

# Feughside Community Council Meeting

## Approved Minutes

27/5/2021

Via zoom

### Present:

Simon Richards (Chair), Jill Randalls (Sec), Ross Clephan (Treasurer), Nicola Loosely, Audrey Dykes, Lynsey Craig, Cecilia Rogers, Ian Adams, Sam Wylde (minutes)  
Cllr Rosemary Bruce, Cllr Eileen Durno, Cllr Ann Ross,  
Jeff Rogers

**1. Apologies:** Marijke Ross

**2. Minutes of previous meeting:** Approved proposed by CR, seconded by AD.

**3. Police Report:** Not received.

### 4. Treasures Report:

	Balance 23/5/2021	Expected/ Committed to 30/6/21	Look Forward Balance at 30/6/21
Unrestricted	£684.08	-£52.78	£631.30
Restricted – Glendye Webcam	£936.68	-£35.99	£900.69
Restricted – Midhill CB Admin	£293.00	£0.00	£293.00
Restricted - Community Action Plan (CAP)	£281.91	£0.00	£281.91
Restricted - Strachan Flowers Collection	£1,034.92	£0.00	£1,034.92
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£3,230.59</b>	<b>-£88.77</b>	<b>£3,141.82</b>

Funds available at Fred Olsen for FCC Midhill Community Benefit	£19,350.87	£0.00	£19,350.87
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Aberdeenshire have advised us our admin grant this year will be £446.99 (a little more than 62% of the FWCC grant of £535.03 last year). First we have to submit to Marr Area our independently verified statement of the 2020/21 accounts with the (draft) AGM minute showing approval of them. This is all in hand.

## 5. Councillors Report:

Cllr Bruce advised:

- A number of road repairs are to be undertaken over the next few months and requested patience with delays and road closures.
- Education and Childrens' Services are running recovery programmes over the Summer, October and Xmas holidays with a focus on sport and art. The hope is to continue to these for the Easter and Spring holidays in 2022 with a greater focus on exam revision at this time. Funding comes mainly from the Scottish Government's Education Recovery Fund \* amended 24.06.21. Funding is from Aberdeenshire council with some contribution from the Scottish Government.

Councillor Durno:

- Kirsty's Brae signs have been received by the council and it is hoped that they will be in place shortly. In addition, a survey of the hill has identified that the site would benefit from SLOW painted on the road before the bend, and the installing of chevron signs at appropriate points. The recent heavy rain has delayed this work.
- LC thanked Cllr D for her support and commitment in this matter.

Councillor Ross:

- Posters discouraging littering have arrived and will be passed on to JR
- Banchory High Street has returned to the normal following social distancing precautions being removed.
- There is a Violin trail set around Banchory and highly recommended to follow it

## 6. Secretary's Report: All correspondence forwarded as appropriate.

04/05 Fetteresso wind farm public inquiry - request to attend w/c 11 Oct 2021

04/05 AVA newsletter.

06/05 Marr Area Community Planning Officer: Invitation to The Community Managed Facilities and Village Halls Webinar, Thursday 13th May from 16.00

12/05 Local Place Plans - Consultation Briefing Note. The Scottish Government are inviting responses by 25 June 2021. Comments can be submitted via the Scottish Governments Consultation Hub.

17/05 Marr Area. Invitation to South Marr Forum Tuesday 25th May, 7.00 pm Community Impact Assessment.

18/05 Marr Area. Community Council Funding 2021/22. Confirmation of Feughside AGM in June 2021

19/05 Cairnton Blackhall Woodland Consultation response submitted by IA.

23/05 Road Surface Dressing - Closures and convoy. Dates to be confirmed.

23/05 Letter to Neil Mair, Senior Planning Officer re Castlewood CLUD

## 7. COP 26 Presentation:

Jeff Rogers gave an informative talk explaining the aims and objectives of COP 26:

The aim of the **Conference Of Parties** is to work towards carbon net zero.

Jeff pointed out that even with a carbon net zero economy the climate will stabilise but will remain at its already elevated temperature

COP 26 will report on international climate change progress in terms of meeting the aims of the **Paris Agreement** (2015). Before the start of COP 26 all international governments will state their present contribution towards 2030 goals and their revised aims for these carbon reduction targets, which were previously agreed for 2030.

74 countries deliver 30% of the carbon emissions

A need to cut carbon emissions by 45% to stop a global warming temperature increase of 3\* by the end of the century.

Scotland produces 50 million tonnes of Global Heating Gases per year.

This can be equated to 9.5 tonnes per person per year.

Scotland has one of the worlds biggest carbon soaks in the form of peat bogs.

The Scottish Government plans to reduce carbon by 2045 in the following ways:

1. Transport will become net zero
2. Heating demand on carbon emitting fuels will decrease
3. Carbon capture technology will be developed and used extensively

COP 26 is being hosted in Glasgow in November of this year. For the organisation of the conference the city will be divided into 3 zones.

