STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 29th MAY 2018 AT STRATHERRICK HALL, GORTHLECK AT 19:45

1. Present

Kim Burton (KB) Gordon McAndie (GMc) Catriona Fraser (CF) Cllr Margaret Davidson (MDa) Dr Jim Cameron (JC)

Malcolm Sutherland (Caledonian Concepts) PC McGill

Apologies

Ian Bateman (IB) Phil Crowe (PC) Martin Donnelly (MDo)

2. Etape Loch Ness De-brief

Malcolm Sutherland, Director of Caledonian Concepts gave a de-brief on the 2018 Etape Loch Ness that took place on 29th April;

- A massive 'Thank You' to the community for it's co-operation, help and continued support
- Event now capped at 5600 entrants for all coming years
- Increase of riders from outside Scotland along with an increase in riders from outside of the Highlands
- 8 out of 10 competitors stay in the area for more than 1 night, with the average stay for entrants being 1.9 nights.
- In excess of £283k raised so far for MacMillan
- The event could not take place without the 300+ volunteers/marshalls from around the Loch
- Volunteers from Stratherrick & Foyers raised monies for the Highland Hospice, Boleskine Community Care, Foyers Fire Brigade, Stratherrick Primary Parent Council & the Wilderness Challenge, to name just a few.
- There was no need to provide escorts through Stratherrick & Foyers this year. All essential journey's were accommodated via alternative times and routes pre-discussed with Caledonian Concepts
- Propose date for 2019 event is Sunday 28th April 2019.

3. Adoption of minutes from the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting held on 24th April 2018 were adopted. Proposed by JC, seconded by GMc

4. Matters arising

• Draft Dear Fence Tender document for the lower Foyers cemetery received from the Project Co-ordinator.

SFCC still to discuss, complete the specifics and put out to tender

• SFCC requested that the Highland Council arrange for the septic tank for the Foyers public toilets to be emptied. Highland Council advised this was the responsibility of the SFCC. *KB to email William Gilfillan with a second request.*

5. Reports

- Police Report
 - > 10 incidents reported to the police

- 1 road traffic collision no offences
- 1 report of concern for person traced safe and well
- Call regarding suspect persons in the area Police carried out extensive enquiry and patrolled the area. No offences committed. Police would like the community to be vigilant and to say NO to persons attending at their houses unannounced offering work and NO to persons looking for scrap unless relevant identification ca be produced and they are happy.
- I report of theft of wood Enwuiry carried out with no suspect being identified
- > 1 report of theft of alcohol Enquiry carried out with no suspect being identified.
- 1 report of attempted housebreaking in the area Enquiries are ongoing
- All Police reports can be found on the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council website: <u>www.stratherrick.net</u>
- Trust
 - Liaison Director, Dr Jim Cameron gave his Liaison Director report which included updates on, some possible relaxation of procedures surrounding the SSE grant approval process, the future possibility of supporting small businesses through a start-up enterprise scheme with SSE funding, approval of funding to allow BCC to employ a Support & Development Officer, Potential housing developments at Gorthleck being discussed with the Highland Council and HSCHT, and noticeboard maintenance contract agreed.
 - > Over £100k in grants approved since January 2018.
 - > Medical Adaptations Grants can now be applied for.
 - Planning application for access into the Riverside land has been submitted. Concerns received from Highland Council Transport Department due to the size of the proposal. SFCT want to put in 'future proof' access that will accommodate the future development of the land.

MDa to discuss with SFCT Chair and HC Transport Department to resolve

- Work to develop the old fish farm and bay down in lower Foyers continues to move forward.
- The full Liaison Director Report can be viewed on the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council website: <u>www.stratherrick.net</u>
- Boleskine Community Care
 - Community event 'Generation Games' to be held on Saturday 23rd June from 2pm at the Hub.
 - > BCC's application to the SFCT for a part time paid role has now been approved
- Fire Brigade
 - ➢ Wild fire season − please be extra vigilant
 - Concerns regarding lack of Carbon Monoxide detectors fitted in homes with log and multi-fuel stoves. Anyone having a stove fitted, should make sure that the contractor also fits a Carbon Monoxide detector. Further information can be sought from the Foyers Fire Brigade, along with a home safety visit if required.

6. Renewables

- Stronlairg
 - Issues with deliveries continuing during the busy summer tourist months due to bad weather delays during the winter.
 - Meeting to take place between MDa, Police Scotland, SSE and Fort Augustus Community Council to come to some amicable agreement
 - Due to these delays, SSE have now agreed to pay the first 2 years of community benefit up front, followed by 23 annual payments.

- Glenshero
 - Advised that they are looking to access from the Laggan side and will not be approaching SSE about using Stronglairg access.
- Dell
 - > No new updates
- Allt Luiadhe Hydro Scheme
 - CF has contacted Green Highland Renewables for clarification on the community benefit since its acquisition of this hydro scheme from SIMEC.
- Proposed Dores hydro scheme
 - > Public meeting to be held on 27th & 28th June from 3pm 8pm in Dores Hall.

7. Roads

- Request for a number of signs around the community;
 - Fire station directional signs at Foyers and Gorthleck
 - 'Slow blind summit' sign at Ault-na-goire
 - More 'Use passing places to allow overtaking' along the loch side road many current signs are old and unreadable
 - 'Road narrowing' signage at the church between Gorthleck and Errogie fire brigade frequently have to pull vehicles out of the ditch that haven't realised the road goes from dual to single track

KB still to email request for sign to Colin Ross at the Highland Council

• Request for an update from John Taylor on the signage exercise and road markings he promised at Foyers Lodge

KB still to email John Taylor for an update on the situation

8. Planning

- Erection of 30m tower, ground based equipment cabinets, electrical generator, satellite dish, ancillary equipment, formation of access – Land 290M NE of Keeper's Croft, Glenlia, Foyers
- Proposed ground floor extension No 1 Cottage at West Drummond, Whitebridge
- Siting of holiday letting lodge and formation of access Land 40M NW of Libertus, Gorthleck

No objections to be made by the SFCC.

9. Correspondence

• Letter received from EE regarding the loss of TV signal in Aberchalder since the installation of an EE mast. Those affected to contact EE who will arrange for equipment to be installed at their property to resolve the issue.

KB to forward letter to Neil Kirkland and circulate to those affected

• Email received from Charles Stephen (Ward Manager) regarding another Your Cash Your Choice ward discretionary budget fund event to be held later in the year and looking for volunteers to help organise.

KB to reply stating volunteers from the SFCC will join the organisation panel

10. Up and coming events

- BCC Generation Games event 23rd June, 2pm at the Hub in lower Foyers
- Rat Race Coast to Coast Will affect local roads on Saturday 8th September
- Ride Across Britain Will affect local roads on Saturday 15th September 2018
- Loch Ness Marathon Sunday 23rd September 2018 local road closures apply
- Loch Gu Loch Saturday 29th September 2018
- Community summer event details yet to be confirmed
- Community Christmas Ceilidh date yet to be confirmed

11. AOCB

- CF and MDa attended a meeting of the Gordon Bush Panel to gain an insight into how other Trusts and CC's are set up to effectively manage and distribute their community benefit funds. Ideas to be shared with the SFCT.
- Concerns raised that Boleskine House is structurally unsafe.

MDa to request a structural assessment on public safety grounds

• GMc advised that with the recent increase in alleged thefts, he is no longer happy to store the community lawnmower and strimmer.

SFCC to source a new storage facility for these items.

12. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 26th June 2018, 19:30 at Foyers Primary School.