

**STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**  
**AT FOYERS PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 19:30**

**1. Present**

Kim Burton (KB)	Martin Donnelly (MDo)	Gordon McAndie (GMc)
Liam Longbottom (LL)	Catriona Fraser (CF)	Phil Crowe (PC)
Cllr Margaret Davidson (MDa)		

**Apologies**

Ian Bateman (IB)	Cllr Helen Carmichael (HC)
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**2. Adoption of last minutes**

Minutes of the last meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017 were adopted  
Proposed by MDo, seconded by GMc

**3. Matters arising**

- Deer fence at Boleskine Graveyard  
*Unable to progress further until the Highland Council move the build up of spoil*
- Meeting held with John Taylor of The Highland Council re: Speed limit concerns at Foyers Hotel, Campsite traffic repeatedly accessing Riverside & no signs directing traffic to Foyers Cemetery.  
*MDa chasing John Taylor for actions required*

**4. Reports**

- Treasurer
  - LL gave a quick summary of the SFCC accounts for the last 6 months.
- Fire
  - A chemical toilet has now been installed at the fire station. Still no running water or sink.
  - It has now been 3 years since the formation of Fire Service Scotland. Future services may involve fire fighters being trained in emergency medical care.
  - Likely to be station closures across the Highland and the Central belt and the likelihood of 2 pump stations being reduced to 1 pump due to reduced crews.
  - Home safety visits continue to be promoted in the local community with CO<sup>2</sup> detectors bought with donations – working closely with Boleskine Community Care on this.
  - Visit from a German fire fighter on holiday in the local area.
  - 1 new recruit.
- Trust
  - Continue to meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday on each month.
  - Currently preparing for the AGM which will be held on 29<sup>th</sup> November.
  - Progressing work to replace the community noticeboards at Lower Foyers, Torness, Whitebridge and Errogie
  - Next grant deadline is 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017
  - Next issue of S&F News is due out in December. Any stories or info for inclusion should be passed to Project Co-ordinator, Steven Watson
- Police Report
  - New style police report issued this month which gives details of the surrounding community council areas of Dores & Essich, Fort Augustus & Glenmoriston and Glenurquhart. Full report is available on the Stratherrick & Foyers CC website.

- Card skimming device found on an ATM machine in Fort Augustus. Police urge all using ATM's to cover the keypad when entering their pin and if they have concerns that the ATM has been tampered with, then do not use the machine and contact the police.

## 5. Renewables

- Stronlaig
  - Concerns raised about a specific haulage contract that refuses to abide by the agreed traffic management rules
  - 1<sup>st</sup> community benefit liaison meeting held. SSE are investigating ways of distributing the money, rather than just through CC's.
  - Report of a contract being abusive to a member of the public  
*CF & MDa to report issues to the next liaison meeting*
- Aberarder – no update
- Dell – Nothing further to report at this time

## 6. Roads

- Wire mesh fencing on the bridge at the start of the Killen road is damaged and requires repair.  
*KB to report to John Taylor at The Highland Council*
- Work should now be completed on the pedestrian section of the bailey bridge at Lower Foyers.
- Concerns raised regarding sinking verges on the road between the Foyers Lodge and Boleskine Cemetery.
- Aberchalder road end repairs continue – ongoing since November 2016. Damaged a culvert during recent works and now need to do further work to repair the culvert.
- Still awaiting repairs to the section of the B852 between Dalcrag and Chapel Bridge.
  - Highland Council to erect 'low verges' warning signs immediately
  - There will be an initial temporary repair – filling pot holes with loose stone
  - Forestry Commission need to consult with THC & SFCC regarding timber extraction from the felled area along side the B852. FC may contribute towards repairs to the road.
  - Once timber has been extracted there will then need to be further permanent repairs carried out by THC

## 7. Planning

- Lay a telecommunications cables between Glendoe Dam and Stronlaig substation – no objections
- EE mast to be erected 160m east of Compass.
  - Compass residents Dr & Mrs Cameron attended to the meeting to raise concerns;
  - Mast to be 20 m high – this is not discreet (massive visual impact)
  - Of lattice construction – not in keeping with local surroundings, with no attempt to disguise it.
  - Completely ignores design advice provided by HC planning officer in relation to an application by the same applicant near to the Garrogie Estate.

*KB to lodge formal complaint on behalf of the SFCC*

## 8. Correspondence

- Communication received from the Mayor of a small town in France that have a phone box that is used in very much the same way as the one at Errogie. The small town in France would like to know if the community would be willing to 'twin' the 2 phone boxes.
- Ongoing communication with the Highland Council regarding the maintenance of the grass at the Waterfall carpark in Foyers. Highland Council propose to remove all the shrubs and

grass the bank for future easy maintenance. After initial objections from the SFCC, it has now been agreed that this will be the best option going forward.

*KB to advise the HC accordingly*

- Concerns raised regarding changes to the buses;
  - Appears to now be only 2 buses on a Saturday
  - D&E have stopped the extended run from Foyers to Whitebridge due to the poor condition of the road between Dalcrag and Chapel Bridge
  - Can no longer come out from town to Foyers on the first bus, and back into town on the last bus, as the bus starts and finishes it's day in Foyers.
  - Is there a possibility of having an extended service from Dunmaglass to Whitebridge? And on a Saturday also?

*MDa to ask the Highland Council Transport Officers*

## **9. Up & coming events**

- Fire Works – 4<sup>th</sup> November – 7pm at Loch Ness Shores Campsite
- Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust AGM – 29<sup>th</sup> November
- Friends of Inverness Royal Academy – Halloween disco & auction – 3<sup>rd</sup> November
- South Loch Ness Schools Halloween Disco – 1<sup>st</sup> November – 6-8pm @ Stratherrick Hall
- Loch Ness Luvvies – 'Bunkered' Performance –
- Remembrance Service – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November @ 3pm

## **10. AOCB**

- Reports of rubbish being dumped by campers at the popular camping location on the B852 between Dalcrag and Chapel Bridge.

*KB to report to the HC*
- Concerns raised by local residents about 3 abandoned cars – one at Inverfarigaig, one just over the Suidhe and one on the Essich road.

*KB to contact the HC regarding these vehicles*
- External discussion required by SFCC members to decide whether it's financially viable to open and run the public toilets next year.
- Good work continues to clean the War Memorial and surrounding area.
- Signage of paths and wayleaves around Foyers and Inverfarigaig needs to be revisited. Tourists frequently walk down the road as they can't find the paths due to lack of signage.

*KB to speak to Charles Stephens for details of who to contact about this.*

## **11. Next meeting**

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2017, 19:30, Stratherrick Hall, Gorthleck

Meeting closed at 21:30