

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON Tuesday 31st March 2015

Stratherrick Hall

Agenda:

1. **SSE Torness Presentation – Called off pending negotiations with THC**

2. **Members Present**

IBR Iain Brown Whitebridge

SM Sally McGuire Foyers

KE Katie Ellam Boleskine

MD Martin Donnelly Foyers

IB Ian Bateman Whitebridge

DH Highland Councilor Drew Hendry

Apologies

Morag Cameron, Liam MacNally, Catriona Fraser, Helen Carmichael, Margaret Davidson, Hamish Wood

3. **Police Report**

Thefts - There have been recent thefts of heating oil from private dwellings close to the road including during day time, please lock tanks as tends to be theft of convenience.

Roads - Winter caused numerous road defects, please report to THC and/or CC.

Two vacant Officer Positions - one person has been appointed, transfer date TBC. Other post to be re-advertised with expectation to be in post for mid-summer. A temporary secondment from inverness to provide cover is planned to start on Monday 6th April.

4. **Adoption of Minutes** – February 2015 Proposed MD Seconded SM Unanimous

5. **Matters Arising**

Sochi's Bends – After discussion it was decided that proposed closures be accepted if this ensures quicker completion of the works, but there must be a time limit set.

AP 28 IBR to attend Farr public meeting to provide CC opinion.

Loch Tarff Crash barriers – consensus of the seconded example photo being the preferred option **AP 29 IBR to advise Colin Ross of opinion**

Roads

General discussion - on lack of drain maintenance putting water on the roads thus exacerbating defects at Knockie straight, Compass etc., risk of Chapel Hall being flooded by uncontrolled road water discharge, wasted resource clearing trees from working drain rather than clearing offlets etc.

Dores to Foyers - desire lines now have significant holes that would damage a vehicle, created partly due to missing passing place signs and a need for white lines.

AP 30 DH will invite director Community and Environment Services to a site visit

Foyers Footpath – **AP 31 DH to seek rectification of blocked culvert at new footpath works site**

Traffic issues as a result of A82 closure was noted, chair advised in response to his emails FCS have undertaken to request additional Police presence on South Lochness during future planned closures and they will look into provision of Smiley face electronic signs for each of the villages

New Bus Shelters – Agreed Glenlia should be in the same place, after discussion it was

agreed **AP 32 IBR to ask bus company for their thought son a location at Gorthleck, also for revised timetables to be put up.**

Play park rental, IBR confirmed owner has indicated there will be no increase, written confirmation to follow.

6. Treasurers Report

KE proposed CC write to Trust to thank them for provision of Grant, Seconded MD unanimous **AP 33 SM to write to Trust**

- a. Foyers Toilets (Project balance £1,387.20) Water bill for last year is still to be paid but predicted as being low enough to allow opening of Toilet block for Easter continuation dependent on confirmation of other costs and funding options.
CC gave a vote of thanks to South Lochness Tourist Group for their funding offer, agreed any surplus to be returned to them.
- b. Cleaner to be advertised for
- c. Transport £1200 - ongoing
- d. Insurance brief discussion over liability implications should CC go into abeyance, alternatives to a new group are to be looked into.
- e. Fraser Memorial £362 - Community event for this funding still to be identified.

7. Reports

- a. Community transport awaiting next meeting
- b. Fire - no one present
- c. Trust – Progressing well, decision made to recruit a project coordinator, CC indicated expectation that early work would include funding package for the Foyers Toilet block redevelopment. The trust is applying to Scottish lottery for funds to complete the Lower Foyers land purchase. If application is successful, offer will be based on land value which is lower than another offer already made – outcome will depend on the vendor
- d. BCC – Secured a discretionary fund award and activities are progressing well
- e. Firewood – In discussion with FCS over franchise – local sale point idea
- f. Paths working group MD held a positive meeting on this subject and it is hoped this would also be an early project for the Trust Coordinator
- g. Foyers – Forum delayed until after general election
- h. Aberchalder - Wind CB offer to be completed over following month
- i. Dunmaglass – Liaison Group meeting is on Thursday 7pm Farr hall
- j. Corriegarh – No new info. Still awaiting outcome of extension planning application
- k. Torness – SSE to attend next month to give update
- l. ETAPE – Marshals were trained last night
- m. WEB site – SM is presently the Web Master, Eric Law moves out of the area in June. He suggests we host it ourselves which would save ~£400/Year and generate approx. £300 a year from advertising.

AP all to sound out locals that may be interested in the hosting role

8. **Planning Matters** - No objections to Aberchalder track applications and SSE Overhead Line improvements,

9. **Correspondence**

SSE – SHTL will arrange a separate Liaison Group for the Torness Substation

FCS – Comments requested on Garrogie Estate felling plans – No comment to be made

Inverness City Forum – Copy of latest minutes and request for support in objecting to a Windfarm

THC – Acknowledgement of Discretionary Fund Application

THC – Acknowledgment of need for urgent repair to a Culvert collapse – repair done

THC – Request public advised of the weekly Bus service from the Town Centre to Kilvean Cemetery

THC – Notification of removal of Paper/Cad and Cans recycling bins, this attributed to success of the household blue bins.

THC Licensing Board Consultation notification and dates of consultation events

THC – HSCHT looking for potential house development sites, Houses to have Rural Burden on them, after 5 years to be offered for equity share ownership.

MD indicated there is an opportunity for locals to get into affordable houses before Albion Housing takes on allocation role for Simpson's new development in lower Foyers. If interested please contact Simpsons directly.

ETAPE – Event is on 26th April.

10. **AOCB**

BB there was a discussion on the need for similar publications for various reasons information leaflets / CC minutes / public places / advertising local traders

AP 34 All to think of possible options/solutions to need for such a publication to communicate with those without Email etc. access

Hearing Loop System - AP 35 IBR to contact THC and hall committee re cable installation at both Foyers school and Stratherick hall

I Fraser Thank you Letter - After minor modifications the draft was approved for sending, the CC again wished to note the community's thanks for his years of service