

FEUGHDEE WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Approved Minutes of Meeting held in Inchmarlo Hall
Thursday 28th February 2019 at 7.30p.m.

(Please note amendments to sections 6 and 15 made at the subsequent meeting on 28th March 2019)

Present:

Community Councillors: Simon Richards (Chair) Jill Randalls (Sec), Lynsey Craig, Sam Wylde, Marijke Stallaert, Cecilia Rogers, Peter Tyrrell, John Andrew, Jelle Andrew, Katy Rumbles, Alice Lewsey, Darcy Curry, Ross Clephan (Associate Member Treasurer), Iain Adams (Associate Member Planning)

Banchory and Mid Deeside Councillors:

Cllr. A. Ross, Cllr. R. Bruce

Members of the public: 13

Minutes: Irene Addison

1. Apologies:

Ian Bertram, Cllr. E Durno

2. Minutes of November Meeting:

Minutes of the previous meeting approved

Proposed by: Cecilia Rogers

Seconded by: Sam Wylde

3. Meeting held 26/02/19

The following action points were raised at the meeting. All councillors, apart from Junior members were in attendance.

- S.Richards (Chair) to arrange a meeting with an independent mediator (preferably within the next month).
- Training sessions to be organised.
- A meeting with J.Clarke on 28th March 3pm to review points raised in the Marr Area Report on FWCC February 2018. Simon (Chair), Jill (Secretary) and Peter Tyrrell to attend.

Action Points raised during the second part of the meeting concerning the Midhill Community Benefit Fund are:

- Annual review now overdue. Date to be arranged.
- Peter Tyrrell to give a presentation on the Midhill Community Benefit fund for all members.

The above action points were unanimously approved by all members who had been present at the meeting.

4. Police Report:

No police were in attendance and no email report received. It was reported that there had been an attempted ram-raid robbery of the cash machine from Torphins Scotmid Store. A forklift type vehicle was used and three other vehicles were also involved. The general public are urged to report any information or suspicious activity in the area over the past few days.

Cllr. Ross reported that damage had occurred at the eco-garden at Banchory Primary School and at Bellfield Car

Park shelters. Police request that any information or suspicious behaviour be reported by dialling 101.

5. Election of Junior Member:

Nicola Milne was unanimously approved and welcomed as a Junior Member of FWCC representing Strachan. This was a replacement for Portia Clarke, who had to step down due to age restriction.

6. 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 27th February 2019	£5352.40
Restricted funds	- £1961.54
Available (unrestricted) Funds	£3390.86
Financial commitments to y/e 31/3/19	£3224.28
(This was amended on 28 th March to	£3217.69)
Community Benefit Funds available	£8853.00

It was also reported that:

- The Community Projector and Screen have been purchased (£1369.10) and are now available for use by the FWCC community.
- Funds for the Community Notice Boards are available.
- An application is to be submitted to Midhill Community Benefit fund for continued funding of the Glendye Web-cam.

Community Enterprise to pay for their use of Halls and refreshments in relation to the Community Action Plan. Treasurer to submit invoices.

Approval given to reimburse the sum of £114.57 for CAP expenses incurred. It was stressed by the Chair that in future all expenses must have prior approval before reimbursement will be made.

7. Councillor's Report

Cllr. Bruce reported that a full review of the agreement regarding work requirements and maintenance of the Scolty to Strachan footpath is to be undertaken by Aberdeenshire Council.

Marr Area Partnership Community Forum 19th March at The Sanctuary, West Church, Banchory. Topics will include Health and Social Care Partnership Strategic Plan, Tarland Caomunity Composting Experience and an Introduction to Study Visits.

Cllr Ross gave details of the Business Gateway Tourism Workshop in Banchory Wednesday 6th March at the Douglas Arms Hotel in Banchory 12.30 – 15.30pm. BDI have recently advertised for a new town coordinator.

Councillor Ross also intimated that the allocation of spaces for patients in front of the Bellfield Surgery is insufficient for purpose and that application is being made for additional parking to be made available.

8. Secretary's Report:

All requests for consultation have been forwarded to members. These have included:

Aberdeenshire Drug and Alcohol Partnership drop in session at Banchory No 1 café on 7th March. Katy Rumbles to attend if possible.

Consultation on Fireworks – open until 6th May

Review of proposed bus timetables 12th – 22nd February

Consultation regarding off-street parking ends 11th March.

The Secretary reminded members of the importance of not forwarding email addresses outwith FWCC membership. The only email in the public domain is the FWCC Secretary email address. It was also noted that on no account should members of the public or Midhill Applicants be blind copied into FWCC internal email discussions.

9. Local Development Plan/Main Issues Report

It was reported that there had been two replies from Developers regarding MR029 and MR050

Inchmarlo Development (MR050)

Mr Charles Skene gave a report on the proposals for development of the Inchmarlo Retirement Village. Whilst plans are still evolving, it is proposed to increase the size of the development to include 120 new homes at the back of the site with a mix of individual houses and flats. A wide range of accommodation will be available to suit requirements.

