

FEUGHDEE WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held in Strachan Hall

Thursday 31st January 2019 at 7.30p.m.

Present:

Community Councillors: Lynsey Craig (Chair), Jill Randalls (Sec), Sam Wylde, Marijke Stallaert, Ian Bertram, Cecilia Rogers, Peter Tyrrell, Alice Lewsey, Darcy Curry, Ross Clephan (Associate member Treasurer), Iain Adams (Associate member Planning)

Banchory and Mid Deeside Councillors:

Cllr. E. Durno

Members of the public: 6

Minutes: Irene Addison

1. Apologies

Simon Richards, John Andrew, Jelle Andrew, Katy Rumbles

2. Minutes of November Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting approved

Proposed by: Marijke Stallaert

Seconded by: Cecilia Rogers

3. Police Report:

No police were in attendance. An email report was received to the effect that little crime had been reported to Police Scotland over the past two months. There has been attendance at several road traffic collisions and closures of the Cairn O'Mount road. Recently this included an incident where several cars and their occupants were stranded near the summit and had to be rescued.

In collaboration with Crimestoppers, Police Scotland have launched the County Lines Campaign which highlights the pain and suffering that criminals from cities south of the border are inflicting on vulnerable people in Scotland's rural and coastal towns. Members of the public are urged to report any concerns or suspicions they may have in relation to such activity.

Ian Bertram had forwarded, to FWCC members, the Police updates for the Upper, Lower and Mid Deeside area, published in December 2018.

4. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer R. Clephan provided a full, written and verbal report detailing funds currently available, restricted, committed and projected.

Summarised as follows:

Balance as at 31 st . January 2019	£7044.62
Restricted funds	- £2024.66
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Available (unrestricted) Funds	£5019.96
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Financial commitments to y/e 31/3/19	£4690.40

Community Benefit Funds available £6503.00 (excluding RPI of approx £2422).

An invoice has been received from Community Enterprise Ltd for £7200 for consultation and preparation of the draft research report for the FWCC Community Action Plan. Application has been made to Local Energy Scotland to release this amount from the CARES grant.

Approval given for the C.E invoice to be paid.

The Treasurer also requested approval to reimburse Inchmarlo Hall for CAP expenses (tea, coffee, foam noticeboards and printer ink) totalling £121.16. An invoice for Inchmarlo Hall hire fees has been paid. There was a discussion regarding who was responsible for the payment of hall hire fees for Community Action Plan research meetings/ drop in sessions, and who was responsible for payment of refreshments and other incidentals. It was agreed to find out who holds the contract for Community Enterprises, so that all future payment of hall invoices can be dealt with accurately. Whilst it was generally agreed that no one should be out of pocket for expenses the invoice will be investigated further.

Action JR

Online Banking arrangements still require signatures from three designated parties and this will be attended to at earliest opportunity.

5. Councillor's Report

Cllr. Durno reported that changes to refuse collection have been approved despite some opposition. These arrangements will be rolled out in April 2020 to every household in Aberdeenshire.

It is anticipated this new arrangement will encourage behaviour change in relation to irregular recycling habits by:

- ~ providing a smaller bin for normal waste (180 litre)
- ~ using both large bins for recycling
- ~ reducing collections to once every three weeks

The new bins are to be provided by Zero Waste Scotland.

Concern was expressed regarding the removal and/or reduction of facilities for disposing of recycling materials at different locations such as supermarket car parks. This is inconvenient

for the general public wishing to avoid overflowing bins at home.

It was advised that anyone with concerns regarding waste should contact Philip MacKay of Aberdeenshire Waste. Questions regarding the new arrangements may also be raised. There was a discussion surrounding the end of free parking with a strong consensus that this did not promote economic development for the local community.

6. Secretary's Report

The Secretary had forwarded all Consultations and relevant correspondence. Thanks were expressed for Portia Clark having been a youth member of FWCC. As she is now 16 years old she has had to resign her post. FWCC are looking for a new youth member to represent Strachan.

7. Local Development Plan/Main Issues Report

Aberdeenshire Council has just released the MIR in preparation for the LDP. There is a consultation period from now until 8th April 2019. This is for members of the public as well as Community Councils.

There is a monthly newsletter to keep people updated and public drop-in sessions at 12.30–7pm 27th February in Aboyne Victory Hall and 7th March in Banchory Town Hall. Peter Tyrrell will attend.

Concerns were raised regarding proposed housing developments at Inchmarlo Retirement Village (MR050) and at the Golf Course (MR068). It was agreed to contact Piers Blaxter to see if it would be possible to contact the Developers so that proposed plans could be explained and discussed. **Action JR**

There was some concern that plots of land previously designated for a new Academy and a new Health Centre were in the latest MIR as proposed sites for housing development.

8. Wind Farms

Glendye Windfarm

At the Marr Area Committee meeting on Tuesday 29th January the decision of the committee was to agree that the application be referred to the Infrastructure Services committee with a recommendation to object to the proposed windfarm development. Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee also supported recommendations from the local authority to voice its objection.

This will now go to Infrastructures Services Committee on 12th March who will formulate a response to present to the Scottish Government.

Fetteresso

Natural Power are currently working on the Environmental Assessment Report which they hope will be ready for submission in late spring.

Natural Power will be in contact around the time of submission to notify FWCC about the

submission and details of making a representation.

A meeting is planned with local community councils to discuss the shared ownership option.

9. Planning

Pennine House, Collonach, Strachan

Re-submission of permission for split feu and formation of access.

