

# FERINTOSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT CULBOKIE PRIMARY SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAY 10 MAY 2023

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Cllr Lyndsey Johnston, 1 resident.

**APOLOGIES:** Emilia Leese, Alastair Macintyre, Becky Richmond (Associate), PC Robert Smith, Cllr Sarah Atkin, Cllr Morven-May MacCallum.

**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):

Noticeboard leaflet: Becky

Our Future Highland: Bruce explained his efforts to find out from THC what the state of play was concerning this November 2022 consultation. A range of senior people in THC had been contacted and despite a quick response from the Leader, no updating information had been received and no information could be found on the website. Cllr Johnston recalled some feedback and Jim found a document through Google. Meeting agreed that a phone call to the Leader (Cllr Bremner) explaining this specific example of the general frustration about poor communication between THC and Community Councils should be made. Draft conversation to be circulated to include points such as putting this on record, national standards of consultation, need to work better in partnership etc.

**MINUTES:** Last month's minutes were approved (proposed by Iain, seconded by Sally).

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Alison reported no transactions during April so no change to balance of £5046.91 and £3975.54 available for projects. Ring-fenced funds for Mulbuie Hall: Karen to approach Mulbuie Hall Committee explaining the background and to explain that the funds will have to be released unless a project proposal comes forward before the end of August although all future project proposals would be welcomed.

**PLANNING /LICENSING MATTERS** (only new information included):

Objections Lodged:

20/02232/FUL: Erection of two houses, 46m SW Drummondreach Steading, Alcaig (not brownfield). A modification to reduce to one house has been made to the application but with no reduction to the boundaries of the development site. FCC has been given consultee status and agreed to reconfirm its objection on exactly the same bases as the original application. Iain has reconfirmed objection.

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.

23/00446/PIP: Residential Development, access, landscaping, drainage and associated works, land At Mount Eagle, Culbokie (i.e. Mount Eagle estate in Culbokie): Objection submitted.

Comments lodged:

22/06188/PIP: Erection of house, land 30m SW of Logie Farmhouse, Muir of Allangrange, Muir of Ord, IV6 7RB: Comment lodged requesting THC implement Hinterland Policy. Remind Dafydd Jones of FCC's desire to get a sense of the future general development of this area (Action: Iain).

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. An update on progress to be requested (Action: Iain).

#### New Applications:

23/01451/PIP: Erection of house, Land 68M South Of Eight Acres, Smithfield, Culbokie: Comment has been submitted requesting a condition to use existing road access.

23/01686/FUL: Erection of House and Shed, Land 30M South Of Dalshian, Alcaig, Conon Bridge: no comment (from previous meeting).

**ACTIVE PROJECTS** (split into 'Report' and '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 'Discussion').

**Community Services:** Report: reported full recycling bins in Culbokie and received good response. Discussion: nothing.

**Flooding:** Report: Bruce reported that this issue is now, on request, on the Ward Business Meeting Agenda for Monday 5 June. Discussion: nothing.

**Community Link Project:** Report: Nothing to report. Discussion: nothing.

**BICC:** Report: Alison attended the recent BICC meeting from which a draft letter to THC (concerning improved working between THC and Community Councils) has been received for FCC comment. Discussion: The draft letter was discussed and FCC felt it required some significant changes (Bruce to draft a reply for discussion).

**Ferintosh Volunteers:** Report: nothing. Discussion: nothing.

**Pothole Hunters:** Report: A map of the area highlighting the worst potholed areas was sent to THC and Bruce attended a meeting with Iain Moncrieff and Pablo Mascarhenas. THC is very grateful for the intelligence work being put in by the Pothole Hunters. Having become convinced of the efficiency gains, there was a feeling that the pilot model has the potential to be rolled out across other communities. A review of pothole repair progress this summer will take place on 11/09/23 with another attempt to put some roads into the capital (surface dressing) programme for 2024. THC has agreed to look again at the effectiveness of the separate reporting system for 'safety critical' potholes (end of May deadline). A meeting has been set up for 11/11/23 to review Summer progress. Discussion: nothing.

**Ferintosh Community Bus (FCB):** Report: 43 total passenger journeys by the volunteers with a pattern emerging overall that the majority of journeys are being taken by residents (without their own vehicles) using the FCB to access work. Demand is steadily increasing with pressure (in a good way) on flexibility of journey planning required. We're hopeful that supporting the students who take After School Activities will begin very soon. Alison is now engaged in discussion with THC/CSI looking to provide more flexibility in choosing destinations for residents whilst focusing on the shorter journeys in order to increase the availability for residents.

Discussion: School groups may be able to use the THC school buses during the day (Alison to continue this discussion with THC).

**Email list:** Report: Up 5 to 797 (over 44% (est. 783) of voting residents). Discussion: nothing.

**Primary Care Issues:** Report: No issues have been raised by residents. Discussion: nothing.

#### **REPORTS** (from public bodies and local organisations):

**Police Scotland:** Received the monthly report of two incidents, both at the junction of the A9 and the B9169 (failing to report an accident; driving over the breath limit).

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

**Organisations:** Report: **Newsletters** from CCT/ CCA/SRA/HSCN/SCA; **THC:** received access to an online training guide on the planning system for Community Councils; **CCT:** sensitive to residents' concerns about shipping container; needs to be there so compromise is to paint it green; **THC:** defining Gaelic Medium catchment areas (sent to email list); **Avoch & Killen CC:** informed that the CC is looking for new Office Bearers in the upcoming elections; **University of Aberdeen:** "Sea the Value": research project looking at the benefits of connection between communities and the Cromarty Firth (online explanatory sessions on Monday 15th May at 13:00-14:00 and Tuesday 16th May at 19:00-20:00); **THC:** applications open for Highland Youth Convener (sent to email list); **Local Energy Scotland:** new fund opening in August for community buildings to improve energy efficiency (sent to village asset holders); **Community of Concerns** about new Power Line: encouraging FCC to be present at an 18 May meeting to voice a view and concern; **CCT:** promoting Wildlife Talk on Saturday 13 May.

Discussion: Request to attend Power Line meeting: FCC agreed not to attend the meeting as the period of consultation is closed and no significant interest or concern had been raised by residents (Bruce to reply). THC (Dafydd Jones) to be thanked for all the effort put into producing the Community Council training package on planning.

**Residents:** Report: **reported litter** (including sanitary products) on public space opposite Findon Hall; resident's back garden in Culbokie regularly being used **for cans, food packaging litter**; reporting about poor Scotnet broadband service and **poor broadband access** generally in the western area of the FCC area; bottle **recycling bins** in Culbokie centre are full (reported to THC with a good response); flooding on Glascairn Road still not resolved by Tullochs (THC contacted again).

Discussion: nothing.

**INTERACTION WITH RESIDENT:** For information, resident informed FCC that THC had not given permission for a flag to be flown in a private garden; thought should be given to promoting the need for dog owners to keep their dogs on a lead in the presence of livestock; thank you to FCC and Cllr Johnston for their efforts.

**AOCB:** Jim to scan the papers for the next Black Isle Committee when first produced. Cllr Johnston informed the meeting that overlaying will begin soon on the Mount Eagle Road (Cllr Johnston thanked for her support in raising the need for these repairs).

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 14 June, 7.15pm at Ferintosh Hall**

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

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