A courtyard type arrangement of flats, with a central area suitable for interaction and recreation, is under consideration. Social housing will not be available, but the possibility of rentals would be taken into consideration.

In answer to a question about a footpath passing through IRV Mr Skene acknowledged there are concerns regarding speed limits along the A93 and at the entrance to IRV (with the junction of the main road). However a proposal to form a footpath through IRV would need consent from a number of different landowners, homeowners and various organisations.

There is a bi-annual meeting with current owners at which the proposals will be laid out and opportunity given to ask questions and express any concerns.

Deebank Development (MR029 and MR030):

There was a response from Claire Coutts regarding the Site for Housing, North of B974, Deebank, Banchory (MR029) and Site for Visitor/Heritage Centre, North of B974, Deebank, Banchory (MR030). MR029 would be a small scale, low-density development. Although lying close to the SAC it would be outwith the area. An alternative location has been proposed for the Heritage Centre so MR030 would not be a preferred site. Due to the shortage of time Jill will send the full response to members, who can then pass to interested parties.

Action JR

Alexander Park Development MR076 (NB This discussion took part towards the end of the meeting but is included here for clarity).

Mr McNab explained that there are two linked bids (MR076 and MR075). The proposal is to move the Athletic Field (at Alexander Park) to Woodend, and provide athletic changing facilities and storage at this site for shared use with the rugby club. This would require the omitting of the Park and Ride facility and all weather football pitch previously suggested for the Woodend site.

The proposal is for 40 houses at Alexander Park. This may involve some tree loss. A minimum of 25% low cost housing is proposed.

Mr McNabb answered questions from members of the public and FWC Councillors.

Cllr Bruce highlighted the importance of individuals commenting on the MIR and various policies. Both negative and positive comments are of use to the planning dept. for future planning development in the Shire.

Members of the public are encouraged to fill in a response form, as well as contacting FWCC with their comments, which will help shape our own response.

There is a drop-in session on Thursday 7th April 12.30 – 7pm at Banchory Town Hall.

Peter Tyrell had attended the drop-in session in Aboyne and obtained copies of the MIR, LDP and Response forms. Help is available for anyone through Planning Aid Scotland.

Action: Comments from members of the public to be forwarded to the Secretary for discussion at the next meeting.

10. Fettereso

An email from Natural Power suggested that Drop In sessions were being planned following the submission of the application at the end of April. The sessions will be an informal opportunity for the public and interested stakeholders to ask questions about the proposed extension to Midhill Windfarm (Fetteresso) and the application process. There will be information about Shared Ownership and a representative from Local Energy Scotland

11. Planning

There were no new planning applications to report. Jill Randalls had received an objection, from a member of the public, to the application to have noise restrictions removed at Knockburn Loch. Cllr Ross intimated that it could no longer be submitted as the closing date for representations had passed.

12. Community Action Plan

Lynsey Craig provided a progress report on the Feughdee West Community Action Plan. There will be three 'products' as outputs from this work:

1. **A Research Report** – This is a large document that identifies priorities and sits behind everything. Holds information that will be very useful when filling in applications in order to access future funding pots.
2. **An Executive Summary** – A short version of the Research Report. This will be as a leaflet for use on public noticeboards, leaving in village halls, library or for letter drops.
3. **A folding card** - This will be a short summary of the projects and can be used for mail drops.

All three will be presented to FWCC for final sign-off.

Awaiting feedback from Marr Area Committee regarding the Research Report but otherwise we are close to having the final draft version of each of these items.

Launch events for the CAP now need to be considered. It was concluded that April was the better option. It was stressed how valuable the CAP is for the community and it is important for everyone to be involved and to support the launch.

13. Transport, Roads & Infrastructure

John Andrews reported that a quote for £1100 has been received from Deeside Computers, for the proposed upgrading of the web cam. Deeside Computers advised against data streaming, as this would generate an on going expense.

Action: J. Andrews to forward quote to Aberdeenshire Council and Police Department.

Regarding the problem of water on School Lane causing problems, especially in cold weather, (see January 2019 Minutes) it has been established that the water is coming from the School Wild Garden. Info to be passed on to Aberdeenshire Council.

Action: J. Andrews will contact Angela Funk or R. Newlands for clarification on who should take responsibility.

14. Youth and Education

Katy Rumbles and her children had attended the Youth Group. It was well attended and provided a great range of interesting activities, including puppet show, and something to eat. The £4 fee was taken on a voluntary and 'honesty box' basis as it was deemed that some children would not be able to attend otherwise.

No date as yet for follow up meeting with Aberdeenshire Council Education and Estates department re Strachan School.

Action: JR to ask for progress report by end of March.

15. Midhill Community Benefit Applications.

There will be a review of procedures in April (date tbc).

