

FERINTOSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17 APRIL 2017 IN FERINTOSH HALL

**MEMBERS:** Evelyn Campbell, Sally Falconer, Margaret Kinsman, Colin Lawrence (Treasurer), Iain McCallum (Vice Chair), Roslind MacNaughton, Bruce Morrison (Chair/Secretary), Becky Richmond (co-opted at meeting)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Cllr Isobel McCallum, Inspector David Ogilvie, 8 residents

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr Craig Fraser, PC Mike Howitt, 4 residents

**POLICE MATTERS:** PC Mike Howitt's report was for the past two months with the following incidents: drink driver on the A9; speed check outside Mulbuie School with one driver warned; a non-suspicious domestic garage fire; driver stopped on the A9 with no insurance. Inspector Ogilvie emphasised the dangers of drinking and driving and that the absence of insurance leads to 6 penalty points and a £300 fine. Inspector Ogilvie also gave out a timely message for us to be wary of doorstep traders who find seemingly harmless ways of getting into our houses. He also raised the issue of false phone calls from banks with his advice to simply put the phone down and inform both the bank and Police Scotland (on 101). A resident was concerned about speeding through Easter Kinkell at school opening time and Inspector Ogilvie took note. A resident wondered about the visibility of the 30mph signs into Culbokie from the A9 and Inspector Ogilvie said he would investigate.

**CO-OPTING A COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR:** Becky Richmond was proposed for co-option by Ros, seconded by Iain, and agreed by all the elected community councillors (Sally, Colin, Iain, Ros, Bruce). Becky was thanked for putting herself forward to save the FCC from dissolution and it is now very likely that all the necessary office bearers will be appointed at May's AGM.

**MINUTES:** February's minutes were approved (proposed by Colin, seconded by Sally). There was no meeting in March.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

**MATTERS ARISING:** (excluding actions carried out, carried forward and those considered later in the agenda): None

**WRITTEN FINANCIAL REPORT:** Colin presented the accounts as an extract from the annual accounts for 2016/2017. Colin explained that the accounts were now much simpler than before with ring-fenced funds spent and the surpluses available for community projects reduced to the more manageable level of about £4K. The main beneficiaries throughout the year had been the schools. Remaining approved funding yet to be claimed include defibrillator (moving from Findon Hall to phone box) and commercial kitchen (Findon Hall).

**CORRESPONDENCE and REQUESTS:** Consultation on **Scottish Planning System** was received and put out for individual residents to respond to. FCC also agreed to put in supportive comments for the trend towards greater community involvement; to the possibility of Local Place Plans being brought forward by the community; to find ways to engage younger people; but to request that the way community councils function be reviewed in order to make them more interesting to residents. A request for greater resources and training would also be lodged; FCC responded to Consultation on **Local Fire Plan Review** highlighting a concern about the inaccuracy of post codes; **Highland Commission for Local**

**Democracy** -Interim Report was circulated; FCC did not respond to SG Consultation on **Unconventional Oil and Gas**; Correspondence received about the **Black Isle Swimming Pool** proposal; **Hustings** on 25<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm, Fortrose Theatre.

#### **ACTIVE PROJECTS:**

**LEAD PROJECT - SUPPORT FOR THOSE WHO NEED SUPPORT** – Through Kate Forbes' office, a response was received from the Minister for Public Health, Aileen Campbell, explaining the new support mechanisms for carers coming into force from 1 April 2018. FCC is also part of an NHS Network and, in response to a consultation, agreed to submit a view that Community Partnerships should focus on Community Transport and Improved Communication about Support Services.

**Crask Junction:** No finances found from 2016 /2017 budget so on the list for 2017 /18.

**Buses:** Intense lobbying by residents and FCC has failed to overturn Stagecoach's decision to no longer divert buses off the A9 through Culbokie for commuters in the early morning and early evening. A group of residents has formed the Culbokie Action Group to find solutions, including community transport, for the next generation. The group is holding a public meeting at 7.30pm, Findon Hall on Thursday 20 April with Evelyn representing FCC.

