Office. Local Policing Officers have carried out speed checks in Kinloss and two drivers have been dealt with by Police for exceeding the speed limit.

2.2 A member of the public expressed concern about two issues: the 20mph area in Findhorn and the temporary closure of the Beach Road. It was thought that additional measures were necessary to re-enforce the 20mph limit and the closure of the beach road would result in extra traffic through the village. The Chairman stated that we had requested Moray Council provide additional 20mph warnings and Moray Council had just recently indicated that two more 20mph roundels would be painted on the road. The Moray Council had previously rejected installing speed bumps. The Beach Rd is on private land and vehicular access has been accepted for a long time. Closure of the road will hopefully be for two, not three months, and it is not possible to upgrade a section of this road to adoptable standards without closing the road for a period.

## **COUNCIL SESSION**

**Item 3. Ratification of Minutes of meeting on 29 Jan 15.** There were two changes to the draft Minutes: page 3 Item 12.3, delete "right" insert "left", page 4 Item 13.5, line 1, delete "again". The Minutes were then approved by P Carroll, seconded by J Devlin.

### **Item 4. Matters Arising**

a. 4.a. Follow up with Elaine Penny (MC) 20 mph signs, done. 2 x "20" roundels have been added to the lining package for the summer as requested.

b. 4.h. Yacht Club path. Contact the Community Payback service, done. Letter to FRA, done. Letter to RFYC, done.

c. 6.1 Advise J Caddy of FKCC nominee to FHG committee, done.

#### **Other Actions**

d. 6.1 Follow up with Mr Clark use of scrapings for Beach Car Park. **TB Ongoing.** Contact made but estimates not possible until work nearer completion.

e. 6.2 Contact contractors for Beach Rd estimates. **TB Ongoing.** Estimates not possible until work nearer completion.

f. 10.1 Check report of blocked path. **PC Ongoing.** Still investigating ownership of land.

g. 13.3. Jenny Devlin's gmail access, done.

h. 13.4 Application for outstanding funding for handrail, done. Application made to Awards for All. Letter received from Joan Miller saying Findhorn Residents Assoc wished the rail position to be at the side. As the letter was neither signed by, nor on behalf of the Chairman of the FRA, PC will verify that this letter expresses the wish of the Chairman/FRA. **Action: PC**

i. 13.5 Discuss dog poo bins for beach area with D Haytack, done. S Finnegan contacted David Haytack, the Community Warden(CW) who will increase his visits to the area. He advised that he can issue tickets on the spot for dog fouling, with a fine of £40, to people he sees "not scooping". If a member of the public sees a culprit and takes their name if they know them or their car registration, CW can follow that up and speak to them but he can only issue that person with a ticket if the observer is prepared to give CW their name and address. CW can be contacted on 01309 674010 or 07800 670666. More litter bins are not an option because of lack of funding for their emptying. Filled bags can be put in any litter bin. The dunes are privately owned and if the mess of dog poo and dropped filled poo bags continues, it would be possible to put restrictions on dog walkers. CW provided a variety of public awareness posters. P Carroll will arrange for them to be laminated and placed in public places.

j 13.8. Follow up tree-felling with M Council, done. M Council has advised that this work will not be done before Apr due to budget constraints.

**Item 5. Kinloss Barracks Report.** Capt Alex Oehring advised that the general security threat level at military establishments throughout the UK has increased in response to current events so expect to see extra routine security patrols. These are not in response to any specific threat to Kinloss Barracks. It is hoped that 39 ER support to local community events will continue as per last year but if large numbers of personnel are deployed elsewhere, the support may have to be trimmed back. The Chairman informed him he is corresponding with DIO and DIO is still re-considering the allocation for land for allotments. In response to an enquiry about the rumour that the Swimming Pool may be re-opening, Capt Alex said that in the next month or so there will be a reply covering the future of the Pool. H Morton raised the subject of erosion of the Moray Coastal Path on the northern perimeter of the base and pointed out that it is in the interests of the public and the MOD that this be stabilised before the MOD perimeter fence is threatened. The Chairman thanked Capt Oehring who then departed.

**Item 6. Chairman's Report.** Following on from the discussion on the Beach Rd closure, the Chairman would contact the developer to request the work starts asap and that the closure period is as short as possible. **Action: Chairman.** Flyers from SSE were handed out. The letter from Joan Miller was discussed under Item 4h 13.4 above. The Moray Council is considering participatory budgets whereby we would have to bid for our admin grant in advance. Although we have already provided our comments on this, there was much discussion on this and if it came into effect we would have to itemise our admin and other expenses, creating a lot of work for each of us and also the Moray Council. At present, for example, Councillors do not routinely claim from our admin grant for Minute-takers fees, mileage claims to JCC meetings, photocopying, printing and laminating by individual Councillors. F Allan pointed out the reasoning behind this method of budgeting which is not only within M Council.

**Item 7. Secretary's Report.** SSE Scottish Hydro, Moray Council and Scot Gov are working together to help households in rural areas who are in fuel poverty and who would benefit from a new free oil, LPG or electric storage heating system. Eligibility criteria are on the Flyers which have been handed out. The deadline for applications is 13 March. Secretary has given a holding reply to J Calder, Keith Community Radio, who is still keen to present at our meeting in June. Secretary can receive KCR on her IPAD. There was discussion of whether or not we wish to have a presentation and it was decided that we do not. However, if we receive a promotional Flyer from J Calder, we will place this on public displays in our area. **Action: JoH** to inform J Calder.

**Item 8. Treasurer's Report.** Treasurer reported that there is £4012 in our account of which £2676 is from grants received. The admin grant is for admin and funds in 'grants received' can be used for projects. The Treasurer has only one bank account but keeps separate columns for admin and 'grants received'.

