

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 28th NOVEMBER 2017
AT FOYERS PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 19:30

1. Present

Kim Burton (KB)	Martin Donnelly (MDo)	Gordon McAndie (GMc)
Catrina Fraser (CF)	Phil Crowe (PC)	Dr Jim Cameron (JC)

Apologies

Cllr Margaret Davidson (MDa)	Liam Longbottom (LL)	Ian Bateman (IB)
Neil Kirkland		

2. Glenshero Windfarm Proposal

Representatives from RES and GFG gave an overview of the Glenshero Windfarm Proposal. The full presentation can be found on the Stratherrick.net website.

The Glenshero Estate is 9km north west of Laggan, and initial community thoughts were that this would not affect the SFCC area, however, RES are looking at traffic routes and have expressed an interest in utilising the existing Stronlarig windfarm access, which would mean windfarm traffic travelling across the Strath. CF advised that the SFCC would object strongly to any proposals to route traffic across the Strath.

RES were asked about community benefit, and other than a local energy scheme it appeared that there had been no consideration for benefit funds to enable the communities to fund their own projects.

3. Adoption of last minutes

Minutes of the last meeting held on 24th October 2017 were adopted
Proposed by MDo, seconded by GMc

4. 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 & KB chasing John Taylor for actions required – Invite JT to January Meeting?
KB to re-request speed monitor via Police Scotland as it was felt this was placed in the wrong place during the last monitoring period.*

5. Foyers public toilets – the future.

After many years of discussions about the possibility of new public toilets in Foyers, the SFCC have decided to use some of its own funds to get some initial plans drawn up enabling us to put the work out to tender and obtain some costs.

The Councillors felt that possible funding bodies could not decide whether they wanted to contribute funds towards new toilets until full and accurate costings have been obtained.

Members of the community present at the meeting were in support of this approach and suggested that new and additional bins would also be beneficial in the same area.

6. Reports

- Fire
 - 1 of the new recruits has had to withdraw due to eyesight issues, the other has passed his interview and progressed to the next stage.
 - 2 RTC and 1 Carbon Monoxide poisoning call outs recently

- Reminder to everyone with a log burner in their home, that a Carbon Monoxide detector is a must – it is a silent odourless killer
- Free Home Fire Safety visits are again being offered in the community. Please contact the local station or see the latest edition of the Stratherrick News for more details.
- Access to the station was hampered during the recent adverse weather as the road had not been gritted or ploughed.
- Trust
 - AGM to take place on 29th November at 7:30 in Stratherrick Hall
 - Missives completed on the purchase of Foyers Bay
 - Agreement reached on the units in lower Foyers
 - Noticeboards being installed this week
 - 2 Ceilidhs to take place on 22nd December, funded by the SFCT. Children’s ceilidh from 4-5pm (free to attend), with a family ceilidh commencing at 7:30 in Stratherrick Hall. Tickets for the evening ceilidh will be £2 each with numbers limited due to the size of the hall. Tickets can be purchased from local businesses.
 - S&F News will be published in the next few days.
 - There is a new grant process for applications over £20k. These will now go straight to SSE, who have recently taken a much more active role in the grant process.
- 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.
 - Full police report can be found on the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council website: www.stratherrick.net

7. Renewables

- Stronlaig
 - Now shut down for an extended Christmas break, although there may be some heavy plant being removed from the site during this time
 - Reduction in workers from January
- Dell – Planning application refused

8. Roads

- 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.
- Temporary repairs to the B852 at Dalcrag will commence week commencing 11th December, to enable the timber to be extracted, before permanent repairs are carried out.
- Huge amount of complaints to the SFCC and the Highland Council regarding the lack of gritting that took place during the recent spell of adverse winter weather. MDa to advise John Taylor of priority roads (Fire Station). Grit piles/stocks can be requested via John Taylor or the SFCC who will contact John Taylor on your behalf. The community are asked to direct their complaints re: gritting, directly to the Highland Council as well as the SFCC.

KB to add Highland Councillor details to the community website

9. Planning

- Extension of existing hill track, land 7000m SE of Glendoebeg – no objections
- EE mast to be erected 160m east of Compass;
 - Due to complaints by the SFCC this will now be heard at the South Planning Applications Committee on 12th December.

10. Correspondence

- Malcolm Sutherland contacted the SFCC to request to attend the January meeting to advise of details for next year’s Etape Loch Ness.
- Alex MacLeod would like to come back to the SFCC with proposals for the Glenlia felling.

KB to invite Alex to the January meeting

- Email received from a gentleman that had attended the Remembrance Service at the war memorial, and wanted to let us know how lovely and moving the service was. Comments to be passed to Olaf who lead the service.

11. Up & coming events

- Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust AGM – 29th November
- Community Children’s Christmas Party – 9th December, 2-4:30pm – Stratherrick Hall, Gorthleck
- Children’s Ceilidh, 22nd December, 4pm-5pm – Stratherrick Hall, Gorthleck
- Family Ceilidh, 22nd December, 7:30 onwards – Stratherrick Hall, Gorthleck – Tickets £2 per person, available from local businesses

12. AOCB

- Inverfarigaig Residents Group has been set up. CF has been invited to attend their next meeting.
- The gate at Foyers Cemetery is hanging off it’s hinges and requires repair. Concerns also that the graveyard is not generally being maintained.

MDa to pass onto the relevant persons within the Highland Council

- KB met with Stewart Eastaugh, Highland Council Access Officer for Inverness, Niarn and East Lochaber to discuss signage of paths and wayleaves around Foyers and Inverfarigaig. Discussions and ideas took place between the SFCC and the attending public.

KB to progress ideas further with Stewart Eastaugh and also discuss with the South Loch Ness Access Group and Visit Loch Ness.

13. Next meeting

Tuesday 19th December 2017, 19:30, Craigdarroch Inn, Foyers

Meeting closed at 21:45