

**STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17th Sept 2013
AT FOYERS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Present:

Iain Brown (IBR) (Chair)

Liam MacNally (LM) & Catriona Fraser (CF)

Morag Cameron (MC) & Sally McGuire (SM)

Martin Donnelly (MDO)

Margaret Davidson (MDA)

Whitebridge,

Gorthleck

Glen Lia, Foyers

Foyers

Highland Councillor

Apologies – Ian Bateman (IB), Ros Rowell (RR)

Agenda	AP	WHO
<p>1. DELL WIND FARM</p> <p>Stewart Forsyth, Project Manager gave a detailed presentation on the pre-planning stage of this project. He explained that the company had acted on community concerns raised at his previous CC presentation in Aug 2012. Using Visual Impact Maps he assured the community that the relocation of some of the turbines had reduced visibility – particularly from the Suidhe viewpoint. The intention is to bring materials etc via Ft Augustus thus reducing traffic through the community. The community will receive £5000 per mw as Community Benefit as previously agreed. Questions were raised regarding the access to the site which will involve a new bridge over the river at Knockchoilum. Mr Forsyth sought to reassure locals that this was the best route available based on present constraints and hydrology tests etc had been done. In response to questions regarding the transmission connection he was unable to give an answer but offered to come back later in the year when this had been agreed with SSE.</p> <p>It is hoped that the PowerPoint presentation and Environmental Impact data will be available soon on the CC website.</p>	18	Dis - charged
<p>2. TECS - Strategic Plan for roads in the area</p> <p>Colin Ross gave a very informative presentation on future road improvements planned for the area. Most of these are funded by £1.1million from the Timber Transport Fund along with negotiated agreements with Wind Farm developers. Although these will take a number of years, it is hoped that most of the B851/B862 Daviot to Ft Augustus road will eventually be twin track. Some sections will have to remain single track with passing places. It is planned to have cycle/pedestrian paths running alongside a number of the improved stretches which should improve accessibility for the area. The Suidhe Viewpoint is to have improved safety measures put in place. HC is in the final stage of acquiring the Smiddy at Errogie allowing realignment of the corner. The residual land will be used for 2 council houses.</p>	67	IBR
<p>3. Adoption of Minutes.</p> <p>A few minor adjustments were made to the Draft Minutes of 27th Aug 2013. Proposed MC, seconded MDO.</p>	32	Dis - charged
<p>4. Police Report – Sgt A Blaikie</p> <p>Sergeant Blaikie gave a summary of Policing in the area over the past few months.</p>		

There had been virtually no issues in the community during the summer but he emphasised the need to be aware of travelling criminals and bogus callers. There had been a number of wildfires in the Inverfarigaig/Torness areas in the past few weeks and he asked people to be on the look-out for anyone acting suspiciously around areas of woodland.		
5. Fire Report – Neil Kirkland Mr Kirkland also reported the wildfires – 5 callouts in 6 days. There is to be a Fundraising Car Wash on Sat 21 st Sept 2013.		
6. Matters arising from Minutes. It was agreed that due to the backlog of business, only some of the matters arising could be dealt with at this meeting. COMMUNITY SOCIAL CARE – MDA suggested that a small working group be set up to look into community needs. CF, MC, LM agreed to be part of this and Jane O'Donovan (present at the meeting) was also asked to join. MD will organise a meeting in October.	13 68	Dis - charged MDA
COMMUNITY TRANSPORT – information from survey out next week.	29	Dis - charged
FOYER SHOP PUBLIC BINS – MDA trying to organise bigger bins.	15	MDA
FOYERS FOOTPATH – SM reported that new way markers are to be put up. Hopefully vegetation will also be cut back to improve visibility. Suggestion made for a footpath from the Campsite to Falls car park. MDA suggested that SSE and Safe Routes to School could be approached for funding.	30	Dis - charged
FOYERS SHINTY PITCH – MDA advised that SSE own the land and that it is not contaminated. A number of suggestions were raised regarding possible use including sports pitches and/or village hall. It was agreed a meeting be called so a community sub-group can be set up in Foyers to look into this and other projects.	69	MDA
ROAD ISSUES - a number of issues had already been addressed by Colin Ross. However many concerns arose during discussion and a letter with a substantial list of issues will be sent to TECS.	70	SM
FOYERS TOILETS – still on-going issues regarding the future of the toilets. MC will continue to look into this.	37	MC
FOYERS CAR PARK – MDA in discussion with TECS	38	MDA
SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL – FOYERS – MDA advised that landowner's consent is almost finalised.	39	MDA
7 TRUST Following a successful meeting last week between the Trust Directors and the Community Councillors (arranged by MDA and chaired by Charles Stephen Ward Manager) a Joint Statement from Willie Fraser (Trust Chair) and Ian Brown (CC Chair) was read out by IBR – see Appendix 1. As a result of this statement a Motion was proposed to revert to the Trust Articles of Association as agreed by the previous CC on 26 th February 2013. Proposed MDO, seconded CF. The CC unanimously voted in favour of this motion.		
AOCB		
NOTICE BOARDS – MC requested that £100 be paid, as agreed, for the new Community Notice Board at Foyers School. Cost of additional Notice boards – Ongoing Additional Magnets for boards - Ongoing	54 55 56	Dis - charged IBR LM

MC will write to the Chair of Stratherrick Primary Parent Council offering the same monetary help if they require a Notice Board.	71	MC
IRA SCHOOL BUS SERVICE – CF reported that the new service had a few teething problems but seems to be working well. Concern was raised from the floor regarding the bus shelter at Whitebridge – added to list for letter to TECS.		
ACCESS TO LOCH AT LOWER FOYERS – Issue of loch access for boat owners raised from the floor. After some discussion, MDA advised that Ian Hislop, Head of Estates at SSE should be contacted.	72	IBR
DUNMAGLASS NEGOTIATIONS – Alex Sutherland asked the Chair for information regarding the “new” settlement SSE are offering for Dunmaglass Community Benefit Payments. Iain Brown reported that SSE had reviewed the previous settlement in comparison to their present day payments. SSE intended to honour the agreement reached with RES and to make payments in line with their present day CB policy whenever the RES agreement would produce a lower payment. We will receive a better deal than previously offered by RES		
CAMPSITE VISIT – Alex Sutherland asked for information regarding a visit to the Foyers Campsite by SM. MDA advised him to write to CC.		
BOLLARDS – Concerns were raised over bollards placed at car parking site at Lower Foyers Notice Boards. MDO advised that these were placed by SEPA and not by the Campsite owners.		
COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR – CCTV to be installed at Stratherrick Hall before defibrillator is put in place. Neil Kirkland asked the CC to fund the bill for use of Stratherrick Hall for the Heartstart Course. He reported that 7 members of the Community had been trained in the afternoon and at this evening’s course there were 14 present. CC agreed to payment of Hall hire.	73	LM
FIREWORKS –Mark Houston was thanked for his organisation/running of the event in previous years. The local retained fire crew have offered to run the Community Fireworks Display this year. The CC Insurance will cover this provided 2 CC members are present which Neil Kirkland requested. CC agreed to have two representatives present.	74	ALL
The Chair thanked everybody for their attendance and the meeting was closed at 9.50pm		
Next meeting Stratherrick Hall 24 th September, 7 pm		