

FINDHORN AND KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting held on 28 May 2015 - JMI Findhorn

Present: L Morgan (Chair), S Finnegan, F Allan, P Carroll, T Brown, H Morton, F Rietberg, M Hyde, J O'Hagan (Mins)

Attendance: Cllr Skene, Cllr McLean, Cllr Creswell, 9 members of public, Insp P McCrudden (Police Scotland), D Haytack (Community Warden)

Item 1 Apologies: J Devlin, Capt Oehring (Kinloss Barracks), Sgt A McCarthy (Police Scotland), Cllr Alexander, T McLaren (Forres Gazette)

Item 2 Police report and public business:

2.1 From period 27/04/15 to 27/05/15 5 reports of crime within CC area. One offender identified to date. Crimes include Theft, Breach of Peace, Vandalism, Being within premises with intent to commit Theft. Afternoon of 05/05/15 male disturbed in residential premises Central Avenue, Kinloss. Nothing found to have been stolen. On 09/05/15 a black gent's pedal cycle stolen from insecure shed at FF. 10/05/15 a stone thrown through window of residential premises Abbeyview, Kinloss. 254 incidents across Forres local Policing Team during this period; 28 incidents related to F & K CC area. Usual numbers should anyone have info. 101, 0800 555 111. Directed patrols been carried out on Findhorn to Kinloss and Burghead Roads. Highlighted 'bogus callers to rogue traders'. Doorstep criminals are cunning, creative and very skilled at deception. They pretend to be someone else, e.g. Council staff, meter readers, charity collectors, Police Officers. Rogue traders charge inflated prices for shoddy and unnecessary work. Police DO NOT recommend dealing with cold-callers for property maintenance and home repairs. Contact the Police if you are suspicious and do not let them into your home. Summer drink drive campaign about to start for 2 wks and will have increased patrols.

2.2 Community Warden advised he had caught someone 'fly tipping' at Damhead. A report has been written and is in hands of PF.

2.3 Presentation by Mike Rodgers on the World Orienteering Championships & Scottish 6 Days Event. M Rodgers noted this was a great opportunity for show casing our local area and pressed upon local businesses and residents to get involved. There is still a need for more marshals in urban areas, so visit website if wanting to register.

2.4 Member of public emailed L Morgan raising concerns re: speeding near level crossing in Kinloss. Public in area carried out a small scale survey and L Morgan has since written to McPherson's (trucks) in hope that this will improve the situation. Speeding has often been noted in early hours of morning and causes high levels of vibration and disturbance to the local properties.

2.5 Member of public raised issue of public not being able to use Kinloss swimming pool. L Morgan informed that he has had long conversations with the DIO and he was hopeful that this would be resolved within a year.

2.6 Member of public thought FVCC could be represented on CC. L Morgan suggested this could be a standing item. F Allan suggested that FVCC Board is consulted and would get back to us. It was felt this would be particularly helpful during the transition period. If agreed however, this would be an update and not a Q & A session.

2.7 Beach huts - L Morgan read response of CC to situation. L Morgan has been advised that it is not possible to oppose unless of 'National importance'. Despite this, MSP will write to ministers. M Hyde's letter to Forres Gazette was noted. This issue has attracted other press interest. A member of public enquired about the 2 huts originally offered to locals. L Morgan made no comment on this, given CC have not yet discussed this issue.

2.8 Resident wrote to L Morgan after attending a recent presentation on dualling of A96. Resident wishes to publicise that comments are needed by 22/06/15.

2.9 Resident emailed CC with concerns re destruction of a seagulls nest. This was passed to Police for consideration. A reminder that feeding seagulls should be avoided which will help prevent them from nesting in the village.

Item 3 Ratification of Minutes:

3.1 (13.2) from previous mins – take out word 'being'. Now reads 'A sign could be erected...' Minutes proposed by P Carroll and seconded by S Finnegan.

Item 4 Matters Arising:

4.1 Next steps on traffic prioritisation at Church Place junction. Following a site visit, discussion on this resulted in a recommendation that L Morgan write to Moray Council to request large white arrows be painted on the north bound carriageway, about 20 yds short of the war memorial and the composite arrow should indicate that traffic can either go straight on, or fork right, but the larger section of the arrow should point straight on so that the traffic should be in no doubt as to which is the main route into the centre of Findhorn. The smaller portion of the arrow should fork right preventing traffic for the centre of Findhorn turning right into Church Place. **Action L Morgan**

4.3 Street Lighting problem – In Cllr Alexander’s absence, action to S Finnegan to email for an update. **Action S Finnegan**

4.4 Youth members – ongoing **Action J Devlin**

5.2 Swimming Pool and Allotment issues - Chairman has had discussions with DIO and the CO 39 ER. DIO apologised for the delay in responding to our request for allotment land and is progressing asap. DIO advised that the decision on limiting access to the Kinloss Swimming Pool is made by CO 39 ER. **Action L Morgan ongoing**

