

FERINTOSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ONLINE ON WEDNESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2021

MEMBERS: Karen Harcus (Vice Chair), Alison Lowe, Alastair Macintyre, Iain McCallum, Bruce Morrison (Secretary), Becky Richmond (Chair), Eilidh Richmond (Treasurer).

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr Gordon Adam, 4 residents.

APOLOGIES: Sally Falconer, Adam Fletcher (Associate), PC John MacPherson, 2 residents.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (to take no part in relevant discussions): Alastair noted an interest in correspondence about access near Findon Cottages and Becky /Eilidh noted an interest in the planning application for a new house east of Upper Braefindon.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: (excluding actions carried out, carried forward and those considered later in the agenda):

Access rights through Findon Farm (on tarmac road past the cottages): Access Officer has communicated with both the resident who raised the issue and the landowner and is putting the matter to the Ross and Cromarty Local Access Forum later this month for its view.

Road from Mulbuie School through to the A835: Resident to be contacted (Karen).
40mph signs now installed around Mulbuie School (one delimiting sign needing removal: Becky to follow up).

MINUTES: Last month's minutes were approved (proposed by Becky, seconded by Alison).

FINANCIAL REPORT: Eilidh reported two transactions this month and now paid by online banking. £27.99 was paid to Ferintosh Volunteers for mobile phone and credit and £86 for the annual insurance. That leaves £4,605.18 of available funds.

PLANNING /LICENSING MATTERS (only new information included):

Objections Lodged:

20/01084 /FUL: House and camping pods, 150m NE Grianan, Braes of Dunvornie (inappropriate scale and use of crofting land; road safety concerns). THC Traffic has put in an objection (more land required for visual splays).

20/02232/FUL: Erection of two houses, 46m SW Drummondreach Steading, Alcaig (not brownfield).

20/02674/PIP: House, 30m South of Dalshian, Alcaig: Object (sight lines).

20/02989/FUL: Two agricultural buildings, 105m NE of Northwood, Urquhart, Alcaig: Object. New details have been submitted for two new sheds but not under a PNO. Iain to enquire of Planning why these are being applied for as a different category to the previous shed.

20/02676/FUL: Permanent residential caravan, 105m NE of Northwood, Urquhart, Alcaig: Object. Application has now been withdrawn and therefore closed. Given this application was part of the business case, FCC agreed to request a new business case be presented to THC's consultant for a refreshed view. (Iain to action).

20/02677/FUL: Farmhouse, Urquhart Farm, Alcaig: Object.

Comments have been received from residents about water damage to the road due allegedly to a ruptured field drain and also about a new access being created (with trees removed). FCC agreed that Iain would draw these comments together and submit to THC.

Comments lodged:

20/01453 /FUL: Retrospective application for woodworking business, Old Grain Store, Culbokie (restrict noise to working hours on Monday to Saturday).

20/04224/PIP: House, 50m NE of Grianan, Brae of Kinkell: Iain has written for explanation of planning status of site. Received comment from Planning that the legal status of the site is not clear. FCC discussed the alternative actions of either objecting or objecting only if zoning for amenity could be demonstrated. A majority vote in favour of objecting resulted and therefore supporting the residents' belief that there is a condition for amenity in place. (Becky to draw up a draft objection).

20/04524/FUL: House 215m East of Upper Braefindon, Culbokie: Unacceptable breach of Hinterland policy (confirmation of email discussion and decision by FCC). A planning consultant has requested a copy of the relevant FCC minute and was duly sent. Cllr Adam informed FCC that he had received a letter from the applicant and he was of the view that the business case is credible and therefore does not breach Hinterland policy. Becky confirmed that FCC has already responded and stands by its position.

New Applications:

21/00007/FUL: Resiting of stabling outbuilding in previous consent, 110m SE of The Paddocks, Greenleonachs, Duncanston: No comment

Other Planning Matters:

Iain voiced a need for a progress report of all outstanding cases from Planning Department (will raise during training with Planning).

THC would welcome FCC's local knowledge at any time and agreed to share the work programme for the Eight Acres development (Becky to follow up).

Resident has voiced concern about the drainage from the Glascairn site being directed down Ben Wyvis View with no obvious exit route. Becky received a reply from Tulloch's offering an onsite meeting but Becky has replied requesting instead an online Community Liaison Group meeting.