No Issues raised

Steadings at Inchmarlo Home Farm

Demolition of redundant storage buildings. Conversion of steading to 4 dwelling houses.

This is simply the renewal of lapsed planning permission. No issues or concerns raised

Knockburn Loch Leisure Complex

Permission sought for the removal of noise restrictions previously imposed.

At the moment there is permission for 12 events using tannoy's but no music.

It was proposed to lodge an objection.

This was unanimously agreed apart from one abstention due to a conflict of interest.

Action Iain Adams.

10. Community Action Plan

Lynsey Craig gave a concise update on the Community Action Plan (CAP)

A number of stakeholder meetings have been held in both Strachan and Inchmarlo Halls. A draft copy of the research report is being prepared and there will be a launch of the final Community Action Plan.

There was a Joint Meeting at Marr Area, which Jill and Lynsey attended as representatives of FWCC. Two Community Councils had been invited to discuss their respective CAPs and explain the process they went through to develop them. The meeting had been very productive with fresh ideas, contacts and knowledgeable advice being made available.

Marr Area had asked if they could view the final draft CAP. It was advised that time-lines would need to be revised for this purpose. Mid to late March is proposed for the final launch of the document (CAP) – dates to be confirmed. The final draft will come before FWC Councillors for approval prior to the final version being printed. **Action LC**

Appreciation was expressed for Lynsey Craig's work and input to date.

11. Transport, Roads & Infrastructure

Problems with the Web cam link on the Aberdeenshire website had been extensively reported and the problem has now been rectified.

Subsequent to a request from the Police for the web-cam to be upgraded for the monitoring of through-traffic, both Police Scotland and Roads Department were approached regarding the possibility of funding. There was a positive response from Aberdeenshire Council who confirmed that funding could be available.

Deeside Computers have been approached for a formal quote.

John Andrew has communicated with Deeside Computers regarding data streaming and subsequent data security. He has also contacted the Information Commissioners Office for advice on data security.

Next steps would be to forward the formal quote to Aberdeenshire Council, further discussion on GDPR and data collection, and making contact with Braemar and Glenshee snow gate web cam operators who are following a similar line of enquiry. **Action John Andrew**
Thanks were expressed to John for the amount of time and effort put into this project so far.

A member of the public expressed his frustration at the lack of co-operation from BT Open Reach regarding his broadband service. This appears to be due to the fact that it is an exchange-only line. Despite repeated contact with BT he has been unable to find the way forward.

It was advised that he should contact Andrew Bowie MP who has interests in this area of communication. Ian Bertram to contact the individual to discuss further.

The same member of the public also raised concerns regarding surface water creating a hazardous situation on the 'S' bend at Strachan School, particularly when temperatures drop. Water is draining from the School Wild Garden, down the access road and onto the main road. In addition, the salt grit bins situated at the school entrances have not been replenished. Cllr Durno agreed to find out ownership of the access road in the first instance. Cllr. Durno reminded everyone of the facility on Aberdeenshire Council website for reporting such matters.

12. Youth and Education

Marijke Stallaert reported that there had been a meeting regarding the future of Strachan Primary School on 6th December 2018. The whole community had been informed of the meeting by post.

Due to its unique location and wild garden facility, Aberdeen Council have shown some interest in using the school as a 'forest school' which facilitates outdoor education and serves also to help children with social and emotional difficulties.

The next meeting is planned for April and some consideration needs to be given to any alternative uses the Council may consider supporting.

There was a short discussion surrounding how to promote the assets of the school to Aberdeenshire Council. Marijke will draft a short report for the newsletter.

Anne Horsefall has reported that the Strachan Youth Group is going well. However she expressed that she was beginning to find the commitment too much and would be keen to hand over the running of the group to someone else.

13. Midhill Community Benefit Applications

Peter Tyrrell reported as follows:

Current Fund Balance is: £6,503

This includes the January Mid-hill 2 payment but not the RPI, which is due on February 14th

There are 4 applications:

1. Strachan Youth Group £1000 from October 23rd
2. Inchmarlo Community Workshop £1730.40
3. Inchmarlo Village Hall £576.00
4. Strachan Youth Group £1000 dated January 30th

Next meeting will be on Thursday 14th February 2019 at 7.30pm Strachan Hall.

14. Community Safety

Ian Bertram reported that he had attended a Community Safety meeting in January 2019. It was reported that crime was not so much of an issue in the policing of the community. However, there was great concern over instances of the exploitation of vulnerable people and households, where there had been attempted coercion into criminal activity - commonly known as 'cuckooing'.

The fire chief also expressed concern over the lack of recruitment of retained firefighters. Due to time restraints, Ian Bertram will forward the minutes of the meeting by email to councillors. **Action Ian Bertram**

15. Communication

Discussion was postponed till February meeting due to time restraints

16. Community Issues

Oil Club - To be added to next months agenda. **Action Katy Rumbles**

Free Parking – Cllr. Durno had already outlined the current proposal by Aberdeenshire Council. It appears that there are no plans for public consultation.

17. A.O.B.

FWCC are still awaiting a quote for three noticeboards from Inchmarlo Community Workshop.

Action Peter Tyrrell

A reminder was given about the vacancy for a junior member for Strachan.

Lynsey Craig stated that a member of FWCC had sent an email to Simon Richards, outlining a number of concerns. The email had been copied to Janelle Clarke and Kirsty Macleod at Marr Area. It was proposed that a Special Meeting be called to discuss these issues.

Action: Lynsey Craig to arrange suitable date and venue.

18. Date of next meeting

Next meeting will be on the 28th February 2019 at Inchmarlo Hall 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 21.45hrs.