6.3 Suggestions for applications to Community Resilience Fund. Suggestions put forward included a defibrillator. Chairman suggested this item be carried forward to June meeting when our “shopping list” will be finalised. **Action: All** to consider items for inclusion. **Action L Morgan to price up defibrillator.**

6.4 Recording of Cllrs’ expenses. Cllrs were to keep record of expenditure for one month. Chairman suggested records continue for a further month and the results passed to Treasurer. **Action: All**

6.5 Invitation to Mike Rodgers. Complete.

6.6 Invitation to Rosemary Pannell. Complete.

8.2 Awards for All paperwork. Complete.

9.1 Attend next JCC meeting 14 May. Complete.

13.1 Advise member of the public of outcome of pot-hole discussion. Complete.

Item 5 Kinloss Barracks Report:

5.1 Nothing to report.

Item 6 Chairman’s Report:

6.1 Spoke to DIO re allotments. Consideration of our request for land still under consideration, concern expressed about bureaucratic delay. Spoke to CO 39 ER regarding intention to open swimming pool for military only. Intend to update Emergency Plan in June, will circulate draft amendments for approval. Request CC provide suggestions for funding applications to the Community Resilience Fund. Attended A96 dualling presentation and provided F Gazette with comment. Attended JCC 14 May.

Item 7 Secretary’s Report:

7.1 Remittance Advice from MC for £352.37. BBC Scotland and MFR telephoned J O’Hagan re Beach Huts. J O’Hagan called back but they had already accessed other media coverage. BBC Scotland would like a call back should there be anything news worthy. They will consider visiting the area. SSAFA flyer for courses on becoming a mental health first aider. Training at RAF Lossie. Places are free. Contact Michael.morley333@mod.uk if interested. Email from Michael Gallagher Coupar Angus CC. Acting independently he has set up a Facebook page to offer Scotland’s CC’s the opportunity for informal discussion, sharing ideas, info and challenges. M Hyde expressed an interest. **Action M Hyde to have a look into the FB page.** Event flyer hosted by Elgin and Keith CARS. Suitable for building professionals and contractors ‘Historic (S) Building Conservation Seminar’. 4th June Longmore Hall Keith and 3rd Sept Elgin Library 9.15 – 3 both days. Places are free. Flyer from Elgin Library on ‘getting digital’. Free ICT courses for complete beginners. 2nd June 10.30 Newbold House – Community Garden Mtg. All welcome if interested in small plot.

Item 8 Treasurer’s Report:

8.1 Cheques written tonight for path work. £750 to RFYC, £210.96 for hardcore and £188 for levelling. MC Grant in £352.37, leaving us with a total of £4,319.96 of which £1,663.21 is MC Grant and £2,656.75 from other grants. Still expecting Awards for All and Berryburn Grants. Bill received for use of Kinloss Church for Emergency Exercise on 28

Apr (£30). £5 shortfall for the cost of the hand rail sorted. A shortfall of £61.84 will be paid by CC re: path. This is taking into consideration extra material needed and a plaque, yet to be finalised. Thanks given by H Morton to those at Findhorn Sands Caravan site for their support in completing the job. A letter received confirms the status quo for funding CC's.

8.2 L Morgan reminded the mtg that T Brown was to check the fill coming out of the excavation of Heathneuk to see if it was suitable for filling in the Beach Rd. T Brown advised it is not. Suggestion that we apply to Berryburn for fill. **Action T Brown** to progress survey and possibly future funding.

Item 9 JCCM Report:

9.1 L Morgan attended the JCC Meeting on 14 May and reported on our emergency exercise. The M Council Minute on CC funding has been amended to exclude the Appendix which inferred a Top-Up system for funding. The status quo will remain for the time being although the "rules" for the Admin Grant are under review. Chairman pointed out that during a consultation many months ago we suggested that requiring CCllrs to itemise expenditure, counting paperclips, would be counter productive and not save money. There is Moray Council training available to CCllrs on 2 July the theme will be conflict resolution, if interested contact Tracy Rae. LM will be in a JCC sub-group composing JCC input to the Rural Parliament on Community Councils. CCllrs were issued with an update to the CCllrs' Handbook. Our grant for Apr-Sep will be sent soon. Care at Home and personal alarms were discussed.

Item 10 Moray Councillors' Report:

10.1 Cllr Creswell advised she remains busy with the joint Board of Health and Social Care. The Area Forum is on Wednesday, should anyone wish to attend. T Brown volunteered. **Action T Brown to attend.** Visited Inverness skate park which was impressive. Attended various events/meetings for example D & A, MH etc.

