

Feughdee West Community Council
July/August Draft Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday 7th August 2019 at 7.30pm
Strachan Hall

Present: Simon Richards (Chair), Jill Randalls (Secretary), Lynsey Craig, Peter Tyrrell, Marijke Staellert, Sam Wylde, Katy Rumbles, Alice Lewsey, Ian Bertram, Cecilia Rogers, John Andrew, Ian Brockie, Iain Adams

Minutes: Irene Addison

Members of the public: 4

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Ross, Cllr Bruce, Cllr Durno, R Clephan (Treasurer), Darcy Curry, Nicola Milne
2. **Approve minutes of previous meeting:**
Proposed: Marijke Staellert,
Seconded: Katy Rumbles.
3. **Police Report:** No police were in attendance due to prior commitment.
An email report was submitted as follows:

As we enter the summer months Police have been dealing with the usual calls and incidents relating to this, including the summer shows and marquees. So far the shows and marquee dances have passed without major incident and we are hopeful that this continues. We have been receiving various reports of road traffic and breach of the peace type offences from within the wider Banchory/Aboyne area but nothing significant of note. Police are still investigating the report of attempted theft of pushbikes from Inchmarlo and there are still active lines of enquiry. It appears to be an isolated incident and police are not aware of any such linked incident.

Police Scotland have recently started to issue mobile working devices within the North East Division. These are large smartphone devices allowing Officers to use Police computer systems whilst outwith the Office. This has already been implemented in 'D' division (Tayside) and the North East is the second area of Scotland to be issued with the devices. These devices have been well received by Officers and should allow them to spend more of their time mobile in the community.

JR had received a Community Watch report of the theft of agricultural chemicals in the north of Aberdeenshire. Police have charged an individual(s) with the theft of a car and motorbikes from a property in Strachan.

4. **Treasurers Report:** The treasurer's report was circulated to members of council. There were no comments or queries arising. The 2019/20 admin grant has been received from Aberdeenshire Council. (£533.35). The final invoice (£2640) from Community Enterprise for the CAP has been paid. This has been reimbursed by LES/CARES.
5. **Councillors Report:** None available.
6. **Secretary's Report:** All correspondence received has been forwarded to members, as appropriate.

02/07 - Aberdeenshire Council Tree Preservation Orders- Land to West of Riverstone House and Inchmarlo Cottage, Banchory.

10/07 Marr Area Bus Forum Minutes.

11/07 Marr Area Partnership - newsletter detailing various grants/funding bodies etc

16/07 D Kerschbaum (Uni of Aberdeen) requires help with dissertation. Looking into commitment of communities to environmental improvement, sustainability and a green economy.

17/07 Banchory Group Practice - require member of FWCC to sit on Patient Participation Group.
 17/07 Marr Area - Info from Information Commissioner regarding GDPR and community councils.
 19/07 Marr Area - Supporting Communities event on 28th Sept at Kenya Village Hall. Book by 31st Aug.
 22/07 Feedback from Marr on Dissolution consultation document.
 22/07 Passenger Transport Unit GrassHOPPER Ticket - Customer Survey ends 31st Aug
 24/07 Request from Inchmarlo resident for boundary change.
 24/07 The Scottish Land Commission has launched a new survey seeking views of communities across Scotland about community engagement in decisions relating to land. consultation ends end of September.
 29/07 Aberdeenshire Architecture and Landscape Design Awards (AALDA) 2020 - Public Nominations Now Open
 30/07 AVA newsletter
 01/08 Scottish Health Council, Health Improvement Scotland - various health related consultations etc
 07/08 Marr Area Partnership - Invitation to Marr Community Ward Forums. North Marr: V&A Halls Ballater (Upstairs Halls).....6.45-9pm, Thursday 12th September 2019
 (Note: Earlier Informal Community Council Catch Up 6.30pm-6.45pm)
 07/08 Police Report

7. Junior Members:

No issues raised or reported.

8. Climate Change

Jeff Rogers of Deeside Climate Action Network gave an insightful slide presentation and talk on the issue of climate change. A question and discussion session followed. It was agreed that this issue would be included on future agendas and Cecilia Rogers agreed to take on responsibility for this area.

9. Proposed Dissolution/Boundary Change of FWCC

It was reported that a letter has been sent to Fred Olsen advising of the intended split, and suggesting an approach to dealing with the future distribution of existing Mid Hill wind farm monies, should the proposed dissolution/boundary change take effect. The matter is being considered and a response will be generated in due course.

JR is working on a Community Consultation Questionnaire for distribution. The draft is being worked on in consultation with Janelle Clarke and Kirsty MacLeod. Cecilia Rogers reported that she and Ian Bertram had been attempting to inform their respective communities of the proposed 'split'.

10. Transport, Roads & Infrastructure

JA reported back on the issue of water leakage at School Lane, which is on going, and needing to be resolved before the winter. Attempts to establish ownership of the drive were continuing.

Aberdeenshire Council maintain they have not adopted the lane despite the presence of Council lighting at the site. It was agreed that a meeting with Roads Department in conjunction with other parties concerned should be brokered. SR happy to be involved

JA had contacted Aberdeenshire Council and established that re-surfacing (gritting) of the new tarmac on Cairn o'Mount is scheduled for the near future.

Work on the Stonehaven road is now complete and re-opened.

