

# STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

### HELD BY ZOOM CONFERENCING

#### **1. Present**

Patrick Haston (PH), Simon Hargreaves (SH) Jim Cameron (JC), Gill Gray (GG), Cllr Margaret Davidson & Cllr David Fraser  
Sharon Ferguson (admin)

#### **Public attending**

Kirsty Balfour, Gareth Jones, Tony Foster, Paula Page, Sandra Sutherland and Alan Sutherland

#### **Apologies**

Craig Lightbody

#### **2. Adoption of minutes – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

Minutes of the CC meeting on 26/10/2021 were adopted as a true record of the meeting  
Proposed by JC, seconded by SH

#### **3. Matters arising**

None

#### **4. Micro Grant Applications**

Needles and Pins – applied for £500 to buy supplies for group. All agreed. Receipts to be provided  
Friends for the Inverness Royal Academy – applied for £480 to purchase Christmas gift cards for all high school age children in the area that have put their name forward. All agreed.

Update on bench for park at Upper Foyers – staff at HC have not been able to find a suitable location to fix the bench down; admin to go back to the group and individual that requested it to look at the best solution

#### **5. Reports**

##### Treasurer

- Bank Accounts (as of 01 November) - The Main A/C is sitting at £8214.53. This includes £1000 from Etape and £2500 from Highland Council towards the portaloos costs plus other restricted figures. The expected grant money from the Trust has not yet been processed.
- The Project A/C remains unchanged at £3353.96.
- Internet Banking - The application to Virgin Money for internet access to our accounts is making slow progress. Once established this will allow receipts and spending between statements to be kept track of more readily.

##### Police Report

Nothing to report

### **Fire Report**

- We have no local significant incidents to report but the appliance has been out supporting our neighbouring station on a number of occasions. We have lost one crew member to relocation due to work commitments but have 2 potential new recruits who are in the recruitment process and at different stages, but we still welcome any new recruits.
- **Community Engagement** - Some of the Foyers crew attended the Stratherrick remembrance service and a wreath was laid on behalf of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.
- **New Smoke Alarms** - The legislation has been introduced by the Scottish Government following of the Grenfell Tower fire in London in 2017, and it applies to all Scottish homes. Interlinked means if one goes off, they all go off, and it is the property owner's responsibility for meeting the new standard. Ahead of this change, please be aware that the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service can't recommend products or installers. We kindly ask that you do not contact your local fire station to enquire about this. Guidance and further information can be found via the [Scottish Government website](#).
- **SFRS Home Fire Safety Visits** - To protect the most vulnerable, SFRS will only fit interlinked alarms into owner-occupied homes where the individual/household is assessed as "high risk" through our [Home Fire Safety Visit](#) assessment process. If the individual / household does not meet these criteria, staff will provide safety advice, information and details of the revised legislation during the visit.
- Finally, as winter fast approaching, small reminder to get Chimneys swept and if traveling in a car be prepared for winter, and carry some essentials, eg warm clothes, shovel, and Mobile phone. WC Stewart Macpherson, RVS Support

### **Boleskine Community Care**

- Our drive to enrol more carers continues. Recognising that lack of carers is not just a local problem, but a national one, discussions between BCC and our partner, Sunflower Care at the Highland Hospice, have led to the Carers employment package being strengthened substantially and may now be considered the best in the rural Highlands. Whilst I am sure that you have a copy of the latest advert then I attach such and ask that this is made available through the Council's distribution.
- Activities and services have now really gained ground with enthusiasm from the local members as they feel more secure to be able to get together and bring life to the Hub.
- December Activities –
- Art Group is running fortnightly on a Mon afternoon from 2pm-4pm, next session 6th Dec  
Moovin About and Strength and Balance held fortnightly on a Tues, next session 7th Dec  
The Hub Walks is held as usual on the second Tuesday of every month.  
Coffee Morning at the Hub is held every second Wednesday of the month  
Music and song Group is looking like a popular addition to the activities and next session is 2nd Dec running fortnightly and will alternate with the Cinema Group.  
Cinema groups next session will be Thursday 9th December
- Professional services: - Additional to "Care at Home" and "Befriending"

Foot Care will run every 6 weeks. Next sessions in December are fully booked but will be holding sessions in the New Year. To book an appointment ring the Hub 01456 486247 and leave a message.

- Holistic Therapies, next session 20th December. 10% of all proceeds go to BCC. To book an appointment ring Lindsey on 07787506093 or the Hub 01456 486247 and leave a message. Offering therapies – Swedish massage, Reflexology, Reiki, Crystal Healing Hopi Ear Candles
- Community Transport Scheme – having seen a decline in usage of this scheme during the height of Covid restrictions then we welcome the increasing interest in its recent use - call 07944 228830 to book
- The Boleskine Community Care AGM has been advertised for members, presently set for Saturday 4th December at the Stratherrick Hall, Gorthleck 2pm for 2.30pm