Peter Tyrrell reported from MHWF sub-committee as follows:

Current Fund Balance is: £5547

There were 4 applications:

- I. Application 24 Strachan Village Youth Group - £1000 (recommended by sub group subject to availability of all required paperwork).
The audited accounts, required as part of the application, were passed to the Secretary at the beginning of this meeting and had not been viewed as part of the application process. Peter Tyrrell had met with the Youth Group organiser and explained the recommendation of the Sub Group meeting.

It was agreed that the Youth Group was an extremely valuable asset within the community for both

young people and more elderly members. Peter Tyrell asked if FWCC could give funding without the need for an application on a regular basis (i.e. a twice yearly grant) but it was felt that this was not within the remit of the Community Benefit Fund, and not what the fund was for. Concern was also raised about this setting a precedent for all other community groups. Concern was again expressed about the reliance of the Strachan Youth Group on the Community Benefit money and the need to encourage resilience, for times when the available money was awarded to other projects. In the meantime it was agreed to adhere to current guidelines for funding.

Application Approved (unanimous).

Action: Procedures and guidelines to be reviewed. Date tbc.

Lynsey Craig raised the concern that a letter sent by the organiser of the Strachan Youth Group, after meeting with Peter Tyrell, was inaccurate and divulged details of discussions at sub group level that should not have been passed on. There was concern that the letter implied that there would be no money forthcoming from the community benefit fund when this was not the recommendation of the sub group. It was also commented on how damaging it was to share discussions with an applicant that had taken place within the sub committee to determine the application.

- II. Application 25 Inchmarlo Hall for folding tables - £576 (recommended by sub group).

Application Approved (unanimous).

- III. Application 26 Inchmarlo Community Workshop. Training for 4 – 5 supervisors - £1730 (recommended by sub group subject to child protection / vulnerable persons policy being attached).

Application Approved (Subject to the above policy being attached. (1 abstention due to conflict of interest).

(Amendment 28.03.19 to - The vulnerable person policy is in the process of being reviewed and will be attached to the application when review complete).

- IV. Application 27 Strachan Village Youth Group - £1000. The recommendation from the sub group was that the application be refused and further applications would be subject to match funding.

Application not approved (not recommended due to lack of accounts and will be reviewed at the next subgroup meeting).

- V. Application 28 Strachan Village Hall - Air Source Heat Pumps - £10,000

The application was not approved at sub group level due to the lack of three quotes. A letter from Strachan Hall committee has since withdrawn the application.

It was agreed that closing dates for applications would be the beginning of March and October, with meeting held mid-March and mid-October prior to FWCC Committee Meeting.

Next meeting will be in April 2019 for the annual review that was missed last year. Date TBC.

Next Fred Olsen funding is due in October 2019

16. Community Safety

Nothing to report

17. Communication

Ian Bertram happy to head up a Communication sub group.

Discussion regarding the purchase of notice boards will be dealt with by email. The Community Benefit fund money is in the FWCC bank account.

18. Community Issues:

Oil Club – Katy Rumbles gave details of an oil buying web site (www.Oil-club.co.uk) based on postcodes and amount of oil required. Oil companies then bid for the order and the lowest bid gets the order saving consumers in the region of 2p–3p per litre. Requires a synchronised a response but does not require an individual co-ordinator.

Bus timetable revision consultation – Deadline for responses missed but in view of the complete loss of a bus

service to Strachan it was felt that a comment should be submitted.

Action JR

Clachnaben Footpath – Email correspondence received that the Cairngorm Club has obtained around £10,000 of funding to carry out repairs. The repairs will be made as soon as possible depending on contractor availability and weather conditions.

Derelict House at Inchmarlo

Peter Tyrell had investigated reports of vandalism at a derelict property and confirmed that this was the case. He has spoken with Cairnton Estate Manager, offering assistance through ICW in return for using property as a store for wood. There has been no reply as yet. Any further communication should be with the Council and FWCC.

Action JR to contact Aberdeenshire Council

Connel Community Council

Connel Community Council and another party carried out works on steps at a local beauty spot. They have received an action for damages for personal injury, after a member of the public slipped on the steps. Advice from Aberdeenshire Council has been forwarded to members. As Community Council we will happily support other groups but will need to be careful what we take on, especially in view of our CAP.

King George V Community Project

Email received from Jean Henretty asking for a volunteer to sit on the new funding panel. Funding is from a turbine developer in Tornaveen. Peter Tyrrell, Lynsey Craig and Audrey Dykes expressed an interest.

Action: JR will send names to Jean Henretty.

Dog Fouling

An email has been received from a member of the public regarding dog fouling at Scolty, and not disposing of plastic bags containing dog poo.

Action: Due to time restraints it was advised that any suggestions as to how to address this issue should be forwarded to Jill.

19. A.O.B.

No other matters were raised.

20. Date of next meeting

Next meeting will be on the 28th March 2019 at Strachan Hall 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 21.45hrs.