

**STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6th August 2013
AT THE STRATHERRICK HALL, GORTHLECK**

Present:

Margaret Davidson (MDA) Highland Councillor

Iain Brown (IBR) (Chair) & Ian Bateman (IB)

Liam MacNally (LM) & Catriona Fraser (CF)

Morag Cameron (MC) & Sally McGuire (SM)

Martin Donnelly (MDO)

Roz Rowell (RR)

Apologies – None

Whitebridge,

Gorthleck

Glenlia, Foyers

Foyers

Torness

Agenda

1. SSE Dunmaglass Update

Having taken over from RES. Road works complete, next phase upgrade of 10km track within estate. Old turbine to be removed before new turbines installed. Farm should be operational in Summer 2016. There will be a traffic management plan which will evolve as the equipment is delivered. SSE will liaise over community benefit. Some queries over undergrounding of cable up to Torness. SSE team booked to revisit the CC to further discuss cabling and Torness substation.

- 1.1. Suggestion from floor that SSE consider joined up thinking wrt traffic management, power transmission etc. for their various projects in the area.
- 1.2. Query over suitability of road from Garbole towards Croachy. TEC are responsible for upgrade and there is a plan to improve/twin track.
- 1.3. A liaison group will meet at Daviot on 29 August: CC will send 2 reps: RR & CF

Two reps from SSE gave a brief report on the Dunmaglass Windfarm which SSE

2. Adoption of Constitution / Code of Conduct

All members agreed to both. IBR to sign.

3. Adoption of minutes

Minutes adopted proposed MC seconded LM.

4. July 23rd CC minutes. Request that correspondence from Alex Sutherland be March CC minutes – amendment requested to minute re Foyers Toilets included (see later).

Minutes adopted - proposed MC seconded MDO

5. Matters Arising from last meeting (23rd July)

- 5.1 Minutes Secretary adverts in place – awaiting response.
- 5.2 Some outstanding payments awaiting change of signatories.
- 5.4 IBR summarised meeting of 5th August with regards to SFCT / petition

5. **Matters Arising from last meeting (23rd July) Cont.**

5.6 Forestry Commission to be at the Hall on 27th August from 1pm with details of future plans for the area and present at CC meeting that evening. MC to advertise on website and IBR to sort posters.

5.7 MDA suggested that Albyn Housing be invited in September.

6.9 CF reported that the SSE Challenge Fund was £17M – but had trouble accessing relevant part of website. CF to pursue & MDA to provide further details.

5.10 LM to invite Social Care to CC meeting in November

5.11 Transport meeting : held on 6th August. Report is being prepared for Highland Council & SFCC. Lots of ideas & more input requested via BB, word of mouth & Survey Monkey. RM to see that the Foyers Café group is informed and also Seniors Lunch Club. A private transport service has been suggested for the area. Feedback meeting to public & CC proposed for 20th August. This SFCC meeting will address Transport & the Dell Windfarm proposal.

5.12 Fly tipping at Foyers intake: Sign has been erected

5.13 Bins at Foyers Shop: MDA to check

5.14 Foyers Footpath: SM to meet Access Officer at Foyers Shop at 2pm

12/08/13 Question raised re use of old Shinty pitch: CF & IBR to investigate.

5.15 Missing signs – RR has had a response & will circulate. IBR has checked local road for signage & faults – 100+ faults found to date.

5.17 Dell Windfarm – presentation on August 20th at CC meeting.

5.18 Foyers Campsite: IBR has received plans from THC & checking that all planning requirements are met. Big signs are in place to keep caravans etc. from using circus – but SATNAV directs drivers into the circus.

Some discussion over whether some areas of the campsite were being used according to planning. Lynne Forbes wished to record that the site was being used as per the planning permission & regulations. It was suggested that queries regarding compliance for developments already permitted / operational should go to HC rather than CC.

Points were raised: 1 further tree screening - MDA to follow up. 2 Dog fouling – 2 dog bins are provided, 3 Security concerns with generally increased foot fall – RR to assist a resident in applying for a grant to fence off garden. LF reassured community that the Campsite was a member of the Camping & Caravan Club which had a robust Standards of Behavior Code.

5.19 Errogie Corner. THC are due to buy the corner. MDA to chase verge cutter.

5.21 A82 issues – meeting with TEC to be arranged

5.22 Gortheck Play Park – adoption by THC? Quite a few issues involved. MDA to arrange site meeting with THC & LM, MC. Mark Houston to be invited.

