

FEUGHDEE WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Approved Minutes of Meeting held in Inchmarlo Hall
On Thursday 25th May 2017 at 7.30pm

Present:

Community Councillors:

Mr.W.Smith jnr., Mr.I.Brockie, Mr.I.Morrison, Mr. A.Neish, Ms.Lynsey Craig, Mrs.J.Randalls,
Mr.S.Richards, Mrs. M. Stallaert, Mr. P.Tyrrell, Ms.Sam Wylde

Banchory and Mid Deeside Councillors:

Cllr. Ross

Minutes:

Recorded

Members of Public: 14 members of the public were present.

1. Apologies and Absences

Apologies were tendered by Cllr. A.Durno and Cllr. M Bruce

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes Proposed by : Mr. W. Smith

Seconded by : Ms. S. Wylde

3. Treasurer's report:

Opening Balance **£ 1108.09**

Credits:

MHWF for Strachan Youth Group & Web Cam 1851.04

Aberdeenshire Council for annual Web Cam expenses **512.52**

3471.65

Strachan Youth Group **1000.00**

DD to BT Web-cam **63.60** **1063.60**

Closing Balance **£ 2408.05**

4. Police Matters

No Police were in attendance and nothing reported by email.

Cllr. Ross will be in communication with relevant parties to formally establish a point of contact and monthly written report when no police are available to attend.

5. Glendye Wind Farm

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the proposed Glen Dye Wind Farm.

Ms. Sam Wylde reported that the first sub-committee meeting had taken place and that notes from that meeting had been submitted to FWC Councillors regarding proposals and decisions taken.

The aims of the GDWF sub-committee are -

1. Improve CC and the community's understanding on the proposed Glendye Windfarm Development.
2. Provide the right information to ensure both CC and the community can make an informed decision regarding their view on the windfarm development.
3. Keep CC informed at all stages of the application process.

There was also a lengthy discussion about a request from the Liberty Group (acting on behalf of Coriolis) for a Community Development Fund Group to be set up, as is normal practice.

This is to facilitate the negotiating of the funding which is currently under discussion. Any community which would be affected either visually or practically by the proposed Windfarm are viable for inclusion in such negotiations and this is why it is advised that such a group is established.

The amount of £391,000.00 annually has already been allocated, subject to planning being passed. It was advised that two Councillors and three members of the public are required for a Community Development Fund Group to be established.

It was agreed that three members of the GDWF sub-committee would sit on both the sub-committee and the Community Development Fund.

6. FWCC Community Benefit Applications

Mr. P Tyrrel indicated that due to elections and other factors it had been difficult to bring Community Benefit Sub committee members together but that this issue was currently being addressed so that applications under discussion can be brought to an agreed conclusion with FWCC.

Strachan Bowling Club There is an outstanding application for £500. The sub committee has received a letter from the bowling club with a breakdown of intended use of funds. The letter will be e.mailed to FWC Councillors before passing.

Strachan Youth Club and Banchory Sports village
Applications are on the agenda for the next meeting.

Strachan Village Hall

Work to the village hall is currently on hold whilst awaiting builders' warrant and match funding is fully established.

Mr. Robert Brown gave a comprehensive report on progress made.

Phases remain basically as first stated:

1. Long-term fix to roof over the toilet .
2. Move disabled toilet to the front of the hall and refurbish other toilets.
3. Walls, cladding and new double-glazed windows
4. Move kitchen to rear entry area with pitched roof to tie it into rest of the hall.

In the light of a positive report on progress, a request was made for the initial £44,000 funding through MHWF to be approved in order to go ahead with the first three stages. Assurances have been given by the architect that the existing foundations are capable of coping with the minimal additional loading that the new structure would place on them.

A promisory note was already agreed for £44,000 on the basis of a favourable engineers report. On that basis, coupled with necessary match funding established, it was unanimously agreed that the necessary funding would be made available in a timely manner. Work could potentially begin by the end of December or as soon as convenient thereafter.