The Blue Zone (in the SEC) will be an area where international government delegates meet – not open to public

The Green Zone (Science Centre) will host workshops – public can book tickets for these.

The Orange Zone will be fringe events hosted in smaller venues around the city.

### **What can we do as individuals to support and encourage plans for carbon reduction?:**

Write to our MSP and MP to let them know we:

- support a strong commitment towards a successful COP 26 and real action to work for Net Zero by 2050
- we strongly encourage funding for peat restoration projects
- we encourage funding for reforestation projects for native trees.

Answers to questions posed at end of presentation :

- Carbon capture technology is not at present viable, efficient or effective
- Trees take between 30-50 years before they play a significant part in carbon reduction in the atmosphere
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### **What can we do as a community to work towards a net zero community ideas – see item 10.**

SR thanked Jeff R for a hugely informative talk and suggested we should keep Carbon Reduction as a high priority for the FCC community and the community action plan

## 8. Planning applications:

*App/2021/0888: Full planning permission for App/2021/0270 Alteration and Extension to garage No 5 Riverside – no comments made*

*APP/2021/1193: Land to the North West of Invery House, Banchory  
Full Planning Permission for erection of dwelling house on site of old machine tool shop – no comments.*

There was a brief discussion of the National Planning Framework 4 and the Circular Economy, which will encourage the re use of building materials in new planning applications in a bid to reduce carbon emissions.

### **Fetteresso Pre Examination Meeting**

RC attended the Pre-Examination Meeting (PEM) for the proposed Fetteresso Wind Farm on 24/5/21. This meeting was essentially to set the process and timetables for submissions as well as the agenda and attendees for an Inquiry Session, a Hearing Session and Site Visits to enable the Reporter (Andrew Sykes of the DPEA who chaired the PEM) to make a recommendation to Scottish Government:

The Inquiry Session (a formal hearing with evidence presented and cross examined by lawyers and experts) will cover aspects related to Landscape and Visual Impact.

The Hearing Session (less formal - more of a structured discussion) will cover planning policy and relevant legislation.

Other issues will be covered by written submissions.

The PEM was attended by:

A team from the law firm representing Fetteresso Wind led by Colin Innes

A team from Aberdeenshire Council led by Ewan Brown

RC for FCC

Two local residents whose properties would look out onto the proposed wind farm RC requested to attend an accompanied site visit and the Inquiry Session, which will be in early November probably at the Council chambers in Stonehaven. RC will ensure the points raised in the FWCC letter of 15/6/20 are lodged with the Reporter in good time (by end June).

### **Response from Neil Mair Re Castlewood CLUD-110-2002 to letter sent by FCC:**

This was not the response hoped for. It was hoped that we would receive an admission that mistakes had been made and a guarantee that processes were now in place to prevent similar mistakes being made in the future. SR emphasised that the issue was with the process and not the actual application. Cllr Ross suggested an option would be to contact Paul Macari (Head of Planning). Other options include contacting the Local Government Ombudsman. It was acknowledged that in the FCC area, planning errors have resulted in other substantial developments out with the local development plan. These developments seem to have come about as a result of minor omissions in the planning consent documentation. **(ACTION SR)**

**9. Transport roads infrastructure – SW nothing to report**

**10. Midhill Community Benefit fund**

LC informed that applications for this round close 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Annual review will be held in mid July. Everyone encouraged to look at the guidelines and the application form and submit comments regarding any changes needed.

**11. Education and Youth – Nothing brought to attention**

**12. Climate and environment:**

Following Jeff's presentation:

**What can we do as a community to work towards a net zero community ideas:**

- Banchory is working on a Wildlife friendly Village
- Promote what each household can do in their own garden to make a difference
- Support tree planting
- Contact Joel Evans in the Council
- CR offered to think and make enquiries about what else we could do in the CC with regards to working towards net zero
- Engage in the National Planning Framework 4 consultations (the Circular Economy) and ensure that planning applications in our area are in line with sustainable development.

**The following ideas also agreed as important but need time and commitment:**

- Look into electric charging point for cars in village
- Electric bike hire scheme in village
- Electric community car hire in village

**13. Communications**

There followed a discussion about the poor mobile phone network and slow or non-existent broadband coverage across most of Feughside CC area. In addition the inadequate provision and explanation of the voucher schemes in place to help rural communities access better broadband

Cllr AR will feed this back to the Council in order to obtain help for us.

**ACTION:** SW and NL before next meeting to specify what we need and approach Aberdeenshire Council – economic development department and Marr area Partnership for clarification and help.

**14. Community matters:**

Village Flowers: Cllr Ross informed that plants would be available in June .

**15. AOB – None**

**16. Next meeting :** including AGM 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021