

**STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10 June 2014
AT FOYERS PRIMARY SCHOOL, FOYERS 7.30pm**

1. Present:

Iain Brown (IBR)	Whitebridge	Liam MacNally (LM) & Catriona Fraser (CF)	Gorthleck
Sally McGuire (SM)	Glen Lia, Foyers	Martin Donnelly (MDO)	Foyers

Apologies

Ian Bateman (IB), Morag Cameron (MC), Katie Ellam (KE), Drew Hendry, Margaret Davidson (MDA)

2. Gorthleck Housing Project Update

Albyn Housing and Highland Small Community Housing Trust (HSCHT) gave a presentation to inform us on progress to date with the project.

The tender for the Infrastructure (road, Sewage, lights...) is out and will be let within the next couple of months, with the work being completed by next spring in time for the house building start date.

The CC requested they be involved in the design process to help ensure the houses fit with local aspirations on appropriateness etc. Albyn made a commitment to advise how they will do this.

Albyn intend to build 6 houses (2 Amenity bungalows suitable for people with mobility issues, 2 medium sized and 2 family houses). These will be panel section houses as this speeds up on site construction and provide better energy efficiency.

Tenders are invited for design and construction of these houses which is being run through the Public Contracts Portal. They wish to use local businesses wherever possible and would encourage anyone that is interested in tendering for aspects of the work to register with the portal. A simple 10 minute exercise.

Tenant selection is driven by the Highland Housing Register where those with the highest point score are selected. Points are awarded on a needs basis, a recent amendment of this is for family's local to a house to be awarded an additional 20 points. N.B. highest points count comes first.

HSCHT intend to build two houses which will be operated under their rent to buy scheme, if additional interest comes forward additional construction may occur. They are open to options such as a house swap to enable people to down size, also move into a house with design modifications to suit them, the larger house then being rented to a family.

Tenant selection process can be set up to better enable local needs to be met, rather than provision to family's form outside the SFCC area.

HSCHT advised if the community were interested in sheltered housing to look into the NHS change fund which may be able to provide funding for such a project.

The Inverfarigaig project is on hold until the Gorthleck project has been fully completed.

3. Adoption of minutes

As the memory is fresh the chair asked for confirmation no changes to the Draft AGM minutes were needed – none requested.

Minutes of 27 May 2014 were adopted subject to two minor amendments.

Proposed Sally McGuire Seconded Martin Donnelly, Unanimous

4. Treasurer Report

Project a/c balance £1886.94 (previous £1886.94).

Ordinary a/c balance £3,391.31 (previous £1891.31)

Ring Fenced Monies £1200 transport survey, £362 Fraser Memorial works – Net Funds = £329.31

5. Matters Arising

Payment for BB Minutes - MD advised the Trust could not find any evidence of making payments for reimbursement of the CC minutes within the Boleskine Bulletin. **AP chair/secretary** to provide MD with copy of CC/Trust minutes where this was decided and copy of the bank account showing receipt of the payments as demonstrated in the CC annual accounts.

Inverfarigaig Road Closures (SSE pylon restringing).

Works have now started, Banks men's phone number is 01862 824484.

Unauthorised road signs – MDA & MD, meeting to be held later in the week with local business to formulate a co-ordinated sign package.

RES Aberarder – awaiting response re index linking of community benefit payments

Inverfarigaig boulder – Removed

Firewood Suitable storage site with space for processing etc. to be identified

Slipway – ongoing

Hearing Loop – Written confirmation of the Trust none approval of this application was received contrary to previous understanding they have requested that the Hall committee apply for funding for the fixed infrastructure and the CC for the mobile equipment. Two trust grant applications to be submitted, **AP Chair CC** mobile equipment ~£350, Hall committee for the fixed infrastructure ~£36
Website - Ed Ley-Wilson, Jane Brown and Iain Brown met to discuss the next step of a brief for the interested parties to work up and quote for.

Notice boards – Written confirmation of rejection by Trust requesting quotes, these to be provided. MD advised the cycle club are to put up a notice board in the shop garden to provide information on cycle routes in the area.

Wire netting - Ongoing

6. Paths

Sally McGuire advised of the notice in the BB inviting those interested to attend a meeting to take this group forward with a focus on the footpath network within the area.

Most local paths are no the responsibility of the Highland Council either being on privately owned ground or Forestry Commission (FC) I whereas the privately owned ones will either have to be paid for by the landowner or most likely cleared by volunteers and the working group. Funding for some of these may be available from various sources as well as our Trust.

7. Planning Matters

Gorthleck Housing Project – In principle for 6 houses - Albyn Housing – No objection
Stronlaig Met Mast – For monitoring of wind flow data – SSE – No objection
Torness – In principle for one 1.5 story house – Mr & Mrs Bethune – No objection
Whitebridge – Clearance of conditions for house – Ms Liffe – No objection
Two others new on list today, to be reviewed at next meeting – No objection
Dunmaglass change of Borrow pit locations – No objection

8. Correspondence

THC Proposed reduction in number of Highland Councillors – **AP SM** to scan and circulate to all Scottish Government Consultation - Invite to attend consultation meetings regarding Section 36 Planning Applications for Electricity Infrastructure – **AP CF** to respond requesting provision of two spaces at an event.

