

FEUGHDEE WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Approved Minutes of Meeting held in Strachan Hall On Thursday 26th October 2017 at 7.30pm

Present:

Community Councillors:

Mr.I.Brockie, Mr.I.Morrison, Mr. A.Neish, Ms.Lynsey Craig, Mrs.J.Randalls,
Mrs. M. Stallaert, Mr. P.Tyrrell, Ms.Sam Wylde, Mr. S.Richards

Banchory and Mid Deeside Councillors:

Cllr. R. Bruce

Minutes:

Mrs. I.Addison

Members of Public:

3 Members of the public were present.

1. Apologies and Absences

Apologies were tendered by Cllrs. E.Durno and A.Ross, Mr. W.Smith, Mr. I Adams

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes Proposed by : Ms. S.Wylde

Seconded by : Mrs. J. Randalls

3. Treasurer's report

Opening Balance		£ 2,153. 65
Monies received from FO		21,500. 00
		<hr/> 23,653. 65
DD to Information Com.	35. 00	
DD to BT Web-cam	63. 60	98.60
		<hr/>
Closing Balance		£ 23,555. 05

4. Police Matters

No Police were in attendance and nothing was reported. Mrs. J.Randalls intimated that an area Neighbourhood Watch has been set up for anyone who is interested in joining.

Link: <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/knowledge/joining-a-scheme/>

5. Local Development Plan

Mr. Piers Blaxter from Aberdeenshire Council and Ms. Fiona Reid were in attendance and gave a presentation about the Local Development Plan which is due for presentation in 2022.

The Local Development Plan brings together the plans of a range of public services, groups and voluntary organisations and sets out priorities and actions for individual local areas.

It was made clear that this plan takes approximately 4/5 years to complete.

Community engagement is called for in order to identify priority issues first of all. A detailed assessment then leads to a Main Issues Report. This would be followed by a call for bids being published which would be processed with the engagement of Local Community Council through due process.

Time was taken to receive feedback and discussion on the various points raised.

Ms. Fiona Reid gave a detailed report on Feughside West area and in particular on Inchmarlo, Strachan and Auchattie. Topics concerned future expansion of the area, sustainable pattern of settlement, low cost housing, sheltered and special needs services, road development, local services, rural development policies, layout, siting and design. It was generally felt that a more rigorous approach to planning applications should be adhered to in order to avoid the loss of rural character. There was open discussion and various points of view raised and noted. Notes on the proceedings will be made available by Ms. Reid to Chairman.

6. Foundation Scotland

Mr. Iain Catto of Foundation Scotland also gave a detailed report on how F.S. can help communities with the administration of Community Benefit, making it clear how it operates and that other alternatives are available.

A detailed hand-out was made available highlighting how FS operates, how local communities design the fund to meet priorities, the decision making process, timescale, how to develop a strategy, risks and opportunities etc. Full information and questions can be addressed to Mr. Catto at iainc@foundationscotland.org.uk

7. Glen Dye Wind Farm

Ms. Sam Wylde reported that the GDWF Work Group fact sheet is still in process and has been out to independent reviewers for comments before being made available for final review by FWCC, prior to circulation to the local community when complete. Still looking through the material planning concerns and waiting for Environmental Impact Assessment.

It was intimated that the next Community Liaison meeting would be held in Finzean Hall on 7th November, 2017.

Due to heavy work commitments Mr. A. Neish intimated that it was unlikely he would be able to attend.

Some councillors raised concern about the level of information that was being fed back to FWCC. Despite assurances by Mr. Neish that all the information had in fact been communicated, there was a general feeling that it was insufficient and unclear and not all those present agreed with that point of view.

Following the two meetings with Marr Area Partnership, the meeting with LES/CARES and the presentation from Iain Catto from Foundation Scotland, concerns were raised at the lack of any coherent plan from CLG representatives. It has become apparent that there is a significant amount of work required to put in place all the necessary arrangements and agreements etc. for the possible Glendye Windfarm and, to date, there is no sight of any progress on this. It was suggested that additional resources would need to be applied to the CLG Group in order to make a plan and progress the necessary activities.

Mr. Neish felt that the perceived lack of confidence in his role in the Community Liaison Group made it difficult for him to continue acting as a representative of FWCC and stepped down from the responsibility.