7. Planning Issues

Erection of dwellinghouse on site adjacent to Feughside Inn, Strachan

No concerns raised

Site to North of Inchmarlo Cottage, Inchmarlo Road, Banchory

No concerns raised

8. Transport, Roads and Infrastructure

Trees at Castlehill

Trees will not be touched until after 1st August due to birds nesting.

Pavement at West End of Strachan

Still no progress. Council cannot fund work required but willing to do the work if FWCC are willing to cover costs incurred. Still waiting for feedback on any Planning Gains payable.

9. Education and Youth

Nothing to report.

10. Play Park

There was a public meeting of the Strachan Playpark Improvement Project. Representatives of the FWCC were present along with members of the public to discuss the allotted funding of £30,000 through Aberdeenshire Council.

This amount is available on a basis of fund matching until the end of the financial year March 2018.

Early estimates for the work and equipment required stand at £80,000 – £100,000.

Approved suppliers of equipment to suit all ages are being approached and arrangements being made to meet at the site to get some proposals initiated for viable plans for the site and equipment.

Enquiries regarding funding available is ongoing.

In the meantime, it is necessary to provide a constitution so that applications for funding can be tendered. It was agreed that the sub-committee already formed under the auspices of FWCC which has its own constitution would support any formal applications for funding.

This would entail the requirement of all Sub-Committee meetings being minuted.

Cllr.Janelle Clark will be contacted by Mr. S. Richards to make sure that these proposals are in order.

A sub-group will then be proposed to FWCC.

It was also advised that a check on responsibility for ongoing maintenance and associated costs should be thoroughly investigated and agreed with Aberdeenshire Council.

Willem Ross was welcomed as an FWCC Youth member. It will be clarified whether or not youth members have voting rights.

11. Any Other Business

A proposal was made and agreed to change the FWCC constitution that would result in a more balanced representation of the community and reflect the number of residents in each area as follows:

WW1602	Inchmarlo	516 residents
WW 1606	Auchattie, Tilquhillie, Bridge of Feugh, Blackhall	334 residents
WW 1607	Finzean	2 residents
WW 1608	Strachan	509 residents

Councillors voted all in favour apart from one abstention, reaching a two thirds majority.

This will be implemented as part of the new Scheme of Establishment to be introduced in 2018. The new Scheme of Establishment would provide for a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 13 councillors.

The proposal would result in an increase from the current 10 to a total of 11 Councillors, allocated as follows:

Inchmarlo	4 Councillors
Strachan	4 Councillors
Achattie, Tilquhillie, Bridge of Feugh, Blackhall	3 Councillors

This small increase would also assist in voting as it would reduce the potential of a drawn result. In the event of a shortage of residents willing to stand for election in any area, the vacancies would be shared pro rata by the other areas until an area resident became available.

AGENDA

There was a request for the FWCC monthly agenda to be sent out at least a week ahead of the following meeting so that councillors had time to request additions to the agenda.

BENCH IN MEMORY OF THE LATE FRANK SHERIDAN

There was a short discussion surrounding the planned bench/plaque in memory of the late C.C. Frank Sheridan. The bench and plaque has been sourced at a cost of £300. Confirmation of wording for the inscription is still awaited.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

It was intimated that there has been a request from Piers Blaxter to attend an FWCC meeting in order to talk about the local development plan which is due for presentation in 2022. It was agreed that October 26th would be suitable.

WEBSITE

There was a short discussion and agreement for contact details of FWC Councillors to be updated for the website and for other forms of FWCC notifications. There was also a suggestion that Councillors' photographs should be taken for this purpose. It was agreed this will happen at the next meeting in June.

Thanks were expressed for the valuable service to the Community which had been volunteered by the Community Councillors who had served during the previous term.

12. Date of next meeting

The meeting closed at 9.36pm

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 29th June, 2017 at 7.30p.m.

Strachan Hall