

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 29<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022

THE WILDSIDE CENTRE, WHITEBRIDGE

WITH VIDEO LINK OPTION

**1. Present**

Patrick Haston (PH), Simon Hargreaves (SH), Mark Hindley (MH) and Craig Lightbody (CL)

**Public attending**

Cllr David Fraser, Cllr Chris Balance, Sharon Ferguson (Admin) and Tony Foster

**Apologies**

Gill Gray

**2. Adoption of minutes – 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

Minutes of the CC meeting on 25/10/2022 were adopted as a true record of the meeting

Proposed by CL, seconded by MH.

**3. Matters arising**

Loch Ness Festival – Graeme Ambrose awaiting decision on letter of support from the CC for the new event; admin to email all members for comments and questions for the organiser

Housing allocation policy – for Community Housing Trust houses at Inverfarigaig; Admin to ask Inverfarigaig Residents Association for their thoughts, circulate Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston's housing allocation policy and ask Community Housing Trust to the next meeting

Glass recycling – both bins are full; admin to report to HC. Request a sign with number to report

Mobile library – This is now coming to the Wildside Centre on a Wednesday but still a van as the proper bus is off the road so you have to order books. Admin to contact to arrange a poster

**4. Micro Grant Applications**

Stratherrick Primary Parent Council - £139.90 to pay for all nursery children to go for Christmas trip to Simpsons Garden Centre as too young for the Panto – all agreed

Gary Fentiman - £336.00 to cover fees to run Foyers Bay Radio station for a year – all agreed

**5. Reports**

**Treasurer**

Main: £20, 423.58 (after today's payment of £200 to Peter Leyden)

Micro-Grant: £4,548.72

**Police Report**

No report received

Admin has spoken with BCC and they are keen to host a fraud prevention and online safety presentation as offered in the October police report.

## **Fire Report**

No report received

## **Boleskine Community Care**

Adverts will be going out next month for employment opportunities with BCC. Please look out on the website, Facebook and SFCT news for more information.

Winter Vaccine Clinic - A Very successful take up of the local vaccine clinic held at the BCC Hub on 12th November. 96 people took up the opportunity to use a local venue reducing the huge carbon footprint that would have been generated going to Inverness. BCC would like to thank the NHS vaccine team for an efficient and well organised clinic.

Dec Activities: - The Music for Health group are planning a Christmas singing session on Thursday 15th Dec 2pm. It is open to anyone who wants to join in/play/listen. Christmas Coffee morning on Wednesday 13th December will also have a table of small homemade Christmas gifts for sale.

South Loch Ness News - Volunteers are working with BCC to produce a small monthly newsletter. December's issue will be out soon and can be picked up at the hub or at the Foyers Stores.

Community Transport Scheme funded by Highland Council– continues to be an important facility in our community – please contact our coordinator Kit on 07944 228830 to book a journey.

Boleskine Community Care would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas!

## **Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust**

### **WINTER WONDERLAND**

Takes place on 9th & 10th of this month. Fireworks took place on 5th Nov. The feedback survey registered 7.5 out of 10.

### **LOCAL PLACE PLAN WORK**

126 people attended the sessions held last week and the week before. We expect to see initial feedback from Friday and hope to do a presentation to the community in the New Year.

### **COST OF LIVING**

We have funded subsidised fish and chip and social interaction event at Fish Friday in the Whitebridge, Give One Take One winter jackets at Wildside, Food and Fuel Grants through the Knockie Trust (11 have applied so far) and received funding to add more to Wildside Wednesday and local larders. We are promoting an opportunity to get local funding for energy efficiency for your homes from Highland Council using an SFCT code and grants for self build homes.

### **AGM**

We had a successful AGM. All Directors were re-elected, with a new Director joining us and co-opting another.

### **PLANNING**

There is a Loch Kemp consultation event in the Wildside Centre on 7th December. We have not yet heard the result of our planning application re Riverside and have provided drawings and a response to a question re the Slipway.

### **NEW STAFF**

We'd like to welcome Matthew Rhodes as our new Building and Facilities Officer.

