

Feughdee West Community Council
Online Meeting
Approved Minutes
26th November 2020

Present: Lynsey Craig (Chair), Jill Randalls (Secretary), Ross Clephan (Treasurer), Marijke Stallaert (minutes), Ian Bertram, Cecilia Rogers, Iain Adams, Sam Wylde, Katie Rumbles, John Andrew, Peter Tyrell, Jelle Andrew, Alice Lewsley
Banchory and Mid Deeside Councillors: Cllr Bruce, Cllr Ross.

Two members of the public were present at the online meeting.

1) Apologies: Simon Richards, Cllr Durno.

2) Approve minutes of the September meeting: proposed by Katy Rumbles and seconded by Sam Wylde.

3) Police Report: No new report received.

4) Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer has sent out the monthly report by email.

Summary of the accounts is as follows:

	Balance 24/11/2020	Expected/ Committed to 10/12/20	Look Forward Balance at Dissolution 10/12/20
Unrestricted	£1,202.30	£0.00	£1,202.30
Restricted – Glendye Webcam	-£35.79	£1,000.00	£964.21
Restricted – Midhill CB Admin	£586.00	£0.00	£586.00
Restricted - Community Action Plan (CAP)	£563.81	-£35.00	£528.81
Restricted - Strachan Flowers Collection	£151.92	£0.00	£151.92
Restricted - Resilience Grant for ZOOM payments	£64.76	-£14.39	£50.37
Totals	£2,533.00	£950.61	£3,483.61
Funds available at Fred Olsen for Midhill Community Benefit	£24,825.13	-£1,000	£23,825.13

5) Councillor's report:

Cllr Ross reported that:

- The cones and bollards along Banchory High Street would be removed tomorrow (except for a possible pinch point outside Tease Coffee Shop).
- A new leader of the council has been appointed - Cllr Andy Kille.

Cllr Bruce reported that:

- Discussion on going with regards to the area being moved from tier two to tier three restrictions as Covid numbers continue to increase.
- With regards to council budgets she urged users of council services to get in touch with any ideas as to how the council could save money/spend it differently etc. SW asked re money being spent on the dualling of the A96 (as well as its environmental impacts). IB suggested that infrastructure projects were good for the economy. SW was concerned about potential cuts to funding for rural broadband after the Chancellors spending review last week. Cllr Bruce to investigate whether R100 will be affected by this announcement. LC asked that communities are consulted regarding the prioritisation of the limited budget to ensure that money was spent well and for the benefit of the community. Cllr Bruce replied that there had been a Facebook live discussion last week with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, and a community online consultation regarding the budget had taken place earlier in the year. However, any comments/ideas could be passed to the Councillors.

6) Secretary's Report:

Everything has been forwarded as required.

SR laid a wreath at the Strachan memorial on behalf of FWCC and the community.

SR has also contacted Aberdeenshire Landscape Service regarding their plans for the war memorial area.

FWCC had not had an AGM during 2020 due to the pandemic and proposed dissolution. The Secretary gave a brief overview of FWCC achievements over the past 18 months:

Community Action Plan (CAP) – was completed identifying a number of different projects for each community to progress. The aim of delivering adequate Broadband to many of the rural properties had been partially achieved.

The CAP also highlighted the differences that exist between the two main communities, which make up FWCC and thus the process of dissolution began. A consultation found that 85% of respondents wanted FWCC to split into two new CCs. This has now been achieved.

Planning - FWCC have actively engaged with and responded to many planning applications in the area, e.g. representation of local residents in their objection to the Scolty Glamping pods both at local planning level and on appeal to the Scottish Ministers. We are currently involved with residents and their objection to the Castlewood application.

We have submitted very detailed, well thought out responses to both the Glen Dye and Fetteresso wind farm proposals. As a result the height of turbines was reduced in Fetteresso. More recently we have supporting local residents affected by the Glen Dye deer fence to ensure access to water supply and are working with the Estate to ensure that the community still had access to paths and tracks for various leisure pursuits.

Education

FWCC had input into the Statutory Consultation procedure regarding closure of Strachan Primary, and asked for an additional zoning option to be considered which will lead to a new consultation in the future. The concept of it becoming a Forest School was also proposed by

community councillors

We have incorporated climate change into our monthly meeting agenda and set up a new Communication sub group to tackle the on going problems of communicating with a vast rural community. The provision of three community noticeboards is an initial step on this journey.

FWCC have continued to allocate funds from the Mid Hill Community Benefit Fund, which has benefited the two village halls, the Inchmarlo Community workshop and other smaller groups such as the Youth group. We continue to provide funding for the Glen Dye snow gate web camera, which was a FWCC initiative some years ago and continues to be a huge benefit to many who use the route.

All in all FWCC should be proud of its hard work and its commitment to the local community over the past years.