5.23 Torness substation – another meeting with SSE to be held to move this forward.

6. Matters arising from March meeting

Foyers toilets – cleaning is working. Question of ownership – IBR & MC to pursue options. Possibility of car park utilising old road above toilets – MDA on the case – possible candidate for SSE challenge fund.

Safe routes – ongoing with MDA

6. Fire Service report.

6.1.1 NK reported on cuts & reorganisation of the Scottish Fire Service. Some controls Centre's would close. Our local Head Office is likely to shift to Perth. Some stations in the West closed. Some houses where stations closed had sprinkler systems installed in lieu. Locally the team had been busy with wildfires. 27 callouts to date this year. Fire service had been allocated 20 Home Fire Service visits/assessments – folk encouraged to apply.

A question was raised regarding the size of bus used outside of term time (see below 12.3)

7. Police report

No representative present

8. Treasurers report

LM reported on current balances £1170 current a/c £2286 project account. LM to keep check on outstanding payments

9. Correspondence

9.1 Notice received of a Ward Forum on 10th Sept from Fire & Police Services to discuss forthcoming changes

9.2 Drummond Woods – felling plan: to be included in meeting with Forestry Commission (27th August)

9.3 Email from Alex Sutherland

9.4 Could community sponsor Trophy for 1st local placing in Loch Ness Marathon? Proposed that Baxter be approached initially to sponsor two trophies for first local in both Marathon & 10K race. MC to action.

9.5 Suggestion for Community/Croft Woods: CC to await SFCT survey. MDA happy to be consulted on any community forestry matters. IBR to check with Forestry Commission on options for community owned woodland.

9.6 Viewing platform – sorry missed response to this!

9.7 Use of Foyers school house: MDA is on the case. Suggestion that the property could be developed as a Community Centre. Concern that property should be weatherproofed before onset of winter.

9.8 Letter from Liz Merther expressing concern over hazardously overgrown verges & damage. SM to contact TEC services & request that verges to be cut on all small roads. Also, action on weed control where new weed infested topsoil has been introduced, with special attention to Knotweed.

9. Correspondence Cont.

9.9 Letter from SFCT advising that new constitution was lodged at Companies House.

9.10 Correspondence from Alex Sutherland stressing need to appoint Community Benefit Negotiator – see below

9.11 Emails received regarding recent petition re SFCT. Future petitions & signatories to be published in full & signatories must be made aware that names may be published. Suggestion from CC that all correspondence to CC should be made public – proposed IBR, seconded SM.

9.12 Correspondence from BB re CC minutes insert. Agreed that pro temps full minutes would continue to be published as an insert and wider opinion sought for future.

9.13 Meeting re Eon Moriston Windfarm – MDO to attend next meeting wrt visibility from Craigdarroch Hotel.

9.14 Torness substation – further meeting scheduled

10. Appointment of Benefit Negotiator & CC Directors to Trust

10.1 Much discussion culminated in concept of 2 benefit negotiators, one appointed by SFCC, one appointed by SFCT.

10.2 Frank Ellam offered to stand on behalf of CC proposed MDO seconded CF

10.3 Proposal that SFCT appoint 2nd negotiator agreed unanimously.

10.4 MDO, IB, RR, SM offered to become directors of SFCT. RR & SM appointed following ballot of CC members.

11. Planning applications

11.1 IBR had received notice of four applications from HC: Dell Hydro Scheme in Glenbrein, Corriegarth Windfarms extension, house site near Myrtle Cottage, & house site near Dearview Suggested that SFCC should be a formal consultee for all applications (currently SFCC is only consulted if a specific request is made) and applications will be available at CC meetings.

11.2 IBR to chase with THC.

12. AOCB

12.1 Defibrillator – NK advised that this would be installed outside the Hall. CCTV will be installed to monitor security. Information will go to each household advising of all details and training sessions which will take place in September.

12.2 Webcast CC meetings? MDO to discuss with MDA

12.3 School Bus Service. Concern expressed that current arrangements leave pupils waiting for 15/20 minutes at Dores – possible hazard. CF to chase with THC

12.4 Audibility at CC meetings. Can folk hear? Mixed response – LM to consider sound system

12.5 Foyers School/Community Noticeboard. Head teacher at Foyers pushing this – MC to report back with costing's.

12.6 Notice board equipment – lack of pins/magnets. LM to replenish supplies.

12.6 Planning consents for Windfarms and Transmission lines. Clarification requested as to whether these were two separate applications/consents. IBR confirmed this was the case.