

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 29th SEPTEMBER 2020

HELD BY ZOOM CONFERENCING

1. Present

Paula Page (PP), Gill Gray (GG), Alannah Graydon (AG), Simon Hargreaves (SH), Patrick Haston (PH), Lorraine Lewis (LL), Caroline Mortimore (CM) & Cllr Margaret Davidson

Public attending

Keith Readdy & Elin Morgan (both from the Boleskine House Foundation)

Apologies

None

2. Adoption of minutes – 25th August 2020

Minutes of the CC meeting on 25/08/2020 were adopted as a true record of the meeting

Proposed GG, seconded by CM

3. Matters arising

As it was the 1st video conferencing CC meeting that was open to the public, PP went over the protocol that was sent to all attendees

PP informed the CC that as Abi Kirkland has moved to Glasgow to study, regretfully she has resigned from the Community Council. All wished Abi well in her studies.

4. Covid 19 - Brolly Group Update

The food box deliveries finished on 28th September. A leaflet was handed out that will also be put on social media & notice boards detailing useful contacts including The Knockie Trust. Planning still ongoing for any further lockdown and/or a worsening financial situation

5. Micro Grant Applications

No new applications received. Previous undecided application discussed – all agreed to contact SSE for advice on the grant and as they are one of the land owners. Full quote to be provided as well

6. Reports

Treasurer

- Main account £13,977.91 (Includes - £12,042.24 grant from SFCT, £178.55 left from SFCT grant for Admin from 2019 grant, £950 from Scottish Government for winter resilience grant & £501.40 from HC for comfort scheme)
- Unrestricted - £305.72
- Project / Micro Grant Account – £3,518.46

Police Report

- The police have dealt with a small number of basic road traffic incidents which did not involve any criminality.
- On the 9th of September the police received several calls re males in a white van going door to door offering services. Unfortunately the van was not traced on the day but relevant intelligence has been submitted in relation to the van should it re attend this area or attend any other area. We would urge local residents to continue to contact us should similar incidents happen in the future.
- Covid 19 continues to affect the community. Most people appear to be adhering to the rules and we continue to educate any persons not complying with those rules.
- One male issued with a recordable police warning for possession of a small amount of cannabis.
- Over the last 6 months or so it has come to our attention that members of the local community often take to the local Facebook page or other social media platforms to share information and on some occasions report behaviour that amounts to criminality.
- Whilst we understand that this is a great way for the community to share information and make each other aware of potential issues. It must be borne in mind that the police do not monitor such platforms due to staffing and time restraints etc. Therefore please do not assume that because you have shared the information on these platforms that the police will be aware. We very often are not. Please can we ask that if there is any information or intelligence held by the local community, that it is shared or reported in the correct way via 101 or 999. That way we can be sure that we haven't missed the information.

Fire Report

- There has been a few high risk Home Fire Safety Visits carried out in the past few weeks by HQ staff. We will still contact all others waiting for a visit to make sure they have adequate fire detection
- We've had a few shouts in the past month, nothing too alarming and a trailer fire at the bottom of the Fire Station road. Recruitment is ongoing but finding it hard to get Medicals for any new candidate.
- We were meant to be doing a car wash this coming Saturday for the Firefighters Charity but have had to cancel due to Covid. Instead the crew are donating their Training night pay and Loch Ness rural communities are donating £60 along with £40 from Dunmaglass Estate so we should have about £260 in total
- We have ordered our Poppy Wreath and will lay it as we hear of the arrangements on the day. We will be available for traffic duties if required.

Boleskine Community Care

- Services at the Hub - Foot services have returned to the Hub and are a great success. We have decided as the safe space has been set up and is well appointed with a cleaning regime, good infection controls and a one-way system, that this will continue despite further restrictions being

imposed on some services. All other events and activities have ceased at the Hub for now. This includes all plans for the Christmas Fayre. Once Government guidance is updated in favour of opening, our position will be reassessed by the Trustees. It hoped that next spring may see the opportunity for a larger event to take place.

