

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 28TH MAY 2019

AT GORTHLECK HALL AT 19.30

1. Present

Catriona Fraser (CF) Phil Crowe (PC) Ian Bateman (IB)
Martin Donnelly (MDo) Jim Cameron (JC) Paula Page (PP)
Cllr Margaret Davidson (MDa)

2. Apologies

None

3. SSE-Cloiche Wind Farm Proposal – Corinna Scholes & Alistair Wilson

Their objective was to meet with the local communities and discuss the proposal. Cloiche will be based on an extension route from Stronelaig from Glendoe main road entrance; it is at the very early stages. The Baseline environmental surveys are being carried out and an abnormal load route Assessment at the moment. It is unclear how and which route will be chosen to transport the turbines in. The proposal is for up to 40 turbines - each will require approximately 9 loads to transport turbine to site and it is proposed that these turbines be the tallest used locally at 175 metres in height. Concern was expressed from a number of residents / Committee members about the impact on the panorama of our landscape and the long term impact on tourism and on all aspects of local life. It was felt that we are close to saturation point. Alistair informed us that there will be a number of cumulative studies to address these issues. The studies and a Public Exhibition are expected to be held in September / October 2019.

CF requested that the ‘Cloiche Wind Farm Proposal’ handouts were sent to her electronically so that the CC could put them on the Community Facebook Page and Website. – **Alistair Wilson to Action.**

CF thanked Corinna and Alistair for attending the meeting.

4. Adoption of minutes from last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting held on 30th April 2019 – Typo error – Page 2 should read a hourly rate of ‘£15’ not ‘£15’.

Minutes were then adopted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed MDo, seconded by JC

5. Administrator & Minute Secretary Job update

CF has received 3 Applications for the post. Four Community Councillors will meet to go through the applications.

6. Reports

Treasurer

- Main Account – 28/05/19 - £418.06
- Project / Micro Grant Account – 28/05/19 - £4169.60
- Ring fenced – Toilets... - 28/05/19 - £4298.50

Fire Report

- None received

Police Report

- No incidents

Boleskine Care

- BIG Lunch @Hub on Saturday 1st June, 12 noon – National initiative to help tackle isolation and loneliness. Please bring a plate of food with you.

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust

- IB had raised the issue about Tendering at the last Board meeting and the Trust are now looking at new process methods for Tendering
- Community Summer Barn Dance, Saturday 17th August. Ceilidh band, cash bar, Hog roast and BBQ. Each person will receive one drink and food with their ticket. NO Alcohol to be bought in to the event from outside so there will be a presence at the door otherwise the bar will be shut.
Event will be ticketed but free. JC asked PFaye if vegetarians / vegans would be catered for, PP suggested that any dietary requirements should be asked for at point of ticket allocation. PFaye advised Ticket information will follow shortly on Trust Website, emails and Community Facebook page.

7. Micro Grants

Two skills development applications had been passed.

R SHARP - £253

L SHARP - £78.40

Stratherrick Public Hall has applied for a micro grant.

8. Renewables

- Dell Farm – held public meeting last week in Fort Augustus
- Red John – MDa advised there has been a delay until August as the applicant needed to provide more information to the Planners with regards to Landscape plans and this now been done.
- Glenshero – no update

9. SFCC Project updates

Cemetery

- The fence and gate have now been fully installed. The fencer has been paid and an invoice for the gate is pending. CC delighted with the project.

Toilets

- Stage 1 of the SFCT / SSE Grant Application has been accepted and the CC now needs to address questions that have been raised for the Stage 2 phase of the application.
- CF and JC advised that they have received 3 bills from EDF regarding electricity that has not been used from the condemned toilet block and it appears CC are in credit but the amount is unclear. **Action JC.**
- Portable toilets in use have received positive feedback – Simon at Foyers Stores has a contact number if there is a problem with them.
- PP informed problems with refuse in the car park, MDa to email PP CONTACT – Alan Mackine from HC to arrange for extra bin (s)
- PP raised issue of old toilet sign location – Action PC to relocate
- Planning application for new toilet building has been submitted to HC Planners.

10. Roads – repairs / roadworks etc..

- Alex Sutherland had reported to CF that the pass road at Alt Na Goire / Inverfairgaig is crumbling.
- CF asked if Glenliath was open yet – PP advised not and that the Mobile Mast work is under way.
- Riverside drainage remains an issue - **MDa / CF to chase up**
- Local resident expressed concerns of the 40mph speed limit in Gorthleck and the safety of his older children when waiting for the school bus and his primary aged children crossing the road or going to the playpark as vehicles drive faster than the limit and there is no pavement provision. CF asked if he could email her his complaints so she could take them forward to Roads Traffic department and urged any residents to do so. Discussion then had about the Stratherrick Primary school Safe routes to school scheme as there is funding available to put in pavements in Gorthleck. MDa to approach Safe Routes to School HC. MDa advised she has a ‘Smiley face’ sign available for our use in the community and it was felt that this was a good idea. MDa will also look in to a black rumble strip to monitor flow and speed of traffic. CF to do a Survey Monkey to start the process of a community consultation on the speed limit to take to HC. PP suggested the Survey Monkey should be emailed out to both Stratherrick and Foyers parent Councils and FIRA. CF/ MDo suggested the CC apply to Micro Grant to provide the school groups and other members of community with high viz jackets / vests.
- PP reported top part of road past timber extraction point on Dalcrag to Catholic Church in very poor state and edges crumbling dangerously.

- Still no repairs done to the Sudihe.

MDa and CF to chase up.

11. Planning

Planning application for Foyers Toilet

12. Correspondences

- Mitie Landscapes maintain the outdoor Fire station area and had asked if CC would like them to undertake basic grass cutting / strimming of the War memorial 4 times a year. All agreed.
- Volunteers are now needed to help maintain the War Memorial to go on a rota, please contact Willie / Catriona Fraser if you are able to help a couple of hours a month. Thank you.
- Malcom Sutherland will be attending the next CC meeting to discuss the Etape.
- CF reported back to CC that she had attended a site visit to Stronelaig Wind Farm

13. Up & coming events

- Bolsekine Care BIG lunch 1st June
- Community Summer Barn Dane 17th August

14. AOCB

Buses

MDa advised she had received complaints about the Stagecoach service on the Whitebridge route. Meeting to be held with Stagecoach, PP to attend. MDa is now writing to the Traffic Commissioner requesting a public enquiry into Stagecoach. HC have this week taken the Charleston Academy contract off Stagecoach and given it to D&E.

CF asked if the authorities could do a spot check on vehicle safety as they would on a lorry – Mda said she would also look in to this

Gorthleck Playpark

MDa has introduced PP to HC Playpark person and PP to attend Stratherrick Primary School Parent Council meeting next week.

15. Next meeting

Tuesday 25th June, 2019, 7.30pm Foyers Primary School. Please note there is not a CC meeting in July.

CF thanked all those who attended, meeting closed.