

FERINTOSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ONLINE ON WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2024

MEMBERS: Paul Cottis, Emilia Leese (Joint Vice-Chair), Alison Lowe (Treasurer), Iain McCallum, Peter Moffatt, Bruce Morrison (Secretary), Becky Richmond (Chair), Aileen Wilson (Joint Vice-Chair).

ALSO PRESENT: None.

APOLOGIES: Cllr Lyndsey Johnston (Ex-officio member), PC Robert Smith.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (to take no part in relevant discussions): Becky declared an interest in the BI Place Plan and would take no part in any relevant discussions.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: (excluding actions carried out, carried forward and those considered later in the agenda. Split into 'Report' and 'Discussion'. 'Reports' are circulated to Community Councillors before the meeting (and to residents at the meeting) and not presented orally at the meeting).

Reports: **Associate membership** of local organisations and individuals: Becky to submit some proposals for March.

Community Planning Partnership: Becky's meeting with Laura Fisher is having to be rearranged.

Grass Cutting: Paul met up with John MacLeod (THC) and CCT at the site outside the school. THC is cutting back even further on grass cutting this year and could offer no help. There is unlikely to be any immediate progress on the Active Travel plans that will bring with them some helpful maintenance. Paul will approach THC Roads to find out what minimum work they are planning to do this year. Local residents around the area are to be informed by leaflet of the new situation and to seek thoughts and ideas. Alison suggested assisting any endeavours with the ring-fenced £250.

A835 Junctions: BEAR Scotland replied saying that Special Authorisation would be necessary for the use of Accident Black Spot signs. FCC made the case to do so.

Baluachrach: no pavements on one internal road: Cllr Johnston has followed up with the planners. Discussion: No issues.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT: Alison reported no transactions this month and £4373.92 remains available for projects. Zurich Insurance payment is due but with only a modest increase.

PLANNING /LICENSING MATTERS (only new information included):

Objections Lodged:

21/04324/PIP: New House, 165m S of Foxlea House, Highfield Park (Hinterland, flooding, contamination). Flood team has maintained its objection.

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. Applicant has approached THC Transport Team with proposals to which THC has raised no objections.

23/02754/S36: Abhainn Dubh Wind Farm (major, 13 turbines), Heights of Dochcarty: THC has been given an extension until 5 July 2024 to make decision (targeting the June NPAC). In the light of further resident objections being raised, FCC will reinforce its objection to Scottish Government.

Comments lodged:

ECU00004851 Carn Fearna Scoping: comments lodged following consultation. Iain to set out indicative timetable.

Fairburn Wind Farm extension: Iain has asked to be kept up to date with future proposals.

23/05437/PIP: Erection of two houses (renewal of 20/04566/PIP), Land 90M NE of Suil Beinne, Muir of Ord: FCC registered as consultee. Iain has written to Dafydd Jones (no response as yet) about this (and other relevant local applications here) requesting THC's view of where the line is to be drawn between acceptable and over development on this road (plan

submitted). Dafydd Jones has replied concerning the 1.2m footpath and has confirmed that his Enforcement Team is approaching all relevant applicants.

23/05543/MSC: Erection of house, Land 25M East of Tyree, Muir of Allangrange, Muir of Ord: FCC registered as consultee. As 23/05437/PIP above.

23/05539/FUL: Erection of extension to dwelling and access point altered, Logie Farmhouse, Muir of Allangrange, Muir of Ord, IV6 7RB: FCC registered as consultee. As 23/05437/PIP above.

Alleged Breaches of Conditions:

23/02254/FUL (renewal of 20/01531/FUL): Plot 1, 45m SE of Mulbuie Hall: No 1.2m pathway. THC replied stating that indeed the pathway should have been constructed and THC will pursue. As 23/05437/PIP above.

Planning Enforcement Charter: Report lodged for alleged breach in the grounds of the former Church of Scotland site at Urquhart (22/00103/ENF). Development activity is now ongoing and will be removed on completion.

New Applications:

23/05741/MSC: Erection of dwelling and associated works (20/02674/PIP), Land 30M South of Dalshian, Alcaig, Conon Bridge: Iain has received confirmation that there will be only one access point.

24/00035/FUL: Erection of 3no. garages and change from vertical to horizontal external cladding on 3no. houses (amended design 21/04135/FUL), An Turas, Muir Of Allangrange, Muir Of Ord, IV6 7RB: No comment.

23/05917/FUL: Increase turbine height from 55m to 81m, Somerby Farm, Dingwall: following community consultation, FCC has submitted an objection.

24/00318/PIP: Erection of house, Land 50M East of Eight Acres, Smithfield, Culbokie: No comment.

ACTIVE PROJECTS (split into 'Report' and 'Discussion'. Some 'Reports' are now circulated to Community Councillors before the meeting (and to residents at the meeting) and therefore not presented orally at the meeting).

Community Services: Report: Paul reported that THC has made some temporary repairs to its bit of the Recycling Area. Discussion: No issues.

Community Link Project: Report: Nothing to report (Aileen). Discussion: No issues.

BICC: Report: A meeting has been organised for 29/02 and Alison will attend. Discussion: No issues.

Ferintosh Volunteers: Report: Aileen reported FV's request to help at the Teanagairn Henge on 19/02. Discussion: No issues.

Flooding: Cllr Johnston has received no feedback from Iain Moncrieff. Discussion: No issues.