**Item 9. JCCM Report.** Chairman and H Morton attended the last JCC meeting on 12 Feb. M Council Planning staff gave a presentation on the guidance for Developer Contributions. There was some discussion on this at this meeting, with Moray Councillors contributing, and our CC should look out for the opportunity to contribute to the forthcoming consultation on the guidance. Cllr Allan Wright gave a presentation to the JCC on the adoption of the latest budget. He also highlighted the teacher shortage problem in Moray.

## Item 10. Moray Councillors' Report.

a. **Cllr Alexander** said some of his time had been taken up with a neighbour dispute, obviously he could not go into detail. He has also been busy with the forthcoming Youth Concert and the award to the most deserving Youth. He welcomed news that Piping Hot Forres will be in Forres for the next three years. He is concerned about the teacher shortage, the result of vote at the Strategic Education Review, and the fact that there are teachers in Moray who are well qualified but do not hold the GTC Certificate to teach in Scotland. Attended interesting Tourist Board 'historic' walk in Forres for small businesses in the Forres area. He was disappointed to note the adverse economic effects of the Accunostics loss of jobs and Buckie not getting work associated with the offshore windfarm. S Finnegan raised a letter from Mr Miller pointing out that their street lighting was still not working. **Action: Cllr Alexander** will pursue this.

b. **Cllr Skene** Enough has been said about the teacher shortage but pleased to report 2 new teachers will be coming to Moray from the Central Belt. There will be a consultation on the schools' re-zoning taking place in Elgin then Forres. The M Council subsidy to the Hydrotherapy Pool has ended but work is on-going to find alternative funding and cost reductions. The schools management structure will be reviewed. Recently attended Early Intervention seminar about the importance of early intervention to prevent domestic violence against young children. M Council needs to make big savings in year 16/17. Upcoming review of policy on allowing single houses to be built; future development may be based on rural groupings. M Council will be reviewing the Findhorn Conservation Area Plan which needs updating. The M Council presentation on the Spaceport is good value. **Action:** It was agreed that **Chairman** should request that G Sutherland be invited to give his Spaceport presentation to F+KCC on 30 Apr.

c. **Cllr Creswell** was pleased to report the Osprey bus should be operational in mid-Mar. Have been invited to give a presentation to another area interested in doing something similar to the Spirit of Community held in Forres. As a result of that event a 'Help' Directory for use by senior citizens is being compiled. Still working hard on the integration of (NHS) Health and (M Council) Social Care. Community Planning meetings have been discussing participatory budgets and what could be given to CCs to comply with "community empowerment". Work will be required on a portal to deal with the introduction of the new Universal Benefits system.

**Item 11. Findhorn Foundation Report.** F Rietberg reported that last week's opera was successful. There will be an Earthsings Conference on 28 Mar. Details of that and other events on F Foundation website. Deer in the F Foundation have attracted ticks, and guinea fowl have been introduced to eat the ticks to prevent disease.

**Item 12. Planning.** Nothing significant to report.

## Item 13. Any Other Competent Business.

a. Emergency Plan Table Top exercise. Now that there are about 14 volunteers signed up, it is worth holding a Table Top Exercise set up by D McLean, Moray Council. **Action: Chairman** is to request it is held on Tue 28 Apr, venue Kinloss Church. **Action: T Brown** to provisionally book Church for 28 Apr evening.

b. P Carroll reported that the Findhorn Village Centre has been awarded funding of £240K to upgrade the hostel, including providing family accommodation. He also said the Findhorn Bay Local Nature Reserve has procured equipment and protective clothing and will give training for volunteers to exterminate hogweed.

c. tsiMoray Join the Dots Event. At this year's annual event on 19 Mar, broadcaster and journalist Lesley Riddoch will be the key-note speaker. Alongside an array of workshops, both strategic and practical, a pot of cash will be given away. At least £1500 will be given out on the day, the recipient of some of the funding will be decided by the public attendees at Join the Dots through a dynamic participatory budgeting session. Further info and to sign up see: <http://www.tsimoray.org.uk/#!/jointhedots/c23po>

d. F Allen reported that the Findhorn Village Conservation Company has been awarded £520k funding to purchase Novar Estate land in Findhorn. The next FVCC meeting on 25 Mar will discuss further progress.

e. S Finnegan reported that M Council Road Maintenance Dept is currently planning the Works Programme for financial year 2015/16 and the street lighting in Findhorn, including the Lighting Survey, will be considered. **Action: S Finnegan** to phone them in May regarding dimming of street lights in Findhorn. Wild Things intend to use part of a recent grant to help eradicate invasive non-native species, e.g. hogweed. They will run a programme of Saturday work parties. Volunteers are encouraged to join these. For more info contact 01309 690450 or [enquiries@wild-things.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wild-things.org.uk). Leaflets were distributed.

f. Following a short discussion it was decided to investigate the procurement of two defibrillators, one for Findhorn and one for Kinloss. **Action: Chairman**

g. Youth Members. F+KCC have been encouraged to continue to try to recruit Youth members, particularly to help us with social media. **Action: J Devlin** volunteered to take this forward.

#### **Item 14. Forthcoming Community Events.**

19 Mar – tsiMoray Join the Dots Event Event, Town Hall Elgin

25 Mar – FVCC public meeting in the JMI, Findhorn

26 Mar – Waste Management Presentation at next F+KCC meeting

4 Apr - FVC Teas and Crafts

10 Apr - Bird watching presentation, JMI Findhorn

**Date of Next Meeting.** 26 Mar 15 in the JMI Findhorn at 7pm.