

**STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 22nd MAY 2012
AT THE STRATHERRICK HALL, GORTHLECK**

Members present:

Mr M. Houston (Chairman)	Mrs E. Merther (Secretary)
Mr F. Ross (Treasurer)	Mrs M. Cameron
Mr K. Fraser	Mr L. MacNally
Mr A. MacPherson	Mr A. Sutherland

Ex officio members present:

Councillor M. Davidson	Councillor D. Hendry
------------------------	----------------------

Also present:

Police Constable A. Mathieson

1. Adoption of Minutes

In relation to Item 2(g) Funds from Marathon, Mrs Cameron stated her comments related to Foyers School rather than the Glenlia group. With this amendment the Minutes of 24th April 2012 were adopted as a true record.

Proposed: Mr A. Sutherland Seconded: Mrs E. Merther

2. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

(a) Affordable Housing Scheme - Gorthleck

No new information received.

(b) Broadband Provision

Mr Graeme Ambrose (DLN) reports that Leader funds were insufficient for all applications made. Bids for both the broadband project and the Foyers pier project are on the first reserve list.

(c) Foyers Public Toilets

The Chairman reported that negotiations are ongoing for the CC to take over the toilets. There are a number of issues still to be resolved, including details regarding insurance.

(d) Parking - Foyers Shop and Cafe

Cllr. Davidson reported enquiries are still ongoing regarding sites.

(e) Foyers Schoolhouse

Cllr. Davidson outlined some of the possible options. She will attend the next C. Trust meeting to discuss some of these.

(f) CC Correspondence

The Chairman read out Mr Charles Stephen's guidance on handling correspondence. It was agreed that current practice follows his advice and will be continued.

(g) Street Lighting - Switch Off Period

A notice asking for feedback will be placed in the next Boleskine Bulletin.

3. Correspondence

Highland Council Correspondence

Reminder regarding CC AGM

copy emails re planning procedures (circulated)

Supplementary Guidance Consultation - Developer Contributions and Public Art Strategy (circulated)

Other Correspondence and Circulars received

Glenlia RCA - Copy letter re roads

email re new play park

Scottish Community Foundation - Notice of Seminar 30.5.12 (circulated)

Inverness Area CC Forum - Minutes of Meeting 25.4.12 (circulated)

Letter Strathnairn CC - Logging lorries on B851

Members agreed information should be sent on how this problem is being handled in our own area.

SSE - Notice of Public Exhibitions, Stronelairg Wind Farm (circulated)
Renewal notice - Data Protection Registration
NHS Highland - Briefing note 3 (circulated)
email correspondence - new road Errogie

4. Treasurer's Report

Account balances were reported as follows:

Ordinary A/c: £1111.50 Project A/c: £7227.66

Cheques were written at the meeting as follows:

Ordinary A/c: Data Protection Registration Renewal - £35.00
Secretary - Stationery, printer supplies and stamps - £51.16
Project A/c: Public liability insurance - £160.95

5. Planning Matters

(a) New applications:

Replace existing boathouse & slipway North of Foyers Power Station - No objections
Dell Estate, Whitebridge - Extension & conversion of former kennels to dwelling. A site visit will be made.

Amended applications:

Three house plots - Cnoc An T-Sionnach, Whitebridge - No objections
Re-alignment of road at Smithy Cottage, Errogie - No objections, but members expressed disappointment that the original plan could no longer be followed.

(b) Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan - No-one was available to attend this meeting, but CC will request a Planner for the next meeting.

(c) Any other planning matter

New road at house sites in Errogie. Various correspondence was received on this. Cllr. Davidson has arranged a meeting on site with Planners for some local residents. The Chairman expressed disappointment and dissatisfaction at the lack of response from Planning since the CC's comments to them on 28.11.11, which results in the CC being blamed for doing nothing. Cllr. Hendry advised that the CC should be given an official response within 21 days of submitting comments.

6. Fire Brigade Report

Mr Kirkland was not present, but no new matters had been reported.

7. Policing Matters

PC Mathieson reported that speed wires should be deployed shortly as agreed at the last meeting. Speed gun checks will also be carried out.

In response to an enquiry - The street light switch-off trial had had no effect on local crime.

8. Roads and Signage

(a) Outstanding Matters

Cllr. Hendry reported:

Several bids are now in to the Timber Transport Fund for road repairs.

Road surface at Boleskine bridge - Contractors are being chased.

Secretary reported:

Causeway at Aberchalder - Information on outage dates and contact details passed to TECS by the Secretary. No response.

Lower Foyers road - final surface over new pipe has been laid.

(b) Meeting with TECS to Discuss Planned Road Improvements

Cllr. Hendry reported negotiations with land owners are progressing.

The Chairman felt the total lack of response from TECS to many matters raised by the CC is very unsatisfactory. CC concerns are apparently being largely ignored, and this

also applies to other HC departments. Cllrs. Davidson and Hendry agreed this situation is unacceptable.

(c) Other Roads Items

A gate on the corkscrew road is in a bad condition and needs replacing. Enquiries will be made regarding the legality of a gate on a public road.

The Abersky road is breaking up badly at the edges.

An abandoned trailer has been noticed. Enquiries will be made regarding ownership.

Boulders on the grass verge opposite Gorthleck Hall have caused damage to a vehicle. Enquiries will be made.

Major pot holes on the Errogie road have caused damage to a vehicle's suspension.

Flooding on the road at Drummond was noted in recent heavy rain. Drainage needs attention.

It was agreed a meeting with TECS on site to look at problem areas is essential. Cllr. Davidson will request this.

9. Water and Sewerage

The alternative route for the new Aberchalder pipeline is being investigated. Mr Sutherland noted that several properties along the route, currently without mains water, would benefit from connection. We will confirm their request for possible connection. The promised water analysis from Scottish Water is awaited.

10. Community Project - Gorthleck

Request for repayment of the loan from HC has been received. Paperwork and final payment is awaited from Leader.

11. Renewable Energy and Community Benefit

Mr Sutherland is meeting with N-Power for discussion on community benefit. He is making further enquiries on connecting properties near the proposed sub-station to the mains.

12. Community Web Site

Payments for hosting, maintenance and domain name are due. The figures given were felt to be rather high. The Chairman will enquire about these, and other options will be explored.

13. Community Trust Grants

Mr Sutherland reported that the restriction of one application a year from individuals or organisations is in the process of being removed from the Trust Constitution. This condition was imposed by the Scottish Communities Foundation.

14. Any Other Competent Business

Enquiry about possible bus to Fort Augustus. Cllr. Davidson reported discussions ongoing in several areas regarding some form of community transport. No progress as yet.

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting, preceded by the AGM, will be on Tuesday 26th June at the Foyers Primary School.

The meeting was closed at 8.55 p.m.