**Speed Issues Outstanding: Culbokie Speedwatch** – THC carried out speed monitoring at NE end of Culbokie in March ahead of Speedwatch activity there through until end of May. THC is monitoring both ends of village in June. FCC supported the volunteers' plans to seek many more volunteers or to stop the activity if insufficient numbers come forward.

**Broadband:** Kate Forbes' team has secured a BT investigation of poor broadband in the FCC area. Colin reported a strong response for information from residents that is required for the BT investigation.

**Service Requests Outstanding:** The six month review with THC (Iain Moncrieff) took place driving around the FCC area. Actions already carried out include **replacement bollards**, some **pothole filling** and **flood prevention** for a house. Actions to be carried out include **speed monitoring** on the old Leanaig road, **white lining on B9169** (early summer), most **severe potholes** to be filled and two signs outside **Mulbuie School** to be removed. The remaining outstanding issues include **Pedestrian crossing** at A835/B9163 junction, **Flooding down** road opposite shop, **Passing places** and broken edges on Mount Eagle road, **40 mph outside Mulbuie School**, **Bus Stop** markings on A9.

**Culbokie Gathering- now 'Cool'bokie, Saturday 16 September:** Meeting took place at Fortrose Academy identifying possible teenager support. The main organisations in Culbokie met again and are now developing the all day programme.

**Safer Routes to Schools:** Proposed build-outs have an internal channel for cyclists. FCC unclear about the timing of the final consultations and implementation.

#### **Representative and Appointed Positions:**

**Black Isle Community Councils** – No minutes yet received from February meeting.

**Culbokie Community Trust** – Discussions are continuing with Tulloch Homes attempting to agree a joint design leading to a Heads of Agreement. A public consultation is planned if discussions come to an agreement.

**LEADER** – An extension of the Black Isle Community Car Scheme into the Tain area has been awarded funds.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS** (only new information included):

Update on Objections lodged:

**Beechfield**, 2 Houses (Flood specialists in THC have lodged concerns; to be considered by NPAC); New house, NW of **Feorvan** (to be considered by NPAC); **Eight Acres** – Developer has gone to appeal and the Reporter has upheld the appeal; there is a condition to complete safety requirements on subsequent house developments; Self storage units, **Corntown Steadings** – Applicant has submitted traffic management report.

Update on Comments lodged: New House, **E of Dunionn**, Bog of Findon (concern about Crask junction; decision awaited).

New Applications:

17/00802/FUL – Renewal of consent for New House, S of Croft House, Brae of Kinkell: Granted by delegated powers.

17/00725/FUL – Renewal of consent for New House, at Craobhan Ard, Culbokie: Submit concerns about resident safety on the road.

17/00926/FUL – New House, NE of Abercorn Cottage, Easter Kinkell: No comment.

17/00806/7/PIP – House Plots 1&2, SE of Mulbuie Hall: Submit request for conditions on enhancing road safety and for the development design to be sympathetic to the nearby long standing structures.

Past Applications: Previous approval had been given for chicken shed at Brachla with a house only to be built after completion of the chicken shed. With the site now up for sale, FCC will ask in writing to THC for an undertaking to impose the condition. **(All**

**Actions: Iain)**

**AOCB:** Agreed to write to thank the retiring councillors David Alston and Isobel McCallum for their enduring support to FCC over many years. Agreed to take the new web-site live.

**(Actions: Bruce)**

Evelyn reported back from an interesting briefing meeting with the Port of Cromarty Firth. Highlights included: series of quarterly meetings with all community councils involved; after last year's fatality, considerable H&S systems development; security threat remains at the highest level; community awards possible provided the community council supports; impending sea trials involving an aircraft carrier is delaying the new application for ship-to-ship oil transfer **(Action: Evelyn to check)**; consultation imminent for new permits to allow decommissioning.

**INTERACTION WITH RESIDENTS:** Two enquiries about funding from FCC for projects by Ferintosh Hall and the Culbokie Action Group were mentioned and both groups were encouraged to apply for funding.

**DATE OF AGM / NEXT MEETING:** Monday 15 May, 7pm, Culbokie Primary School

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

Bruce Morrison 01349 877127; <http://ferintoshcc.co.uk>; <http://fb.me/Ferintosh>