Updates on projects from MDA, those not covered elsewhere are;

- Seeking a meeting with Scotland's Canals re what's happening with the Foyers Pier Project
- Requested a meeting with Scott Hay, senior officer about provision of toilet facilities at our Fire Station
- Boleskine Community Care had a good meeting with NHS and some home care is now being provided
- First meeting of Foyers Tenants and Residents Association was held and it was agreed this association was to cover all of Foyers. Officer bearers selected, Chair Alfie Taylor, Secretary Rosie Taylor, Treasurer Amy Whittingham, and Vice Chair Stuart Goodwin. They are now working with/on a model Constitution for adoption at their next meeting, 1 July 2014 at Foyers School.
- Lower Foyers signage (circus and campsite) meeting with TECS to be held next week
- Foyers Burial Ground – on site meeting also being arranged, **AP MD** to mention tree over Fraser memorial to officials that attend the meeting.
- Bottle bins policy form TECS was circulated, business that have paid for glass recycling are expected to utilise the bottle bins as THC do not operate a collection service to business in the South loch Ness area.
- Meeting HIE re Foyers land purchase

Planning Department -Delegated consent given for the house at Duhollow Gorthleck

SSE Torness Substation & Domestic supplies - confusion over prices quoted and SSE are looking into funding options

Forestry Commission Scotland - invite to attend boat trip to engage with the Forest Design Plan review, Ros Rowell attended on behalf of the CC and found it a very interesting and informative day. "I did not realise the amount of work and thought that went into this"

Forestry Commission Scotland - Invite to attend Forest Design Plan Consultation event Wednesday 11th June Gorthleck hall.

TECS - Road closures advised to enable culvert and final tarring operations at Croachy

TECS - advising the intention to set up a public meeting to feedback proposed way forward with the Loch Tarff road works – to be arranged

Councillor Drew Hendry – reinstatement work on a grave at Chapel Bridge has been completed

A Holt Community Web Site - hosting and Domain Name renewal, **AP MC** it was agreed to pay for the domain name renewal and to seek the ownership of this be transferred to the CC

SSE Dunmaglass Deliveries - advise that wind turbine parts will be delivered from the A9 to Dunmaglass with escort vehicles over the next few months.

Resident Kilchuimen School Transport - inquiry about school transport provision – **AP chair** to advise of work being undertaken - transport project.

SFCT Chair Email - invite to a meeting with the Chair of the Trust, meeting went well.

THC solicitors Foyers Toilet Block – response regarding signature of the toilet block lease is requested - **AP chair** to follow up.

RJ MacLeod funding for toilet block - name and address has been provided, cheque in post

A Sutherland Emails – Chair advised, having taken advice previously the CC are following Highland Council procedure where a correspondent continues to pursue a point where they do not accept the answer they have been given to the detriment of the smooth running of the council. I.e. a vexacious complainer.

Policy does require all emails to be read to check for new subjects or content not previously considered, otherwise it will just be filed.

Secretary advised that emails sent to directly to CC members are considered to be personal and not CC business, if you wish any correspondence to be a CC matter it must be sent directly to the Secretary and ideally copied to the Chair as well, encase either are unavailable to deal with it.

9. Roads

Pot holes at Caolanour junction, Glenlia and Trinloist roads were added to the list of issues to be sent to TECS **AP Chair and SM**

10. CC meeting Locations

Due to a booking being taken for every Tuesday night until the new year it may not be possible to hold CC meeting in Stratherrick Hall. **AP Secretary** to discuss with booking holder and Hall booking secretary, an alternative location has been identified if needed.

CF proposed a motion not to hold the regular CC meeting in July, this was seconded IBR, Unanimous

11. AOCB

Morning Bus Service - CF advised of issues with bus provision in the mornings from

Whitebridge/Gorthleck to Inverness – **AP CF** to follow up with Bus Company and TECS to establish what is happening

Trust Community Benefit negotiations Proposal - MD circulated an email containing a proposal to the CC; this was to be reviewed and discussed at the next CC meeting.

Trust Open Evening - MD reminded all of the Open Evening at the Stratherrick Hall in July for members of the community to drop in and ask questions/find out what the trust has been doing.

Foyers campsite. It was confirmed that the campsite does not issue washing lines and they would talk to campers no tot use fences for this purpose. Anyone wishing to make a formal complaint regarding none compliance with planning consent/conditions must contact the planning department and follow the correct formal procedure, i.e. establish none compliance and follow procedure thereafter.

Data protection - Direct Debit to be sent in this week **AP LM**

Strathnairn bus offer – LM advised that the Farr Trust has offered us the use of their old bus at a nominal rate to enable us to establish if such a service would be workable/desired by residents.

AP members to identify with school groups etc. the level of interest for this opportunity.

Date of next meeting – 24th June Stratherrick Hall 8:00pm

Meeting closed 9.30pm