Pothole Hunters: Report: Cllr Johnston reported no feedback from a request to understand why the Participation Request reporting by THC has not been completed. Discussion: Following discussion, FCC agreed to write to THC explaining that, should no update be received, then FCC will submit a formal Complaint to THC about breach of legal procedure.

Ferintosh Community Bus (FCB): Report: Bruce reported that demand for the After School service continues to grow and, on occasions, outstrips capacity so FCC is helping to co-ordinate parents' car share. Volunteer drivers met up to discuss issues about the Wee Bus and administration with some simplification ideas emerging. Will now meet monthly to further develop ideas.

An important expansion of the area that the Wee Bus can service has been negotiated by FCC with Stagecoach. The Wee Bus can now take our residents to/from Muir of Ord. Stagecoach has also agreed that the Wee Bus can take residents to/from Dingwall during the day on Tuesdays and Thursdays (already can for early mornings, evenings and weekends). FCC is now liaising with CSIR about the capacity implications of this helpful extension.

Absolutely no communication from THC about contracts/partnership working has been received now for two months and Bruce, Alison, Becky, presented some suggestions as to the way forward. All promotion of the service has ceased until the issues around partnership are resolved.

Discussion: FCC agreed to approach Cllr Johnston to consider a political approach to resolving this stalemate.

Noticeboard: Report: Becky reported back from the leaflet drop about the future distribution of Noticeboard. Many residents have signed up to receive electronically and a small number has requested printed copies. The first edition of Noticeboard to go out under these new arrangements is imminent. Cost of printing leaflets was £57. Becky is going to set up a dedicated email address for all Noticeboard issues. Discussion: No issues.

Email list: Report: Up 2 to 828 to over 46% (46% estimated as 818 voting residents). Discussion: No issues.

Primary Care Issues: Report: Bruce reported back informally from DMG's recent liaison meeting but will await the full minutes before any discussions. Community Councils took an action from the meeting to be proactive in seeking residents' comments about primary care in advance of the next meeting in April. Discussion: No issues.

Corntown Junction: Report: None. Discussion: Becky to contact resident about a future report.

REPORTS (from public bodies and local organisations):

Police Scotland (PS): Report: From PS's report there is one issue: Culbokie: disclose/threaten to disclose photograph /film which shows another person in an intimate situation. Peter felt that this report highlighted the inadequacy of reports in general and has sent a written request to PS for a meeting to discuss both reporting practices and attendance at FCC meetings. Discussion: No issues.

CORRESPONDENCE and REQUESTS (split into 'Report' and 'Discussion'. Some 'Reports' are now circulated to Community Councillors before the meeting (and to residents at the meeting) and not presented orally at the meeting)

Organisations: Report: **Newsletters** from THC/NHS/SCA/CCT/SCA/SRA; **SG:** Update on Democracy Matters consultation; **THC:** Funding Alert; **BIP:** Draft BI Place Plan for FCC to respond to by 16 February; **SSEN:** updates re. storms; **Ferintosh Hall Committee:** reporting success in securing £30K for essential wall repairs (FCC sent its congratulations); **Mid Ross Community Planning Partnership (CPP):** request to be informed about activity in the FCC area concerning Poverty Reduction/Mental Health & Wellbeing/Care for the Elderly; **CPP:** Standard Model, guide to their functioning; **HTSI:** hosting a Democracy Matters event on 30/01; **HTSI:** notification about events explaining National Park proposals; **University of Edinburgh /SRUC:** looking for contributors to a short survey for a research project i.e. Investigation into stakeholder understanding and perception of the Scottish rainforest and the implications of this on conservation of the Scottish rainforest; **Highland Environmental Forum:** interested to know where sites are being managed to preserve nature and/or sites that could become Local Nature Conservation Sites (to be sent to email list); **Cromarty & District Community Council (CDCC):** minutes of monthly meeting; **Mid Ross Core Community Planning Partnership:** Meeting on 20/03; **BEAR Scotland:** notice of roadworks, east of Garve, beginning on 12/02; **TAS Partnership:** Community transport newsletter; **Changeworks Ltd:** seeking households to assist with both energy saving advice and in-kind help; **HSCN:** inverness Warm Welcome; **Cabinet Office:** His Majesty the King's Portrait Scheme: launch to Community Councils; **BIP:** workshop on Tuesday 27th February, Fortrose Library, 7pm to 9pm, to explore governance arrangements for the delivery of the BI Place Plan.

Discussion: Emi chaired a discussion about FCC's response to the BI Place Plan. Peter noted his own comments about the need for attention to retrofit insulation into housing. FCC agreed not to submit any comment given its previous support for the plan. Peter agreed to attend the Governance workshop on behalf of FCC.

Residents: Report: **not happy volunteering** for FCC because of previous FCC objection to planning application; **better road** surface required on upper end of Knockbain/Munlochy road; **flooding** at Mount Eagle road /Greenleonachs junction and upper end of Glascairn road; not clear why Highland Councillors **recommend Zoom** as a better community platform; concern about **regularly slippery**, icy surface on Glascairn Road pavement (THC link to Tulloch's development contacted); copying **FCC into written objection** to the BI Place Plan; **projector** (FCC asset) is now in the hands of a resident; observed **over 40mph** by a vehicle coming into Culbokie; two residents have pointed out **severe potholes** emerging; sees no sense in **20mph** in Culbokie. Discussion: No issues.

INTERACTION WITH RESIDENTS: None.

AOCB: Bruce raised the issue of the now redundant printer (FCC's responsibility) in the Church Centre (Becky to investigate).

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 13 March at Ferintosh Hall, 7.15pm.

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>