10.2 Cllr Skene has been busy with Education matters. She has been involved in Deputy and HT interviews and spoke briefly about a shortfall of teachers in the area. There is a consultation taking place re: school rezoning. Cllr Skene spoke briefly about the challenges in Moray schools with many HT's currently having teaching commitments. Paired HT's was heard in Committee recently. Cllr Skene spoke about the Corporate Parenting Board which has responsibility for Looked After Children and how they will be looking at meeting needs over the coming weeks/months. A new residence will be opening for LAC in Elgin in August. Cllr Skene attended a recent prize giving event, where Kinloss Primary was the proud winners of an interschool competition. Placing requests will keep Cllr Skene busy over the coming weeks. A reminder that MC will be looking at budgets and with the savings necessary; this will be a challenging time.

10.3 Cllr McLean has also been busy with interviews and spoke briefly on the paired HT idea. At the next meeting there should be info re: a new Corporate Director of Environmental and Economic Development. There was information re: regional sports centre which should vastly improve sports availability in Moray. There was further discussion in the meeting re: Beach Huts. Cllr McLean will look for clarity about whether those on planning committee can speak to Elected Members not on the committee re: planning. There was some strong opinions noted that the decision about the Beach Huts was based on 'unfounded statements' and was incredibly frustrating. It was voiced that the weighting seemed to be based on perceived economic factors and not planning matters and CC members felt this was not challenged.

Item 11 Findhorn Foundation Report:

11.1 F Rietberg reported there would be a public talk on 4th June asking if Scotland was ready for renewable revolution. The Scottish Chamber Orchestra is playing on 6th June. 6 – 11th July there is a big event – GEN + 20 Summit; a gathering of those interested in intentional community living.

Item 12 Planning:

12.1 The following is permitted: 9 Kinloss Park, 5 Whiteinch, 209 Findhorn, 13 Elvin Place, Kinloss Country Golf Club and 158 Findhorn. One outstanding application for our CC – Damhead which is an adjustment to this site. Permission granted in 2008 for a development there. A neighbour had objected re access to septic tank. Same objection has come up this time. Thoughts that this is land ownership and not planning issue.

Item 13 AOCB:

13.1 MC recognised that F & K CC had been proactive in the lighting survey, thanks to S Finnegan, and therefore, Findhorn will be one of the priorities for the new modern lighting.

13.2 J O'Hagan alerted Cllr Skene to the fact that 2 agreements are in place as regards access to Morayvia; one being pedestrian and vehicular access and the other with regards to whom is liable for maintenance. Should community asset transfer go ahead here, this will need to be considered.

13.3 Kinloss Abbey Trust – L Morgan proposed that F & K CC subscribe to the Trust at £30 pa. This was seconded by P Carroll and others also supported this.

13.4 L Morgan showed a 'Thistle Assistant Card' that can be applied for, should someone need assistance on public transport. See L Morgan for more info.

13.5 T Brown raised the issue of Cumming Hall funds. He would like a breakdown of this. L Morgan advised that he was probably able to give this and will seek out the information for a later date.

13.6 Access forum – 15th next month, P Carroll will attend meeting and hopefully progress can be made.

13.7 Hogweed - P Carroll once again highlighted the issue and asked if people find hogweed in and around the village, to alert him, so he can get out with spray gear and eradicate it. P Carroll expressed concern for the welfare of members of public who are unaware of the seriousness of Hogweed and suggested some publication on the ill effects might be useful. Suggestion Forres Gazette might re-run an article. **Action P Carroll to contact Forres Gazette.**

13.8 Cllr McLean – Cllrs have had a briefing on Reporters decision re: Proposed Local Development Plan. Applicable to our CC - ENV status accepted as long as all access available. Residential small group of houses (near to Heathneuk), has now gone and (l) 8 – MC are actively investigating ways to overcome this and looking into ways to develop Waterford.

13.9 M Hyde was asked by residents to raise concerns about heavy vehicles being used whilst erecting Beach Huts over the summer months. Concerns expressed were for public safety. This was noted.

Item 14 Forthcoming events:

14.1 Scottish Week including Army Wives Choir 16th June at St John's Church. The Toun Mercat is planned for 19th June. 27th June is European Pipe Band Championships in Grant Park. 18-20th June Exhibition at Kinloss Church on 'The Way we were'. Event includes school children visiting to see exhibition, BBQ and Church Service. 1-7th June is Volunteering week. Burgie Horse Trials 13/14 June; 20th June Armed Forces Day in Keith 2pm; 25th June unveiling of commemorative Victoria Cross paving stone in Rothes. Kinloss Barracks families' day 6th June. 4th July afternoon teas at FVC and trash and treasure tables.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 25 June 2015, at Kinloss Church Culbin Room at 7 p.m.