

FERINTOSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT MULBUIE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 11 JANUARY 2023

MEMBERS: Sally Falconer, Karen Marcus (Chair), Jim Holden, Alison Lowe (Treasurer), Iain McCallum, Bruce Morrison (Secretary), Aileen Wilson.

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr Lyndsey Johnston, 2 residents.

APOLOGIES: Emilia Leese, Alastair Macintyre, PC John MacPherson, 1 resident.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (to take no part in relevant discussions): None.

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

Aileen reported that the container on the Culbokie Green had now been moved to a less intrusive position.

No finger sign at the shop (Action: Becky).

FCC discussed the invitation by Muir of Ord Community Council to join other Community Councils in approaching THC collectively to improve communications and partnership working with THC. FCC agreed to join an initial meeting (Bruce to reply).

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

FINANCIAL REPORT: Alison reported on two transactions i.e. £28.78 out (Zoom subscriptions) and £217.67 in (cash fares from FCB volunteer driver journeys; ring fenced for FCB promotion). £4171.54 available for local projects.

PLANNING/LICENSING MATTERS (only new information included):

Objections Lodged:

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

21/04324/PIP: New House, 165m S of Foxlea House, Highfield Park (Hinterland, flooding, contamination). FRMT (Flood Risk Management Team) has objected. Drainage plans submitted (October) and FRMT again objected.

22/03826/PNO: Erection of roof structure between agricultural buildings, Land 105M NE Of Northwood, Urquhart, Alcaig, Conon Bridge: THC has deemed 'NOT PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT' and full application required. Applicant has put in more detail to justify the development and has now been GRANTED. Iain will write to Dafydd Jones asking why the decision had been changed.

Comments lodged:

22/02928/PIP: Erection of a house, Land to West of Achnairn, Highfield Park, Conon Bridge. FRMT has objected. FCC supported residents' comments.

21/05575/PIP: House, 55m SE of 7 Raven Croft, Culbokie: FCC registered as consultee.

21/05576/PIP: House, east of Schoolcroft, Culbokie: GRANTED

21/05577/PIP: House, east of Schoolcroft, Culbokie: GRANTED

Iain noted in relation to the two PIPs granted above, the financial contribution to the Ferintosh Wee Bus, required as a Condition by THC Transport team, had not been included in the PIP grant. Iain to pursue with the case officer why not and could it be included at the detailed planning stage.

Alleged Breaches of Conditions:

20/01531/FUL: Plot 1, 45m SE of Mulbuie Hall: No 1.2m pathway. Reply to FCC letter had been received from THC stating that indeed the pathway should have been constructed and THC will pursue.

Planning Enforcement Charter Report lodged for alleged breach in the grounds of the former Church of Scotland site at Urquhart (22/00103/ENF). Iain has been assured that the containers will be moved once extensions are completed but details not available (*sub-judice*). Owner to apply for planning.

New Applications: None

ACTIVE PROJECTS (split into 'Report' and 'For Discussion'. 'Reports' are now circulated to Community Councillors before the meeting (and to residents at the meeting) and not presented orally at the meeting. Questions welcome under 'Interaction with Residents' and 'AOCB'. The meeting now only addresses those issues under 'For Discussion').

Community Services: Report: Nothing this month. For Discussion: nothing.

Flooding: Report: Residents/FCC to assess any impact of the efforts of the working party to unblock the outflow of the sump. For Discussion: FCC discussed the previous efforts to lobby in support of the full flood defence system and Cllr Lyndsey agreed to try again to set up a business meeting with Iain Moncrieff with FCC present (Bruce to initiate).

Community Link Project: Report: No further feedback from the project about the level of support for our residents so will raise at the upcoming forum with Dingwall Medical Group. For Discussion: nothing.

BICC: Report: nothing. For Discussion: nothing.

Ferintosh Volunteers: Report: FV successfully completed its annual Christmas Tree Trail in Culbokie Woods and was enjoyed by many in the community. FCC thanked FV for all its continuing volunteering efforts for the community. For Discussion: nothing.

Pothole Hunters: Report: Under the terms of the new agreement between FCC and THC, THC duly informed FCC before the end of 2022 about its proposed surface dressing plan for FCC's area in 2023. The roads that were patched during 2022 were put into a long list of roads around the Black Isle for discussion with Black Isle Councillors. FCC has been informed that, within a more constrained financial situation, the proposed short list to be put in front of the Black Isle Area Committee does not contain any roads in the FCC area. The volunteer Pothole Hunters have been consulted for their views as to whether to continue with this project. All replies received wished to continue supporting. For Discussion: In the light of the volunteers' responses, FCC agreed to continue to support this project sating the value of continuing to put effort into communicating constructively with THC (Bruce to confirm with THC). Cllr Lyndsey added that some of the FCC roads were very high up the long list but the financial constraints were so severe that only one Black Isle road has been included in the 2023 programme.

