

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON Tuesday 26th May 2015 Stratherrick Hall

Agenda:

1. Police Report

No road accidents, 1 report each of antisocial behaviour, breach of the peace, theft (ongoing investigation) and dangerous driving not found to be so by the Police. New officer will start work on 15th June. The second post was advertised but no interest was shown, it will be re-advertised giving a longer application period.

2. ETAPE Presentation – Malcolm Sutherland

There were 3300 entrants with a few dropping behind the sweep up truck but all got around safely. This year there is a survey to assess the economic benefits of the event, the results of this are expected soon and will be forwarded to the Community Councils. Initial info shows the 3 main reasons for taking part are closed roads, location and the scenery. Some £200K plus of funds were raised for over 22 charities including Macmillan. Locals as marshals went really well and debriefing of this is still ongoing, the training and preparation for movement of farmers etc. went well, still debriefing on this with intention to improve process on day where possible. ETAPE has made donations to groups the volunteers represented, e.g. Foyers Primary School, Fire brigade, Elsie Normington Foundation..., also agreed to make one of £500 to each of the four CC areas, CC agreed with the proposal for this to go to the BCC.

Event is planned for the same date next year which will also benefit local businesses in the lull between Easter and summer.

Fastest time for the 4.8miles hill climb up from Ft Augustus to view point was 19mins57secs

Organisers would like thank the community for its support and especially all the volunteers for helping with the Marshalling.

3. Members Present

IBR Iain Brown Whitebridge

CF Catriona Fraser Gorthleck

IB Ian Bateman Whitebridge

LM Liam MacNally

Gorthleck

MD Martin Donnelly Foyers

Apologies - Sally McGuire (SM) , Morag Cameron (MC) , Katie Ellam (KE), Cllr Margaret Davidson (Mda)

3. Fire Report

Fire service has an ongoing recruitment campaign with vacancies in the Foyers team especially for day time cover. It is important for the community to keep this local service at its present level; anyone interested should please contact the service or a local member. All training provided beginning with initial 2 week course.

Local station still does not have basic facilities. CC agreed to write to the Fire Service to express our disappointment at his continuing situation and to seek a commitment with implementation timetable from the Fire Service. **AP CF will write to Scot Hay Local Senior Officer Inverness after consultation with the local team to ensure all aspects that need to be addressed are covered by the letter.**

4. Matters arising

Torness Substation – No agreement on road improvements as yet between THC and SSE. During discussion the issue of damage to the school bus when squeezing past a lorry on the single track road was raised. Suitability of the bus size for these roads was identified as a possible safety issue.

AP CF to write to HC education department and the Bus Company to raise this issue and seek a more suitable bus to be allocated for this route.

Please report any Lorries seen taking deliveries to this site from Dores.

Smiddy Road Works – intention is to complete basic road formation to allow use by wind farm delivery lorries with the final road surface being put in place after wind farm construction is complete, THC are still to send through final design drawings.

Hugh Nicol also requested and the CC agreed the need for a sign to indicate “Narrow Bridge 1.5 miles ahead unsuitable for articulated lorries” **AP IBR to seek final design drawings and installation of sign from Colin Ross TEC services.**

AP 33 completed by CF with a nice reply being received.

Trust Project Coordinator post interviews will be held next week, if no one is suitable the post will be readvertised

Play Park – Grass cutting contractor may be willing to continue **AP IBR to contact contractor to confirm and agree a price – failing that to contact MD who may have an alternative**

5. Treasurers Report

Please see attached report; Annual accounts have been prepared and will be presented at the AGM in June. It was agreed in line with previous decisions SM should pay for Web Site and Data protection with subsequent reimbursement from the CC. Proposed IBR, seconded CF Unanimous

6. Reports

BCC - CF has resigned as a Trustee due to work load, now has 133 friends and has two fund raising events - 11th June a shoot at Garrogie, funds raised will be used for a hoist, - AGM is to be held in November. Success of this group has been recognised by the Scottish Care Forum, four members of the group will attend an awards ceremony at the Marriott Hotel Glasgow.

Firewood – FCS proposing use of location at top on Inverfarigaig pass but this will not be available until the new through forest road is complete next year. - On going Community Transport/Foyers (paths etc.) – ongoing awaiting ward forum to be organised by Mda

Foyers Land Purchase – Ongoing awaiting sellers response to Trust offer

Dunmaglass – Due to delay in Torness substation construction SSE have decided not to take delivery of the turbines till 2016.

Corriegarth CLG – wind farm has issued a list of dates for the delivery of the first turbine deliveries. These will be three lorry convoys on 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18 & 19

Fairy Burn fence damage has been repaired, RJ MacLeod request for communications for additional works to be routed through the CLG

War Memorial Access – CC agreed it would be more appropriate for this to be taken forward by the Heritage Group, Land is owned by Ian Macqueen **AP CF to pass on info to heritage group** Next CLG meeting is programmed for 23rd June.

Community Benefits – negotiations ongoing, Knockie Hydro scheme – Developers offer contains a condition that is unacceptable to the CC, **AP SM to write to FCS to seek a remedy to this.**

7. Planning Matters

Dunmaglass extension to Borrow Pit – no objection, MD raised concern over change of use and application for a new dwelling at the Foyers Lodges **AP IBR to contact Planning Officer for clarification of position.**

8. Correspondence

THC Charles Stevens - offer by SSE to help develop a community Local Emergency Plan

Sochi's Bends – work programme, work continues under traffic management including 20min delays at times, road closed 15/16 to facilitate final dressing of road surface.

National Confidential Forum – Requesting details be put on our web site, asking for persons who were in council care as children to contact them to provide information on good and bad experiences so lessons can be learnt for the benefit of future children in care.

SSE new liaison officer Kirstanne MacDowell pending return of Marianne Townsley SFCT – Nominated Peter Faye and Hugh Nicol as representatives to the joint BB sub group tasked with identifying a way forward for a rejuvenated/revamped community newsletter which will likely mean remuneration for the collator/editor.

AP CF and IB agreed to be the CC representatives on the group...

Local had expressed concern over untidy boards and defacing of notices – **AP All notice board users to remove out of date notices and to keep boards tidy.**

9. AOCB

CF asked volunteers to take a turn at cutting the War Memorial grass. **AP Anyone that can help should please contact either Catriona or Willie Fraser**

Foyers Council Houses – THC are putting in new heating systems without any prior consultation with the tenants, nor have they offered tenants a choice over which new system is to be installed or where equipment would be put within the house. Also no information or commitment over reinstatement and decorating works, who is to do and pay for this? **AP MD to contact Margaret Davidson to seek her support and intervention on this serious matter.**

Community event – Use of surplus ring fenced funds was proposed by IBR, seconded IB Unanimous

AP KE to seek trust approval for the use of this ring fenced Trust funding.

Meeting closed at 9:20pm

10. Next meeting

This will be the AGM 7pm, 30th June at Foyers School.

Normal CC meeting starts at 7:30pm, 30th June at Foyers School