

FERINTOSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ONLINE ON WEDNESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2021

MEMBERS: Karen Harcus (Chair), Emilia Leese, Alison Lowe (Treasurer), Alastair Macintyre, Iain McCallum, Bruce Morrison (Secretary).

ALSO PRESENT: 4 residents.

APOLOGIES: Aileen Wilson, Sally Falconer, Adam Fletcher (Associate), Cllr Gordon Adam, PC John MacPherson.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (to take no part in relevant discussions): Emilia declared an interest in the planning applications for Urquhart Farm and Drummondreach and took no part in the discussions.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: (excluding actions carried out, carried forward and those considered later in the agenda): **Overgrown access to Monadh Mor:** Resident can't find volunteer support to clear path; **Proliferation of houses** on crofting land: Emilia provided detailed background with more information from the resident who raised the issue; **Tulloch Homes' Glascairn Development:** Karen reported back from a useful meeting with Tulloch Homes Ltd (THL). THL explained its system for dealing with all residents' communications including the provision of an email address. THL said that they had responded to all residents' comments and had had a meeting with residents which had helped to alleviate concerns. THL has communicated with THC about the alleged breach of condition of more than 10 houses per annum. Because THL was providing affordable units which were outside the condition, THL was not in breach of this condition. The delay on the footpath was due to the delay in agreement of land ownership (THL/CCT/Cairn) and now that the agreement is in place, THL can access the land and will notify residents in advance of the work commencing. Concerns about noise levels had been looked at through three separate monitoring reviews which had shown no breach of condition. THL will soon be moving its work away from the Glascairn Road which will reduce noise levels for local residents. THL and FCC will continue to meet monthly; **Facebook** page will continue to be updated by Becky /Eilidh; **Online access** for future meetings in halls (Karen has re-contacted Di Agnew for advice).

MINUTES: Last month's minutes were approved (proposed by Alison, seconded by Emilia). Minutes of Special meeting in August were approved (proposed by Karen, seconded by Alison).

FINANCIAL REPORT: Alison reported no transactions this month so £5033.54 remains available for project funding. Calico has agreed to implement a three-year discount from next May.

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).

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). Planners have recommended to NPAC that this be GRANTED with conditions to respect the vernacular building traditions of the area and integrate the proposal into its landscape setting.

20/02989/FUL: Two agricultural buildings, 105m NE of Northwood, Urquhart, Alcaig: Object. Planners have recommended to NPAC that this be GRANTED with conditions against non-agricultural use.

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

21/01214/FUL: 67m to tip wind turbine, 2300m NW of Fannyfield House, Swordale, Evanton: Object (visual impact).

21/02794/FUL: House /Detached Garage, 35m SE, Elder, Cruachan, Eight Acres (GRANTED) and 21/03333/FUL: House, 70m SE, Elder, Cruachan, Eight Acres: Objection replaced by a comment (Special Meeting: 24 August 2021) strongly reinforcing the need for the road safety works to be carried out with land ownership and road surety bond issues also raised. Bruce suggested that should there continue to be no sign of the road safety measures over the next few months that FCC makes contact again with the concerned residents to consider what action to take. Iain has undertaken to contact THC fortnightly on the progress of the road safety consent and implementation. Iain reported back from THC that introducing a surety bond would take too long to implement. Residents reported that land ownership issues may still need to be resolved but will engage constructively in seeking a fair solution.

Comments lodged:

20/01453 /FUL: Retrospective application for woodworking business, Old Grain Store, Culbokie: GRANTED with concerns noted.

21/02012/FUL and 21/01863/FUL: New houses, Eight Acres, Culbokie: GRANTED

21/01624/FUL: Extension, garage, outbuilding, Willowbank, Brae of Kinkell: Comments lodged requesting that residents' concerns should be considered for mitigation measures.

21/02095/FUL: House, north of Lochside, Duncanston: Comment questioning fit with Hinterland Policy.

21/01558/FUL: Extension to stable block, timber clad portacabin, 160m SE of 4 Corntown: GRANTED with concerns noted.