Ferintosh Community Bus (FCB): Report: Journeys have continued to grow substantially (see data below) and particularly in those carried out by the volunteer drivers. Three residents have generously come forward to boost the pool to nine volunteers who will be ready to drive in the New Year following registration and training. The use of the app for the weekday journeys has bedded in well with valuable prompts and tracking for travelling residents. Promotional effort will be restarted this month with particular focus on providing a service to students requiring After School Study.

Monthly data (single passenger journey equivalents): Jan:34; Feb:38 (1 volunteer journey); Mar:50 (2 volunteer journeys); Apr:49 (6 volunteer journeys); May:39 (3 volunteer journeys); June:43 (8 volunteer journeys); July: 52 (8 volunteer journeys); August:47 (5 volunteer journeys); September:46 (27 volunteer journeys); October:83 (36 volunteer journeys); November:117 (61 volunteer journeys); December:95 (46 volunteer journeys).

For Discussion: nothing.

Email list: Report: Increase of 2 to 787 (over 44% (est. 783) of voting residents). The very positive interest of the many new Culbokie residents over the past year in becoming informed of community matters has enlarged this list significantly. For FCC to continue to grow this list, different types of effort will be required. For Discussion: nothing

REPORTS (from public bodies and local organisations):

Police Scotland: Received the monthly report with three incidents as follows: on B9169 at Easter Kinkell a driver was reported for driving whilst disqualified, no insurance and attempt to pervert the course of justice. The owner of the vehicle was also reported for cause and permit with no insurance; on A835 a driver was issued with a fixed penalty for careless driving; on A9 at Duncanston, a driver was arrested and reported for drink driving.

CORRESPONDENCE and REQUESTS (split into 'Report' and 'For Discussion'. 'Reports' are now circulated to Community Councillors before the meeting (and to residents at the meeting) and not presented orally at the meeting. Questions welcome under 'Interaction with Residents' and 'AOCB'. The meeting now only addresses those issues under 'For Discussion').

Organisations: Report: **Newsletters** from SCA/CCT/SRA; **Spanglefish:** new website design for Community Councils; **Calico UK** acquired by Hostworld Internet Limited; **FLS** via CCT: tree felling brought forward (circulated through the email list); **THC:** Community Resilience information including emergency numbers and support for gritting pavements; **Ferintosh Free Church:** promoting its Carol Services (on to facebook); **THC/CCT:** update on reinstatement soon of Core Path sign for Glascairn Wood; **THC (Ward Manager, Councillors)** Xmas greetings and thanks to FCC; **Moray Firth Coastal Partnership:** seeking community support in 'Sea The Value', a natural capital and biodiversity project seeking help for a mapping exercise in May 2023; **Raddery House Ltd:** offering to explain plans for its future development; **British Divers Marine Life Rescue:** looking for help to publicise its work around the Black Isle and advice for residents; **Cairn Housing:** invitation to FCC to attend Opening Ceremony at Culbokie Green, 12pm, 24/1/23 (Bruce will attend).

For Discussion: Nothing.

Residents: Report: **very poor emergency response** to a Priority Registered resident by SSE/Ovo; the **wee bus** provided a wonderful service; **inadvisability of using salt** to de-ice recycling area car park surface; informing FCC that **container on Tullochs site** has been moved; checking whether **shop charge point** had one or two connection points (only one); concern about possible **loss of early morning Inverness Bus Service 22**; reporting **the loss** of a memory stick; curious about THC taking **bus services in house** and involving Culbokie.

For Discussion: FCC discussed the loss of some direct bus services between Culbokie and Inverness in the recent bus timetable changes made by Stagecoach. FCC agreed to submit a strong request for reinstatement of the services with suggestions for areas of discussion and compromise. The submission will also deplore the lack of consultation with FCC's community. Cllr Lyndsey and Cllr Sarah Atkin to be included in lobbying approach (Bruce to construct a draft submission).

INTERACTION WITH RESIDENTS: None

AOCB: Cllr Lyndsey informed the meeting about very recent discussions about the now very frequent closures of the Kessock Bridge. THC has a group working up emergency plans. Many views and ideas to mitigate were provided in discussion which Cllr Lyndsey will convey back to the working group.

Becky requested that FCC be used as the vehicle to allow access to geospatial mapping data for the local place plan contractor to use. FCC agreed.

Bruce raised with Cllr Lyndsey the plans the Black Isle Area Committee has for including community groups in its consultation processes. Cllr Lyndsey explained that the BIAC is looking to use its monthly Business Meeting (with Community Council involvement for specific priority issues) as its main consultation vehicle. Community input is also possible following the publication of papers a week before the quarterly BIAC Meetings (Jim to review the papers ahead of the next such meeting on 31/01/23).

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 8 February, 7.15pm at Culbokie Primary School.

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>