ACTIVE PROJECTS: (Updates below on all FCC's linkages but only if new information).

Community Services (requesting greater involvement in local decision making through a Participation Request): No word on reinvolvement with Participation Request (The Upper Badrain road to be added to the priority areas for attention by THC (Becky /Bruce at PR meeting)).

Concern about **overweight vehicles** using the road from the shop to Crasky and beyond (Alastair to coordinate once Becky has contacted Gordon Morris for previous history).

Flooding at property at entrance to Culbokie: Bruce contacted Iain Moncrieff on behalf of the residents, sent some recent photos of water marks above the foundation inlet grills and discussed the need for short term action (cleaning out pots and sumps) and a more medium term solution to safely move the water onwards.

Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan (IMFLDP): Becky has organised an online consultation for FCC/Residents at 6.30pm on Tuesday 23rd February with Tim Stott (THC) and to include CCT and Resolis and Cromarty CC's. Invitation will be sent out to the email list and through posters etc. One resident wrote in explaining difficulty in making sense of all the complex documentation of the plan. Becky is in the process of extracting relevant content to help residents to more easily understand the content and provide views.

Ferintosh Community Bus (FCB): No progress with continual weekly meeting postponements due to the pandemic. Meeting planned for tomorrow. Bruce wrote to both Killearnan and Knockbain CC's with an update and to Stagecoach to encourage its consultation with these CC's.

Email list: Up 1 to 671.

REPORTS (from public bodies and local organisations):

Police Scotland: There were two vehicle driver issues this month, both on the A835 near Conon Bridge. The first involved a driver being stopped and providing a positive drug wipe leading to ongoing enquiries. In the second, a driver was issued with a fixed penalty in relation to speeding.

A resident has notified FCC that a 101 report has been made (including video footage and registration number) about a speeding vehicle (a regular event) on the road through Balloan to Alcaig. Alastair thanked the resident for such detailed observations and will follow up with PC John MacPherson.

Ferintosh Volunteers: HTSI has updated its contacts into all the community groups for pandemic support and Ferintosh Volunteers' contact details have now replaced FCC's contact details. Grit Bin map for Culbokie has been updated for THC.

Black Isle Partnership: Becky reported back from yesterday's meeting at which Wanda Mackay gave a presentation about the mental health and wellbeing of our younger residents. Ferintosh Volunteers has picked this need up to explore possible future support.

Port of Cromarty Firth: Becky attended last week's meeting with the key observation that, with Sottish Government support, PCF would apply to become a Green Port rather than the Freeport approach.

CORRESPONDENCE and REQUESTS (please contact FCC on ferintoshcc30@gmail.com if you would like any further information on these items):

THC: Related to the pandemic, provided regular updating briefings (now weekly) as a Community Resilience Group; information on a Fuel Support Fund; The Ideas Fund: funding for community projects supporting wellbeing in the community.

THC: Scam suggesting refund for new council tax banding. When this was put out to the email list, residents came back with their own very individual experiences of scams (vaccinations, HMRC, Talk Talk, Mastercard) which were then explained back to residents together with an advice booklet; **HSCN:** received newsletter;

Black Isle Show is cancelled for 2021; **HTSI** updates on training and funding; **Time to Talk Day Café;** **NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland:** received Guidelines on the Long Term Effects of Covid 19; **Police Scotland:** consultation about the use of body worn video being used by armed officers; **Cromarty and District CC** contacted all community councils offering market stall infrastructure that is now surplus to its requirement. CCT has taken up the offer and the Culbokie Primary School has offered storage.

Residents have raised again an issue of **seagull nuisance** in Mount Eagle Court exacerbated by residents regularly feeding the gulls. Advice from THC and RSPB is clear that gulls should not be fed. Residents are now considering putting a poster around the local houses and FCC has offered to create a poster (Eilidh /Becky have drafted for Noticeboard) for distribution once covid restrictions are eased; Resident passed on a report indicating **poor broadband** outside Culbokie in the FCC patch.

INTERACTION WITH RESIDENTS: None

AOCB: New label (thanks to Karen) put on to FCC's Suggestion Box on outside wall of Culbokie Spar.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 10 March online at 7pm.

Contact details for comments; to join the email list; to receive minutes electronically:

Bruce Morrison, Secretary, 01349 877127; ferintoshcc30@gmail.com, <http://ferintoshcc.co.uk>;
<http://fb.me/Ferintosh>