- Community Care - This continues with great vigour thanks to our dedicated and loyal staff team.
- Developments - We are in the process of setting up a therapy room at the Hub. Attempts to start the hairdressing service have unfortunately failed, and we have permission to repurpose our grant money. The grant monies from the Community Council have been received, and it is proposed to look for something more robust and substantial than gazebo as there are many offers around at present.
- An application to SFCT has been made for monies from their COVID recovery grant. We await the response.
- Web page development – is ongoing
- Befriending service - We are inching ever closer to the Befriending scheme taking off. It is anticipated this will be slow to start, but having liaised with several other of Highland Hospice partners it has the potential to become a very valid service for the community, especially in light of the prospect of restrictions well into the New Year.
- Brolly Group Updates - The last of this phase of food boxes has been delivered this week, with substantial content. As the furlough scheme coming to a close in the next few weeks, the results and successes will be evaluated. If further assistance is required by the community, then a new phase of funding will be applied for.
- Transport Scheme - After many years of support and dedication, Janet Hobson will be stepping down from being the Organiser of the transport scheme, in November.
- That's all for now folks. Many thanks for your continued support.

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust

Project work

- Wildside – central heating is now installed.
- Foyers Bay – no further update
- Community Broadband – CFWN has begun work erecting the mast at Dumnaglass. This mast will have two main benefits to the community, future proofing the network as well as extending its reach to households in Errogie and surrounding areas. Two new base stations are being installed at Dalcragg and CnocBeag which will improve the existing network and help manage power outages and external interference.
- Riverside Field – following the Notice of Proposal of Planning Application that was submitted to the Highland Council, a further public consultation has been requested. This will follow in due course

Other Trust Business

- Appointment of Trust Manager - A meeting has been held with SSE and interview questions have been discussed. Plans are being considered as to when to hold interviews.

AGM

- Work is currently ongoing to organise a potential virtual AGM in November. Once a proposed procedure has been agreed this will be circulated to all members.

Possible Purchase of a Community Building in or around Errogie

- An email was sent to all Trust members to ask if there was support to purchase a community building in or around Errogie. Gareth and I (LL) also conducted door to door enquiries to collate feedback and some proposed uses if such a building were acquired. The feedback we received was positive and this idea is widely supported by the Errogie and Torness residents. This project is currently ongoing. Further updates to be provided once more information is known.

Purchase of a Community Marquee

- The Trust is currently looking into the purchase of a marquee that can be used by the various groups within the community. The proposed marquee will be 6m x 12m and will hopefully include suitable flooring and some form of heating. Options are currently being considered by the board but once this is ready for use, it will be advertised locally.

Community News

- Jillian is currently looking for items to be published in the news, so any groups wishing to submit an article, please email jillian-dir@sfct.org.uk

7. Toilets

Sub group meetings with Community Councillors and Directors from the Trust are continuing with the aim that the CC will submit an application to the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund. PH went through the Heads of Terms that the Trust have drawn up for the leasing of the proposed toilets. Vote taken and all agreed to accept them. PH also highlighted that a risk log was being collated and asked any councillors to email admin with any risks they could think off

8. Planning

- 20/03560/LBC Loch Mohr Dam: Formation of spill-weir | Land 125M SE Of Craigview Gorthleck – No comment
- 20/03521/FUL Erection of house, formation of access & temporary siting of static lodge | Land 165M SW of Dunelm Gorthleck Inverness – No comment on the application but concern raised that the temporary static lodge has already been put in place prior to planning being allowed

9. Renewables

- Aberarder (RES) – No progress with Community benefit conversation
- Cloiche (SSE) – Await outcome of planning
- Glenshero (SIMEC) – Await outcome of public enquiry
- Dell (Coriolis) – No progress
- Corriegarh Extension (BayWar.e) – Nothing since pre-planning survey
- Red John – Public enquiry outcome due soon

10. Roads

PP has reported overhanging trees and potholes. Admin to chase up with John Taylor and put HC link for reporting potholes on the CC FB page. MD told the CC that HC will announce large spend on road improvements next week

11. Correspondence

- Stratherrick and Foyers Green team - Karla Stewart had contacted PP about running a Community Market. PP advised Karla to contact HC for advice and permissions
- Caravans at Fraser's yard – PP had received several communications regarding safety concerns about the amount of caravans at the yard. Admin to chase up with environmental health and planning
- Remembrance Service – Due to Covid restrictions, this years' service has been cancelled but all agreed CC will still lay a wreath and agreed to ask Catriona Fraser to arrange delivery. PP has been communicating with MD and others on what can be done to mark the day within the current guidelines

12. AOCB

- SH raised the issue of the lack of any bins along the Loch side on the B852. Admin to speak with Alan McKinnie as well as arranging a meeting with the Green Team, the Community Council, MD and staff from HC. MD told the CC that she intends to pick up on the Ranger plan again. HC are also making Council wide plans to cope with high levels of tourism ahead of next year

13. Next meeting

Tuesday 27th October, 19:30, Venue TBC