

**STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 24th APRIL 2012
AT THE FOYERS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Members present:

Mr M. Houston (Chairman)
Mrs M. Cameron

Mrs E. Merther (Secretary)
Mr A. Sutherland

Ex officio members present:

Councillor D. Hendry

Also present:

Mr N. Kirkland (Fire Brigade)

Police Sergeant A. Blakey
WPC Fiona McCall

Apologies received:

Mr K. Fraser
Mr A. MacPherson

Mr L. MacNally
Mr F. Ross

1. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 29th March 2012 were adopted as a true record.

Proposed: Mr A. Sutherland

Seconded: Mrs E. Merther

2. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

(a) Affordable Housing Scheme - Gorthleck

No new information received.

(b) Broadband Provision

The DLN bid goes to Leader for consideration this week.

(c) Foyers Public Toilets

Members agreed the CC should proceed with taking responsibility for the toilet block. Costings for provision of hot water will be obtained. HC have removed overshadowing trees which were causing problems with damp, and tree roots encroaching in drains. There will be further discussion on organisation.

(d) Parking - Foyers Shop and Cafe

Negotiations on this are ongoing.

(e) Foyers Schoolhouse

The Schoolhouse appraisal has been received. There was further discussion on possible options, and access issues. The CC has registered an interest and will be informed before any action is taken to put the property on the open market. Cllr. Davidson has requested access to the building for inspection.

(f) CC Correspondence

The Chairman deferred this item to the next meeting.

(g) Funds from Marathon

In response to an enquiry the Chairman made enquiries with the Marathon organisers. Arrangements are as follows: A sum is paid for each volunteer in a group. There are several local groups. Each volunteer can decide to which cause their payment is given. Mrs Cameron confirmed that volunteers from Foyers School are aware of this and are all consulted on how their payments are spent. Any group of people can get together to raise funds for a particular cause, and offer themselves as volunteers.

3. Correspondence

Highland Council Correspondence

National Network of Community Councillors (circulated)

Scottish Government Consultation Papers on Planning Reform (circulated)

Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan, Main Issues Report

(information circulated)

email correspondence - Foyers Schoolhouse

email correspondence - Foyers toilets

Other Correspondence and Circulars received

email correspondence - new road Errogie

South Loch Ness Heritage Group - Coming Events (circulated)

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer had sent apologies, and the following information to the Chairman.

A cheque for £228 has been paid for the new notice board.

Account balances are as follows:

Ordinary A/c: £11111.50

Project A/c: £7227.66

5. Planning Matters

(a) New application - for information only. Comments not being taken at this time.

3 run of river HEP stations, land at Garrogie, Whitebridge (screening request)

(b) Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan - Main Issues Report

A member of Planning will be invited to discuss this with the CC.

6. Fire Brigade Report

Mr Kirkland reported that meetings on the future of the Service are taking place. Any closures will not affect this area.

7. Policing Matters

Sergeant Blakey reported that the movement of officers between stations every five years or so has been discontinued. It is not known whether there will be any change to this when control is centralised to a single Force.

In response to concerns regarding speeding he will arrange for speed wires to be set up in Errogie, Foyers, and Gorthleck, if this has not been done recently. He advised that speeding or dangerous driving can always be reported to the Police for the appropriate action. Commercial vehicles can also be reported to their company.

8. Roads and Signage

(a) Outstanding Matters

Timber extraction - Cllr. Davidson had reports of problems on the Trinloist road again. She has reported them. Cllr. Hendry will also write and request recorded movement information. He informed the CC about a FC Timber Transport Fund and suggested a bid should be made for work needed on the Trinloist road.

Road surfacing - Numerous complaints received about the bad surfacing work done on the Boleskine bridge. A request for inspection by TECS will be made.

Causeway to Aberchalder - Noted that the water level is up again. Enquiries will be made with SSE regarding planned low water level, and information passed to TECS.

(b) Meeting with TECS to Discuss Planned Road Improvements

No reply to enquiry regarding date. A further email will be sent.

9. Water and Sewerage

Mr Fraser met with Scottish Water representatives regarding the proposed new pipeline. Various questions were raised. SW response is awaited.

10. Community Project - Gorthleck

The Chairman has been in discussion with Leader. It is hoped to have their response in the next few weeks.

11. Renewable Energy and Community Benefit

No new matters to report.

12. Any Other Competent Business

Report from Mr Main to the Secretary - In the course of the work on the new pipeline a drain has been blocked, and a fence erected in the wrong place. SSE have agreed to rectify these matters.

Enquiry about funds for renewable projects (e.g. solar panels). Residents should contact Mr Sutherland regarding Trust grants available.

Suggestion regarding improving appearance of toilet block. CC will look at this.

Report of deterioration in temporary road surface over new pipe on Lower Foyers road. Enquiry about final surfacing will be made.

Report of rubbish on the Loch shore. Cllr. Hendry will be meeting with British Waterways and will enquire about a clear up.

The Chairman confirmed that the CC was not a consultee on the British Waterways canoe trail rest sites.

A three month trial of a street light switch-off period is under way. A request for residents' reactions to this will be in the next BB. Cllr. Hendry will enquire what savings are made by such schemes.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 22nd May 2012 at the Stratherrick Hall, Gorthleck.

The meeting was closed at 8.45 p.m.