

**STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26th APRIL 2011
AT THE STRATHERRICK HALL, GORTHLECK**

Members present:

Mr A. Sutherland (Chairman)	Mrs E. Merther (Secretary)
Mrs K. Grant (Treasurer)	Mr D. Forbes
Mr M. Houston	Mrs J. Hunt
Mr S. Hunt	Mr F. Ross
Mr J. Sharp	

Also present:

Councillor M. Davidson	Councillor D. Hendry
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Apologies received:

Mr K. Fraser	Mr A. MacPherson
Councillor H. Carmichael	

A large number of community members attended the meeting with a particular interest in a planning application. The Chairman began by welcoming them to the meeting, and informing them that the Planning item on the Agenda would be left until the end of the meeting to allow for extra time if necessary.

1. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd March 2011 were adopted as a true record.

Proposed: Mrs K. Grant Seconded: Mr S. Hunt

2. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

(a) Key Worker/Affordable Housing

Cllr. Davidson is in discussion with Albyn Housing. A meeting is to be arranged to discuss the options available.

(b) Fraser Monument and Burial Ground

Enquiries are ongoing. There is nothing new to report at present.

(c) Broadband Provision

Cllr. Hendry presented the broadband guide for communities to the meeting. A letter has been sent to HIE pressing the case for communities around Loch Ness to be included in the proposed BT trials of superfast broadband. An acknowledgement has been received indicating that information about the areas chosen should be available in the next few months. The Chairman asked if anyone with a particular interest in computer technology would be willing to pursue this subject. Mr Paul Higham expressed willingness to do this.

(d) Care in Strathnairn

Mrs Grant is in contact with Paul Davies, the Co-ordinator, and is arranging a meeting with him.

(e) Bottle Banks - Whitebridge

There has been no response from Mr McKinnie. A further email will be sent.

(f) Notice Board - Foyers Car Park

This area has now been well tidied up. The board has a tarmac surface around it, trees have been cut back, drains cleared, and the existing notices sorted out.

(g) Drumtemple Cemetery Gate

It is believed that this work may have been done, and this will be checked.

(h) Public Toilets - Foyers

Cllr. Davidson and Mr Hargreaves of Foyers Stores visited the toilets and found them to be in a disgusting state. For the time being Mr Hargreaves has agreed to take responsibility for them in order to keep them open. Our Ward Manager is in discussions with the necessary people to consider the possibility of some sort of community take-over, and is looking at the best way to handle this. Cllr. Davidson reported that some upgrading is needed, with the provision of electricity so that hot water can be provided.

Mr Forbes reported that he understood the public toilets in Poolewe were the joint responsibility of Highland Council and the community. Cllr. Davidson will enquire about this arrangement.

(i) Footbridge adjacent to Fish Farm - Lower Foyers

Mr McAdam of SSE telephoned to inform the CC that this bridge has now been fully repaired and is now open. Members were very pleased that this had been done so promptly.

3. Correspondence

Highland Council Correspondence

Development Plan Scheme - Spring 2011

Onshore Wind Energy - Draft Supplementary Guidance

(both available at: [www.highland.gov.uk/development plans](http://www.highland.gov.uk/development%20plans))

Housing Department - Consultation on HC and Northern Constabulary

Antisocial Behaviour Strategy 2011-2016

(available at: www.highland.gov.uk/livinghere/housing/)

Meeting - Inverness Central and West Forum 19.05.11 (circulated)

Notice - Kerbside recycling collection calendars

Information on Foyers pier survey by British Waterways

Other Correspondence & Circulars Received

Update from SSE on progress with pipe replacement

Scottish Natural Heritage - Review documents for SSSI Monadhliath

Scottish Government - Scoping Opinion Request - Balmacaan Wind Farm

Leaflet - Signs and Designs, Caithness flagstone

4. Treasurer's Report

Account balances were reported as follows:

Ordinary A/c - £1594.85 (including £362 in grant money for Fraser Monument)

Project A/c - £21,349.48 (A £5000 deposit has been paid towards equipment)

5. Fire Brigade Report

No new matters had been reported.