11. Education and Youth

MR had followed up on the potential of Strachan School becoming a Forest School by phoning the Head Teachers at Banchory and Aboyne schools. Responses had been encouraging but non-committal

12. Planning:

- **Land south to Grove Cottage Blackhall, Banchory**
 Erection of Dwellinghouse and Garage (2nd renewal of planning permission)
 No comments or concerns.
- **Land to rear of Newhills Cottage, Strachan**
 Change of use of land from agricultural to domestic with possible future request for garage build. It was noted that this application lends itself to sub-division for a later house-building application.

Action: IA to submit comment to Planning Dept regarding potential of future sub division of above

application

13. Fettereso Wind Farm

After questions raised at the public drop in session in July, Natural Power had emailed confirmation that the cabling would be underground and that Community Benefit would be paid, if the application were to be successful.

FWCC submitted a response to the ECU regarding the Fettereso Wind Farm application. Our response was generally in favour but highlighted some concerns, particularly regarding the proposed height of some of the turbines. Further correspondence from Natural Power had suggested that they were willing to consider the revision of the proposed layout by reducing the tip heights of some turbines. A further public drop in session is anticipated in the near future.

14. Mid Hill Community Benefit Fund:

Feedback from review meeting

Mid Hill Sub-Group Chairperson & Secretary roles and responsibilities documents were sent out for review prior to tonight's meeting.

Adoption of Chair & Secretary's roles and responsibilities

Agreed

Adoption of changes to Guidelines

Agreed

The next sub group meeting will be on either 15th or 16th October, two weeks prior to the next FWCC meeting. PT suggested that the next sub group meeting be postponed until the week after in order to ensure that the September RPI element was added. However it was felt that the suggested date should be adhered too as two weeks were required to send out papers, follow up any omissions, clarify any issues etc. Members were reminded that the sub group only provide recommendations on each application and it is FWCC who have final approval. The September RPI will be known when FWCC meet in Oct. LC emphasised the importance of the requirement to complete scoring sheets for each application.

Approval of Application 30 - Portrait Of Our Time £250 for Community Play

PT raised concerns about applications coming from outwith the area and the dangers of setting a precedent. However, it was felt that as POOT encompassed the communities of Strachan as well as Birse, Ballogie and Finzean it was within the geographical area. All residents are actively encouraged to participate. PT reported that to date there has been no feedback from POOT (despite repeated requests) on the benefit of previous contributions from MHWBF. This is part of the signed agreement on the application and failure to comply may jeopardise future applications if not completed. It was unanimously agreed that this current application should be approved with the proviso that the outstanding feed back is submitted.

Application Approved

Strachan Hall Phase 2

Robert Brown and Stirling Marshall (Strachan Hall committee) gave a report on the Strachan Hall renovation project. Phase 1 completed on time and on budget. Phase 2 will include insulating small hall and hallway, some new lighting, replacement of some IR heaters, formation of access ramp and installation of air source heat pumps. Overall cost of Phase 2 is approx. £46000. They would like to seek funding from MHCBF of approx. £20,000. Match funding is in place for the outstanding amount. However, if unable to secure funding from MHCBF then most of the offers of grants will fall away and unable to proceed with Phase 2. The CC responded with the suggestion to submit an application, and with a view that for such an important application (on which rest other critical funding applications) FO may be approached for forward funding as permitted by the scheme.

15. **Communication**

I. Bertram reported that the inaugural meeting of the sub-group took place on 15th July. Meeting notes will be sent out to the work group and to FWCC.

I. B and L.C to meet with Aberdeenshire Council landscape services in order to discuss how best to facilitate the siting of notice boards.

Broadband

S.W reported that communication had been on going with a company looking to erect a trial mast at Ardlair. A conversation with Aberdeen Technical Services is to be arranged and other companies contacted. IB will pull some broadband information together and pass it on to SW.

ACTION - JR will contact Youth members regarding involvement in the communications group.

16. **Request for boundary change at Inchmarlo**

It was reported that a letter had been received from a Mid-Deeside resident requesting a change of community council boundary. They wished to be included within the boundary of FWCC, along with several other properties currently in the Mid Deeside CC area. KR suggested that the decision be deferred until after the result of the proposed FWCC dissolution is known. All were in agreement with this action.

However it was emphasised that residents were still welcome to attend and participate in the monthly FWCC meetings.

Action JR to contact resident and Marr Area and explain decision

17. **Community Matters**

After agreeing and working with the Council last year to sow wild flowers in the old graveyard to avoid the time and expense of mowing, it transpires that the Council has recently strimmed the graveyard and all wild flowers.

It was reported that the water tap was still not working in the 'new graveyard'. IB is of the opinion that there is a problem with the meter.

Action - JR to contact AC re strimming of wildflowers and provision of water.

IBrokie will follow up on the provision and planting of spring bulbs in the autumn.

18. **Any Other Business**

CR agreed to be representative for climate matters on FWCC

Jelle Andrews (a previous Youth Member of FWCC) has expressed an interest in becoming a co-opted member. He was the only Inchmarlo applicant to apply for the vacant seat during the June election but due to an error in his application it was sent back to him and he did not reapply at the time.

Action - JR to forward relevant details to JA

Date of next meeting - 26th September 2019 at 7.30pm ? Strachan Hall

Meeting closed at 21.58hrs