New Applications:

21/03450/PNO: Agricultural building, Bogburn Farmhouse, Balnabeen: No comment

21/03704/FUL: House, 35m NE of Solas, Duncanston: No comment

21/04070/FUL : Extension /alterations, Torwood, Culbokie: No comment

21/03549/PNO: Agricultural building, 270m SE of Woodhill, Brae of Balnabeen. FCC has been made aware that the construction underway seems to be extra to the original PNO, in a more prominent position and may be usable as residential space. FCC will inform the planners of the concerns about a possible breach.

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**): Second request went out to Ferintosh Volunteers for volunteers as 'pothole hunters' and a group of six volunteers has now come forward. Further efforts to expand this team to cover the worst of FCC's roads will now be carried out.

Service requests have been submitted to THC for repairs on the Old Coulnagour Road (diagonally opposite the shop); bollard opposite shop knocked over; flooding in Cocked Hat Wood.

Ferintosh Community Bus (FCB): The work on the livery for the new electric vehicle has now been completed with the help of feedback from those residents (about 80 to 90) who have shown particular interest in this project from the beginning. The logo of 'Wee Ferintosh Bus' with a black and yellow livery and a red kite has now been accepted with the strap line of 'connecting us'. An article for the next Noticeboard has been written including comments from some current passengers. The next partnership meeting is next week.

Email list: Up two to 693 (over 40% of voting residents).

Black Isle Community Councils (BICC): Karen and Bruce attended an online meeting of the Black Isle Community Councils with the main relevant topic to do with BICC's future interaction with the new Black Isle Area Committee (BIAC). There were strong feelings expressed that community councils must remain as the key community organisations to be consulted with by the BIAC and the current Chair would draft a proposed letter to that effect.

REPORTS (from public bodies and local organisations):

Police Scotland: Written report was received with three incidents. A driver on the B9169 issued with a fixed penalty for no MOT. On A9 Cromarty Bridge a driver was reported for careless driving and at Newton of Kinkell a driver was issued with a fixed penalty for driving without MOT.

Alastair to follow up on fast driving along the B9163, Balloan.

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

Organisations: Newsletters from THC/NHS, ecogreencommunities, Scottish Community Alliance, HTSI, HSCN; SG: Consultation on **National Care Service** now open (sent to email list); **HTSI:** Invitation to Children Services Forum, 06/09; **Institute of Public Policy and Government:** invitation to October conference tackling loneliness and isolation; **HTSI:** Vacancies, opportunities; **THC:** EV Rally from 8th to 12th November, during COP26; **SSE Renewables:** informing of its £10M investment in community projects; **Scribefest:** September conference bringing town and parish communities together; **NHS:** looking for a Board member; **THC:** sources of funding; **Findon Hall:** looking for solutions to dog waste being deposited in its green bin (Bruce in discussion); **CAB:** looking for more Board members; **THC/NHS** -weekly updates; **SG: Local Housing /Planning Committee:** reviewing Boundaries Scotland proposals on Ward boundaries (sent to email list; residents content with proposals); **HTSI:** Together for our Planet Fund (23/09/2021).

Residents: Request to find out whether the A9 buses stop at Duncanston (yes the 25 and X25 do); two separate reports of **increasing dog** and horse mess (CCT informed for woods location) (Alison has also received some concerns with suggestion for the provision of waste bags for those that have forgotten); concern about **safety on core path** into Culbokie Woods (Bruce engaging with Access Officer and residents); request for **past minutes** (satisfied); **flooding in Cocked Hat Wood**; **potholes** in a Culbokie street; **difficult egress** (trees, bushes obscuring) on to the B9169 from the road across from the shop (residents trying to resolve); notification of a **scam involving Tesco vouchers**; through Neighbourhood Watch - **new fire alarm** regulations.

INTERACTION WITH RESIDENTS: None

AOCB: Adam is no longer able to manage website so Bruce has taken that over but **social media** communication may need to be improved (resident suggested looking for a school student doing Duke of Edinburgh Award); Bruce to continue sending all **incoming emails** to FCC; FCC will continue to engage with **Black Isle Community Councils** rather than the weekly BI communities' meetings (inform CCT).

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 6 October 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>