7) Junior Councillor Report: Nothing to report.

8) Dissolution:

- A total of nine candidates were validly nominated for membership of Feughside CC and a total of seven candidates were validly nominated for membership of Inchmarlo, Glassel and Brathens CC. In both cases this was equivalent to the number of vacancies so members were duly elected (without the necessity of a ballot). The elected members have been informed by email by Marr Area.
- A vote was taken to formally agree to dissolve FWCC, effective from the date of the election of new community councils. **11 members in agreement (no abstentions and no votes against).**
- Financial split of assets – RC will return the balance of funds to Aberdeenshire Council for them to make the disbursement as detailed in the Scheme of Establishment. RC had emailed the proposed split of funds to all members on 25.11.20.

• **Division of Funds on Dissolution of FWCC**

Item	Amount	Division %		Division £	
		Feughside	IBG	Feughside	IBG
Unrestricted	£1,202.30	62%	38%	£745.43	£456.87
Restricted – Glendye Webcam	£964.21	100%		£964.21	£0.00
Restricted – Midhill CB Admin	£586.00	50%	50%	£293.00	£293.00
Restricted - Community Action Plan (CAP)	£528.81	50%	50%	£264.41	£264.40
Restricted - Strachan Flowers Collection	£151.92	100%		£151.92	£0.00
Restricted - Community Resilience Grant	£50.37	50%	50%	£25.18	£25.19
Totals	£3,483.61			£2,444.15	£1,039.46
Funds available at Fred Olsen for Midhill Community Benefit	£23,825.13	62%	38%	£14,771.58	£9,053.55

- There may have to be some further adjustments as and when invoices received (Zoom and BT invoices). RC will make members aware of the final figures.
All in agreement with financial split of assets as proposed.
- Insurance – RC will contact Zurich Insurance to inform them of the dissolution and setting up of two new CC's. RC to email KR with any info.
- Information Commissioner's Office – RC to change name (FWCC to Feughside) and will attempt to register IG&BCC paying from FWCC funds before the return of funds to Aberdeenshire Council.
- Closure of FWCC web site – IA to set up Feughside web site. Inchmarlo will liaise with IA as needed. LC asked for a note to be added to the website informing of the change and redirecting as necessary.
- Agreement that RC will hold all financial papers, JR will hold any other papers from FWCC (although none were returned from the previous Secretary), AD will hold all Mid Hill CB paperwork.
- It was agreed that both CC's will be supportive and helpful to each other if there are any issues that arise from the time FWCC was in existence.
- Zoom account – the money awarded from the community resilience grant will be split equally between the two new CC's.

9) Transport roads and infrastructure.

JA was concerned about the number of people leaving their car engines idling outside schools etc. This is apparently against the law. Cllr Bruce to involve the police and school in some type of response. This is also a problem in taxi ranks.

Glen Dye snow gate web cam – RC has negotiated a refund from BT of £180 for unused services and a reduction in future bills to £36 per month. RC to continue conversation with Caleycom re upgrade of webcam.

10) Mid Hill Community Benefit:

JR reported that she had spoken to Natural Power during the week to update them on the election process. The electoral roll numbers and map showing new boundaries to be forwarded when available. Once each new CC has appointed office bearers then the legal agreements can be signed.

11) Planning:

APP/2020/2218 Erection of Agricultural Building, Bogforran Farm, Banchory AB31 6JU
No objections raised.

On going Planning issues:

1. Castlewood – Appealed to Scottish Ministers. Alex Burnett MSP has been contacted and has been very supportive. On going communication with the DPA.
2. New Woodland at Blackhall – planning enforcement are aware of the construction of a large car park.

12) Education and Youth: Nothing to report (MS). Cllr Bruce reported that the Strachan School consultation would possibly go ahead in the New Year.

13) Climate and Environment: CR gave a brief update on local actions to make Banchory a wildlife friendly town. Applications for funding are being submitted.

14) Community matters:

Closure of TSB bank – SW asked if there was any action that could be taken on behalf of the community to object to closure? Cllr Bruce reported that closure was due to low footfall in the branch and that many transactions could be performed at the PO. It was agreed that the closing of banks and post offices in rural areas does not always seem to have the interests of the local communities in mind.

15) Any other business:

- AD asked if any member of the CC would be available to meet with the Laird to discuss the Glendye deer fence and access gates. RC to organise.
- Cllr Ross asked for support for the Banchory Singers who will have a virtual concert on Sunday 13th December at 4pm £5.
- LC concluded that this was the 'end of an era'. She thanked FWCC members and Councillors, past and present, for their hard work and support over the past years. She referred again to the list outlined in the Secretary's report and said that FWCC could be proud of a range of activities and achievements. She then wished everyone involved with the new CC's good luck as we now move forward.

Meeting of the final FWCC meeting finished at 21.10hrs