

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 22ND FEBRUARY 2022

HELD BY ZOOM CONFERENCING

1. Present

Patrick Haston (PH), Simon Hargreaves (SH) Jim Cameron (JC), Gill Gray (GG), Craig Lightbody (CL),
Cllr Margaret Davidson & Cllr David Fraser

Public attending

Tony Foster (SFCT)

Apologies

Sharon Ferguson (Admin)

2. Adoption of minutes – 25th January 2022

Minutes of the CC meeting on 25/01/2022 were adopted as a true record of the meeting
Proposed by JC, seconded by CL

3. Matters arising

None

4. Micro Grant Applications

None

5. Reports

Treasurer

- There has not been much change in the past month. As of today, the Main account is at £18,977.42 and the Micro-Grant account at £3353.96.
- The big news is that Digital banking has now been set up for our Virgin Money accounts. This is a dual-authorised system, just like us needing two signatures on a cheque. The first online payment was successfully achieved today.

Police Report

No report received

Fire Report

Nothing to report

Boleskine Community Care

No report received

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust

- COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN - Nick Wright and I have been meeting with relevant external stakeholders who will engage with community led action groups to be set up from March 14th to the end of March. The Skills and Volunteering Audit continues until the end of February.
- TRUST EMPLOYMENT AND TENDERS - We have employed Sarah Byrne and Sharon Ferguson as a job share Fundraisers role. Sharon will work Mon to Wed and Sarah Wed to Fri. They start 28th February and 2nd March
- COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE REVIEW - Community Enterprise sent out surveys to Board and Staff members as part of their review, to be filled in by 25th February. This will identify any actions we need to take forward
- SSE - SSE paid additional benefit funds that had been capped at 3% (the RPI being 4.6%). We have had no feedback on the audit for Wildside and information sent to SSE. SSE needed copies of our CAP for other communities. SSE are aware of draw down request for Errogie and will take us through that process.
- Q&A - We ran a Q&A online with myself and Kirsty. 5 people attended and we talked about Errogie, time spent on projects, Foyers Bay access, Riverside Field and Wildside land (see below). We aim to do this monthly.
- PROJECTS AND ENGAGEMENT
- WILDSIDE - The Steering Group was due to meet this week but was postponed due to illness. The new pathway around the building is complete.
- ERROGIE - The Errogie Consultation took place and the Volunteer day took place on 26th February.
- RIVERSIDE - We have received a letter from Highland Council about progressing with the Riverside Field Planning application. Keep looking at the Project Updates on the website.
- INVERFARIGAIG - The Forest School and surrounding land has been costed.
- Other land at Inverfarigaig - Forestry are following up with colleagues to try and get final approval to instruct solicitors to progress the disposal.
- PLAYPARKS - We have a costed piece of land at Riverside where the Play Park is currently
- HOUSING - Community Housing Trust plan to proceed with their development at Inverfarigaig following their consultation. They did not require support from the Trust.
- BROADBAND - The Broadband contract has been signed. This included signing off the wayleave at by the Hall Committee. We are waiting on next steps from CFWN re lease at Dunmaglass Estate.
- CRAFTS AND FOOD FAIR - This will be taken forward by our Fundraising Officers.
- EVENTS - Crafts and Food fair, Jubilee celebrations, Highland Games, Fireworks and Winter Wonderland will be taken to the Board for consideration.
- COMMUNITY COUNCIL - Payment of Grant has been made to the Community Council.
- BCC - Payment of Grant has been made to BCC who have recruited their new SDO.
- TOILETS - Toilets are proceeding with Carlene and Sharon in touch with each other re payments.
- MAGAZINE - The next magazine is due out soon. Content is being designed before print and will be posted out as before.
- INFORMATION - 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://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/news)
- If you have any questions in between Trust meetings on any of these matters please contact Tony at tony-ceo@sfctrust.org.uk
- Check out each section here [Projects | Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust \(stratherrickcommunity.org.uk\)](https://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/projects)

6. Toilets

As part of the building warrant, on 10th Feb, the appointed engineer, Fleming Engineering Limited, attended the toilet site along with an operator from A A Stewart Plant hire, to do investigative digs for the SER certificate that is required for the building warrant. All went well and the engineer was happy with the ground. Hit hard ground pretty quickly so minimal foundations will be required. This report will allow the QS to finish the costings and get the job out to tender which we hope will be very soon.