### **THE PULSE SURVEY**

Those 45 people who filled out the Pulse Survey in 2022 were roughly in the same age range as last year, same male/female gender split (40%/60%) and based in similar locations as last year (33.33% Foyers, 26.67% Gorthleck, 11.11% Whitebridge, 17.78% Errogie and 11.11% from Inverfarigaig). This survey was promoted over 17 days via email, website, social media and word of mouth. With 338 occupied households in the area over 10% of households are represented, and therefore this gives us a high degree of accuracy that these results reflect the thoughts of the community as a whole. Four people chose not to give their names and, as last year, we have kept those responses in the results.

Developed in association with SCDC (Scottish Community Development Centre) we were advised not to expect too much of a change from last year. However in some areas we did and, on the whole, we saw an improvement across the board. Thank you to those who filled in the survey. We know we can always do better, and will aim to do so, but the results can be seen at –

<https://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/30-nov-2022-pulse-survey-results?fbclid=IwAR1zYXzE0-mZ9DxsXi8oAcKmTorFbvdo6vFp-QnE-G0aNL7bK7tha4YoJrc>

MH questioned the low amount of people that had taken part in the pulse survey (45) and how that gives a balanced view; Tony Foster said it was about 10% and should still give an accurate picture but will look into other ways for people to complete the survey for next time.

CL asked about the Fireworks as previously the members had been assured they would be quieter fireworks and were advertised as such but they were very noisy; Tony explained that quieter ones had been ordered but that wasn't what was delivered. CL asked if the Trust would consider not doing fireworks next year; Tony said he would take this to the group that run the fireworks

## 6. Toilets

The Contractors Compass are making great progress, with all the foundation work, drainage, and underfloor heating complete and the start of the frame is now up.

Handover date is scheduled for the 1st week of March 2023

## 7. Planning

22/05569/PNO, Erect agricultural building, Land 105M SW Of Newlands Errogie – *No comment*

## 8. Renewables

- Aberarder (SSE) – going ahead with original plans for 12 turbines at 130m
- Cloiche (SSE) – Await outcome of planning. Due to be heard in Nov 22
- Glenshero (SIMEC) – **Refused at public enquiry, no right to appeal**
- Dell (Coriolis) – Scoping application in to alter the original approved plans from 14 turbines to 10, amend height from 130.5m to 200m and to vary the layout – Admin has invited developers to a CC meeting. No reply yet. Admin will chase up again.
- Corriegarth Extension (BayWar.e) – Objected to by Highland council, will go to public enquiry
- Bhlaraidh – at Glenmoriston. Extension plans passed but three turbines less
- Loch Liath – same as above for location. At pre-planning stage
- Red John – Pump storage at Dores, approved at public inquiry. No further updates received

- Loch Kemp - proposed hydro pump storage at Dell Estate. **Community consultation ahead of full planning to be held in the Wildside centre on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022.** Developers meeting with the CC following the consultation
- 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

Grit for grit bins has been delivered. Admin to ask if the local firemen are able to fill the bins, as they have very kindly done previously. Admin to make a map of the grit bins.

CL has reported major potholes on the U1217 (fire station road).

MH raised that the wooden bridge at Ardochy on the Loch Ness 360 route is damaged; Admin to report to VILN/Ranger

## 10. Correspondence

Notification received that a 40 mph speed limit will be getting implemented in Inverfarigaig.

## 11. Upcoming events

7<sup>th</sup> December – Loch Kemp Community Consultation @ the Wildside Centre

9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> December – Winter Wonderland @ the Wildside Centre

Warm Wednesday – Every Wednesday at the Wildside Centre. Free Wi-Fi and Tea/Coffee

## 12. AOCB

CL raised the consultation on National Parks; NatureScot has been commissioned by Scottish Government to provide advice on the role and approach to National Parks and how areas for new National Parks could be selected, and they are currently consulting on these issues. The deadline for responses is 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Scottish Ministers are committed to establishing at least one new National Park by the end of this Parliament. This work is prior to that selection process.

SH raised that members of the Community have raised with him that there is issues getting doctor's appointments. There may be a feeling that you should only contact the doctor in an emergency but this is not the case. Admin to contact the surgery to ask them to clarify.

CL brought up as a member of the Community that the group of residents at Lower Foyers feel ignored by the developers of the Riverside Field, the Community Trust. They feel they would like to be consulted like the residents of Errogie were for the Church. The 16<sup>th</sup> July 2022 was the last meeting with the trust.

MH raised the issue that the Community Trust do too much communication electronically.

## 13. Next meeting

Next meeting will be on - Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 19.30 Venue TBC