6. Policing Matters

No new matters had been reported.

7. Roads and Signage

(a) Outstanding Matters

Roadside tree clearance - The Chairman has been in correspondence with TEC Services regarding the work in the Inverfarigaig pass, boulders on the road, and the risk of further slippage from the banks. Cllr. Davidson suggested it would be helpful

to walk the road with those responsible, to identify any remaining hazards before the work is wound up. She will arrange this.

Errogie and Foyers speed limits - The Secretary has been notified that these will come into force on 2nd May.

Bus shelter Lower Foyers - There is still no sign of this work. Cllr. Hendry will enquire, as this was promised by the end of April, which now looks very unlikely.

Run-offs Torness brae - There was no further report on this, but members noted that run-offs elsewhere had certainly been cleared. Cllr. Hendry will enquire about the Torness brae.

Pot-holes Ardochy road - No further report has been received.

Timber lorries Trinloist road - Mr Grant reported that the road has been quieter. It was noted that these heavy lorries are doing considerable damage to the road edges, particularly on the corners, where there are large over-runs. Cllr. Davidson will enquire about the arrangements and responsibilities for getting this damage repaired.

Verge at An Clachan - Mr Angus Fraser was present at the meeting and reported that this work has now been completed.

Bridge parapets, Boleskine and Inverfarigaig pass - The Secretary has received a reponse from TEC Services to say that the bridge parapets in the pass will be inspected to assess what work is needed. The parapet near the Boleskine cemetery has been inspected and will require major work, which will be done this year. Mr Forbes reported that this continues to deteriorate, with the dip in the road also getting more pronounced. This information will be passed on.

Pot-hole Calanour junction - This has been repaired.

(b) Bridge at Lower Foyers

There was nothing new to report.

8. Water and Sewerage

There were no new matters to report.

9. Community Project - Gorthleck

Sarah Hartley, the Project Manager, was present at the meeting. She reported that the equipment has been ordered and the deposit paid. The installation date will be in four to six weeks time. Volunteers will then be needed to help with the rest of the Project. The Project Web Site will post up-to-date information to keep people in touch with progress.

10. Renewable Energy and Community Benefit

The Chairman reported that negotiations for Dunmaglass and Corriegarh are still ongoing. Detailed information on the proposals for Stronelairg wind farm is now available.

11. Any Other Competent Business

Mr Frank Elam reported that some Army Cadets will again be coming to help with work on the Wetlands Project, and would be willing to help with other projects if requested. The Secretary had received an enquiry about the lack of signage to the Wetlands Project. Mr Elam said that the Forestry Commission had promised signage some time ago, but this has still not been provided. Cllr. Hardiman is due to have a meeting with FC representatives and will raise this issue.

Mrs Hall of Lower Foyers reported that there had been a problem with dangerous broken glass and other debris left around the bottle banks after they were emptied recently. She and another resident had cleared this up. Cllr. Davidson will speak to Mr McKinnie about this problem.

The Secretary had been notified that SSE are undertaking tree cutting prior to installing the new pipe to the power station, and that there will be firewood available for local people to collect in due course. A notice will also be put in the shop.

SSE have also agreed to look at the old footpath behind the BA building, but cannot say as yet if they will be able to reinstate this.

12. Planning Matters

Cllr. Hendry and Mr D. Forbes took no part in the discussion.

New application: To develop Camping and Caravanning Leisure Park, Monument Park, Riverside, Foyers

For the benefit of community members attending the meeting the Chairman began by explaining the Planning process, and the Community Council role within it. He also explained that the CC is arranging a public presentation of all the plans and related documents, when members of the community will have the opportunity to leave informed, written comments/suggestions with the CC for onward transmission to Planning. The CC will make its own response when all necessary information is available, plus feedback from the community. The Highland Council Planning Authority will make its decision based on information from all sources.

Several, mainly procedural, issues were raised and discussed. The Chairman advised that if anyone felt the Statutory Notification procedures had not been followed, they should contact the Planning Department direct.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 24th May 2011 at the Foyers Primary School.

The meeting was closed at 8.20 p.m.