Mr. S. Richards volunteered to take over the responsibility as an acting representative but will first contact Coriolis in order to clarify their policy on representation. Mr. S. Richards indicated he would also communicate with Mr. W. Smith to make him aware of the concerns and gain his perspective, prior

to planning the future representation and workload.

8. FWCC Community Benefit Applications

Mr. P. Tyrell gave a report on the current financial status and reported that the £21,500 received from F.O. was already allocated as follows:

£20,000 Strachan Hall Development
£1000 Strachan Youth Club
£500 Strachan Bowling Club

This means that there is £2,400 still sitting with F.O. With a further £7,000 anticipated in January.

9. Planning Issues

Mr. I. Adams was unable to attend but submitted the following planning applications report:

The Belts, Strachan, AB31 6NL

Alterations to Dwellinghouse and formation of balcony.

Awaiting decision. No comments or concerns raised.

Skene Enterprises (Aberdeen) Ltd, Inchmarlo House, Queen Victoria Park, Inchmarlo, AB31 4AL

Removal of 2 beech trees. (replanting proposed)

No concerns raised apart from emphasising the need to replant.

Inchmarlo Hall Store, Bridge of Canny, Banchory, AB31 4AT

Alterations and change of use of store to Community Workshop (retrospective)

No comments or concerns raised.

Low Cost Housing

Councillor R. Bruce intimated that the concerns raised at September's meeting in regard to the lack of progress made in this area had been communicated with the appropriate department by Cllr. Durno.

A response is anticipated in time for November's FWCC meeting.

Cemetery Car Park

It was intimated at the September meeting that Landscape Services were willing to ring-fence funding from their budget to contribute towards this project but there was some perceived dragging of feet on this issue.

Banchory & Mid Deeside Councillors present agreed to approach Roads Department with a view to pushing this forward. Nothing further to report.

10. Transport, Roads and Infrastructure

Trees at Castlehill

Nothing further to report

Road Closure B974 at the Belts

It was intimated that the road would be open again Friday 27th October by 3p.m.

Concerns were raised regarding the increased deterioration in the route that was being used (due to local knowledge) during the road closure rather than using the stipulated diversion. Concerns about the condition of the Brig o' Cammy were also highlighted.

Inchmarlo Speed Limit

It was intimated that due to the high cost involved in installing flashing lights it was highly unlikely that this proposal would be considered.

A public meeting is planned by local residents and a proposal will likely be put to FWCC for further consideration.

11. Education and Youth

Nothing to report.

12. Community Issues

Maintenance of Old Graveyard at Strachan

Due to time constraints, it was agreed to carry this forward to November's meeting.

Play Park

It was intimated that at a Marr Area Committee Meeting earlier in the month a decision "in principle" was made to lease Strachan Playing Field to the Strachan Play Park Group.

Scheme of Establishment

There was a discussion surrounding the implementation of the new Scheme of Establishment which will come into effect in April 2018.

Ms. Kirsty MacLeod, Area Committee Officer for Marr area, who was present, intimated that plans are in place for support to be provided through the transitional period which will last until September 2018.

A proposal which was minuted and passed at the May 2017 FWCC Meeting, which entailed a change of constitution to reflect a more balanced representation of the community, was discussed. The possibility of applying to Marr Area for extra members of Council was also raised.

Ms.K. McLeod will clarify matters, including the May amendment to Constitution, and when it will come into effect, with a particular look at how Inchmarlo representation can be increased as already agreed.

The final version of the new scheme seems to make this difficult to implement in a timely way.

A copy of the scheme is available through the link:

<http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/committees.aspx?commid=1&meetid=18730>

A template for the new constitution will be made available to facilitate its draft and the annual AGM should go ahead as normal, at which point the new constitution could be approved.

Community Ward Forums

Details of forthcoming Marr Area Community Ward Forums were intimated:

Wednesday 8th November 2017 Stewart Hall, Huntly

Thursday 9th November 2017 Upper Halls, V&A Halls, Ballater

Wednesday 15th November 2017 Crathes Hall, Crathes

All taking place from 6.45pm for a 7pm start till 9pm. Sandwiches and soft or hot drinks provided. roisin@marrareapartnership.org.uk for those planning to attend.

12. Date of next meeting

The meeting closed at 9.39p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 30th November, 2017 at 7.30p.m.

Inchmarlo Hall