

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 30th MARCH 2021

HELD BY ZOOM CONFERENCING

1. Present

Patrick Haston (PH), Gill Gray (GG), Simon Hargreaves (SH), Jim Cameron (JC) & Craig Lightbody (CL)

Cllr Margaret Davidson

Sharon Ferguson (admin)

Public attending

Kirsty Balfour & Tony Foster

Apologies

None

2. Adoption of minutes – 26th January 2021

Minutes of the CC meeting on 23/02/2021 were adopted as a true record of the meeting

Proposed GG, seconded by SH

3. Matters arising

None

4. Covid 19 - Brolly Group Update

Admin & CL gave an update on activities. The free Community activities have started and are being well attended. Care/activity packs for seniors and children are being organised. The 'soup to go' is a great success and the Community larders are still going. The CC applied to HC for the Brolly group and were awarded £1,500. This will be used for the health and wellbeing classes and the senior's activity packs. All closing dates have been removed until further notice.

5. Micro Grant Applications

SOSA – Request for £500 to go towards sporting activities. All agreed Admin to check with SSE & get further clarification from the group.

6. Reports

Treasurer

- Balance £11,722.61 Includes -
£8,377.04 grant from SFCT, £178.55 left from SFCT grant for Admin from 2019 grant
£950 from Scottish Government for winter resilience grant – cheque has been sent to MacGregors, £211.30 from HC for comfort scheme
- £1,700 from HC for Toilet build (from application to ward discretionary budget)

- Unrestricted - £305.72
- Project / Micro Grant Account – £1,398.56
- Figures correct as off February 2021 bank statement. Bank statements always come in just after each CC meeting
- Admin working on a spreadsheet to show what has been spent of the grant from SFCT. Will be shared before next meeting and used for the grant completion report

Police Report

- No report received

Fire Report

- No report received

Boleskine Community Care

- Our AGM was undertaken successfully via zoom in February. It was a little disappointing that we were not able to meet up with people as we have done in previous years, but we look forward to a different AGM, with chocolate biscuits next time.
- Befriending service is now getting started. Should you know of anyone who would benefit from a friendly, confidential free service to support isolation or loneliness then please give them our number 07506716897. We are advertising the service in Stratherrick and on Facebook, but often word of mouth is more effective for services such as these.
- CAP – Survey has gone out to the committee by the Trust. It is on our face book page, and I have emailed to members of BCC. We have also played a role in encouraging and supporting those with no internet to access a copy to enable them to participate.
- Foot care – The service will restart in April. We have new equipment to use and have been successful in accessing grant funding for a treatment chair that is versatile to accommodate therapy and massage treatments.
- BCC continues to play a very interactive role with the Brolly Group and other groups to support the community in the best way possible during continued covid restrictions. We are hopeful that soon we will be able to undertake more activities as we come out of the pandemic.

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust

As currently there is no SFCT liaison Director, the Chair of the Trust, Kirsty Balfour and Trust Manager, Tony Foster gave an update – They have been very busy with the Community action plan; results were issued to the steering group last week. PH asked Kirsty why the CC had not been formally approached for consultation; Kirsty said they will be in touch. The Trust have informed those doing the Local Plan that this action plan is pending. The Community assembly on 15th April will be the next stage. Some of the Trust's plans on hold pending the outcome of the action plan. New website has been launched to help keep the Community updated.

7. Toilets –

Admin updated the CC on recent progress of grant application – all conditions were met prior to the 31st Mar deadline and were the 1st project in Scotland to do so. We await news from the Scottish Government but this won't be until after the Scottish elections. Discussion had about temporary toilets for the summer. MD said there is a ward business meeting on 12th April and there is a tourism improvement ward budget which might be able to help and get more/bigger bins. Recent litter picking efforts seen a huge amount of litter being collected with 10 bags from just around the SSE building at Lower Foyers.

8. Planning

- 21/00933/FUL - Erection of a house and detached garage, Land 75M NW of Whitebridge Hotel Whitebridge – *No comment*
- 21/00565/FUL - Well for water supply (retrospective), Larchview Whitebridge Inverness IV2 6UR – *No comment*
- Update on outstanding planning applications
19/05090/FUL | Construction of 5 affordable houses. Formation of access to public road | Land 140M NW of 1 Hillhead Inverfarigaig – *This application has been withdrawn but MD advised that they will reapply but taking into account issues raised.*

9. Renewables

- Loch Mhor Dam – Still awaiting planning.
- Aberarder (RES) – No progress with Community benefit conversation. New planning will be lodged as plans have been amended to consist of larger turbines
- Cloiche (SSE) – Await outcome of planning
- Glenshero (SIMEC) – Await outcome of public enquiry
- Dell (Coriolis) – No progress
- Corriegarth Extension (BayWar.e) – Await outcome of planning
- Red John – Still awaiting outcome of Public enquiry

10. Roads

CL has kindly listed all of the larger areas of roads that need resurfacing and/or drainage work. MD said to email to John Taylor & Cllr David Fraser. Thanks to CL for compiling the list. Following on from last month's conversation re litter, admin pointed out that there is money available in last year's Trust grant for non-statutory signs.

11. Correspondence

Email from the Boleskine House Foundation – looking to reach out to Community Groups and to see how they can be more involved in the Community; PH to reply

12. AOCB

Discussion had about new bus shelter that is to be built at the Aberchalder road end; examples had been sent round by email prior to the meeting. All agreed that the CC should request a smaller wooden one with a wooden bike box storage. Admin to reply to Colin Ross.

Issue raised that none of the new HC ranger posts that have been advertised, cover any of the Loch Ness area; MD to look into this.

PH wanted to thank all those that turned out to do the annual litter pick. Great effort by many.

13. Next meeting

Tuesday 27th April 2021 19.30, Ordinary CC meeting. To be held by Zoom conferencing

DRAFT