The sub-group will meet again soon to make final decisions on interior fit out once we have cost and durability feedback on the options that have been favoured.

CC admin and the Trust's finance officer have met a couple of times to go over the financial set up and also met with Leona Joiner this wee who deals with the RTIF for HC and went over the claim form process.

7. Planning

22/00522/TPNO | Installation of 25m high steel lattice tower and associated ancillary works | Land 5960M SE of Keeper's Cottage Easter Aberchalder Gorthleck Inverness – *no comment*

22/00557/S37 | Two Span Spur of 33kV Overhead Line | Land 155M North of Glen Mhor Lodge Whitebridge – *CL to look into this one*

22/00473/FUL | Formation of access, parking and drainage for masterplan | Land 100M NW of Linden Grays Park Foyers – *Discussion had about Community liaison for this project. Main change is improved parking for two houses by the access. No comment on planning application.*

22/00424/FUL | Erection of 6 houses, road and services | Land 140M NW of 1 Hillhead Inverfarigaig – *Previous residents' concerns were listened to & new consultation took place. No comment*

22/00296/FUL | Erection of house | Land 590M North West of Maryland Whitebridge-*no comment*

22/00264/PIP | Erection of house and garage with associated works (Renewal of 18/02585/PIP) | Land 60M NE of Highfield Gorthleck – *No comment*

8. Renewables

- Loch Mhor Dam – SSE to attend the Mar meeting to update on the completion of the works
- 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 dealt with in June 22
- 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 not started yet.
- Bhlaraidh – Extension plans passed at last planning meeting but three turbines less
- Loch Liath – same as above for location. At pre-planning stage
- Loch Kemp - proposed hydro pump storage at Dell Estate – Comment was submitted.
- Culachy Wind Farm (Fred. Olsen Renewables) – invite to meet. On an estate in Fort Augustus) at pre-scoping stage. Will invite to a future CC meeting.

9. Roads

Following the gritter going off the road at Trinloist, the ditch is now filled with grit and will cause a drainage issue. DF to pass onto the roads department. CL working on compiling a list of edge work needing done. TF offered to publish the list of works that the CC previous reported from CL's list and show what work has been done from that list.

10. Correspondence

None

11. Upcoming events

Mon 28th Feb, Wildside Centre - Public meeting with Caledonian Concepts (organisers of Etape and Loch Ness Marathon). To discuss plans and talk about residents' concerns.

Mon 14th March, Wildside Centre – Soup to go 1st Birthday.

12. AOCB

TF suggested that at the next joint CC/Trust meeting that resilience planning is on the agenda. JC offered to bring up this issue at the next Stratherrick Hall meeting as that building was part of the previous plan.

Discussion had about guests attending the next meeting; SSE were due to attend tonight to discuss completion of the works at Loch Mhor but couldn't make it and the developers of Loch Kemp are also wanting to attend to discuss plans for pump storage on Dell estate. Decision was to have them at separate meetings; SSE in March and Lock Kemp in April.

CL raised the issue that the contractor at the Loch Mhor site had been told to leave the hard standing on the site which contravenes SSE's planning permission which states that the land must be returned to how it was. This is to be reported to planning and discussed with SSE next month. DF highlighted the information that the Soup to go group had shared about their story in the last year and what they had achieved.

DF also informed the members that he had met with Sharon Ferguson (CC admin) at the park at Upper Foyers to look at plans for a disabled access and parking bay. HC could contribute £1k towards this work and he would like to involve the Trust in the project too.

A member of the Community contacted DF about access to the boats and permits for salmon fishing which has been restricted as the Camping and Caravan club who now own the caravan site, don't open until the Easter weekend. Neither the member of the Community or DF have had a response from the caravan club but DF suggested that when they do open, discussions are had to look at how access will work when the site is closed. TF happy to be involved in the discussions for the trust. CL informed the meeting that Foyers lodge sell permits too.

CL thanked Cllr DF for his excellent communication on his Community work.

13. Next meeting

Next meeting will be on - Tuesday 29th March 2022 19.30, by Zoom video conferencing unless otherwise directed by Highland Council