### **Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust**

- WHERE ARE WE NOW - With help from the Scottish Community Development Centre, we took the 'pulse' of the community to check your thoughts of where we are now. Each year the community will use this as our benchmark and review. The current results are in, as well as some additional information that may be useful to you for more information [Take The Pulse Survey Results | 16 November 2021 | Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust \(stratherrickcommunity.org.uk\)](https://stratherrickcommunity.org.uk)
- COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN LAUNCH - The Community Action Plan was launched on 19<sup>th</sup> November. Copies in print have arrived and will start being posted out to households next week. You can read the plan here [Home | Future Ideas \(communityfuture.net\)](https://communityfuture.net)
- TRUST EMPLOYMENT AND TENDERS - We are currently advertising for a new Buildings and Facilities Manager.
- COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE REVIEW - SFCT aim to have a full review of our governance from Community Enterprise. This will support the Trust being a robust organisation to support the CAP, future funder requirements and identify any room for improvement.
- PROJECTS AND ENGAGEMENT - We intend to keep the community, stakeholders, staff and Directors informed of activity on all projects via the website. This will be updated every Thursday with additional information in the Trust Manager 5 Things For a Friday on the website. Regular news items can be found here [News | Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust \(stratherrickcommunity.org.uk\)](https://stratherrickcommunity.org.uk) If you have any questions in between Trust meetings on any of these matters please contact Tony at [tony-ceo@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:tony-ceo@sfctrust.org.uk)
- Highlights to note –
  - The latest newsletter is being worked on and out soon.
  - Riverside Field is scheduled to go to planning in December and the Slipway is due to be submitted.
  - The Wildside Centre pathway around building is scheduled to start after Winter Wonderland. We now have a PEL and some minor road work signage was agreed with roads as part of this application.
  - Community Broadband Scheme – we have a provisional contract.
  - Errogie Church Steering Group has agreed Simpson and Brown will take forward 'wind and water tight' project and the project beyond that.
- The SFCT AGM went well with four new Directors elected. They are Maire Brown, Maureen McGuire, Ken Sinclair and Mark Sutherland. Kirsty Balfour was elected Chair. Gareth Jones was elected Vice Chair. Other directors are Catriona Fraser, Chris Gerkhe, and Lorraine

Lewis. Jillian Barclay, Russell Lewis and Chris Finlay stood down due to family commitments but some may return in the future. Frank Ellam resigned after many years valuable service and Carlene Vincent is now responsible for supporting the Trust Finances.

Check out each section here [Projects | Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust \(stratherrickcommunity.org.uk\)](http://stratherrickcommunity.org.uk)

PH asked why three Directors were announced at the AGM but then four were announced after the meeting; Tony Haston explained that three nominees came forward before the deadline then another after the date. The fourth person was appointed as a member Director at the post AGM meeting.

## 6. Toilets

The new plans for the toilets were approved by the funders and are currently in with planning for approval. The plans and the planning app have also been shared online with the Community. No consultee issues so far and once the architect speaks with the planner this week, their intention is to then prepare working drawings and make a Building Warrant application before Christmas. Admin looking to set up a team meeting with the SFCC/SFCT toilet subgroup as well as the Architect and QS in the next fortnight.

Two portaloos have been removed as agreed at last month's CC meeting.

## 7. Planning

21/05144/FUL - Demolition of existing toilets, erection of toilets, installation of chemical waste disposal point, Foyers Public Toilets Foyers - *All agreed to write a letter of support and highlight the Community support as shown in the survey*

21/04296/FUL - Change of use of storage shed to house, Grianach Allt Na Goibhre, Errogie Inverness IV2 6UH – *No comment*

## 8. Renewables

- Loch Mhor Dam – Await confirmation that works are complete
- Aberarder (RES) – work to start on entrance to enable planning to continue as due to expire
- Cloiche (SSE) – Await outcome of planning. MD said it will be considered in Feb
- Glenshero (SIMEC) – Await outcome of public enquiry
- Dell (Coriolis) – Scoping application in to alter the original approved plans from 14 turbines to 12, amend height from 130.5m to 149.9m and to vary the layout – await further details to explain the visual differences this will cause
- Corriegarth Extension (BayWar.e) – Await outcome of planning
- Red John – Permission granted. Community liaison group to start soon
- Bhlairaidh – Now a live planning application. Sits on the other side of Loch Ness but is visible from this area (Whitebridge/Suidhe). MD said it will be considered in Feb
- Loch Liath – same as above for location. At pre-planning stage
- Loch Kemp - proposed hydro pump storage at Dell Estate. Public exhibition – Thurs 2nd Dec @Wildside 1pm-7.30pm or online Wed 8th Dec 12-2pm or 6-8pm

Discussion had about Community Benefit negotiations; CC Admin, Tony and Paula Page had met to discuss. Tony proposing that the CC admin does some work on updating all the information,

arranging and taking minutes at the meetings, reporting back to the CC and the Trust among other tasks to establish a more coherent approach to CBN. Tony to report back to the Trust with the proposal as this would be funded out with the current admin hours.

MD reported that the HC will be continuing to push for planning gain for the South Loch Ness improvement plan but that is separate to any CBN negotiated

#### **9. Roads**

PH told the meeting that the online consultation for the Gorthleck Village Improvement scheme went well and was very well run by HC. The plans seem well received.

Admin to do a reminder to the Community to please report individual potholes as you come across them at - [https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/20005/roads\\_and\\_pavements/96/roadside\\_problems](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/20005/roads_and_pavements/96/roadside_problems)

#### **10. Correspondence**

Two job adverts - BCC carers and HC gritter drivers. Both been put on Facebook

Thank you card for micro grant from the 'Soup to Go' group.

#### **11. Upcoming events**

SFCT Winter wonderland – 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Loch Ness Luvvies social evenings – 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2022

#### **12. AOCB**

DF told the meeting that the Forestry have a draft visitor strategy and they are looking for feedback

<https://forestryandland.gov.scot/visit>

#### **13. Next meeting**

All agreed not to meet in December. Next meeting will be on -

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022 19.30, by Zoom video conferencing