

Feughdee West Community Council

Online Meeting

Approved Minutes

30th July 2020

Present: Simon Richards (Chair), Jill Randalls (Secretary), Ross Clephan (Treasurer), Lynsey Craig, Marijke Stallaert, Ian Bertram, Cecilia Rogers, Peter Tyrrell, Katy Rumbles, Iain Adams, Sam Wylde, John Andrews.

Banchory and Mid Deeside Councillors: Cllr Bruce

(No members of public present as online meeting)

1) **Apologies:** Cllr Ross

2) **Approve minutes of the last meeting:** Proposed by Ian Bertram and seconded by Katy Rumbles.

3) **Police Report:** July police report was circulated by the secretary on 18/07/20

4) **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer had sent out the monthly report by email (*date 27.7.2020*).

Total funds as of 27/07/2020 £2,884.16.

Balance of unrestricted funds £1,345.23

5) **Councillor's report:**

Cllr Bruce reported back that she had attended a full council meeting last week at which a new council plan had been agreed and that a new medium term financial strategy was discussed in light of the changes brought about by Covid19. Some services have stopped altogether, whereas other services have increased significantly. There was cross-chamber support for a new look at priorities and targeting services to those in the greatest need.

Cllr Bruce also outlined how school restarting will be slightly different for each individual school. The aim is to have all pupils back to school on the 12th August 2020.

Cllr Bruce reported that recycling centres have increased the number of slots available to each household and that the booking system will continue.

Cllr Bruce reported that car parks at local tourist hot spots are often full resulting in dangerous parking. She also reminded everyone to take their rubbish home.

Cllr Bruce said that the council is seeking views on the updating of the allocation of Aberdeenshire's council housing policies.

Cllr Bruce stated that the Aberdeenshire Food Fund is open for applications to groups who want to make a difference in their communities.

6) **Secretary's Report:**

All correspondence received has been forwarded where appropriate.

7) **Junior Councillor Report:**

Not present.

8) Dissolution :

- Marr Area has advised Community Councils that no elections will take place in 2020 due to Covid and that relaxations to the Scheme will be put in place until elections can take place in April/May next year. However FWCC is being treated as a special case as Marr Area is aware that FWCC has already commenced the process to dissolve. There are concerns, however, that if there is a future lockdown situation between dissolution and the election then our Communities could be left without any voice. So it is proposed that the process for an election is begun and a date set for election. FWCC will continue up until the date of election and only dissolve on the day of the ballot. If further lockdown measures are commenced then the election date is postponed, and FWCC continues until an election can occur safely. SR and JR will attend an online meeting with Janelle Clark and Alison McCleod on Monday to clarify the proposal. FWCC members will be advised by email regarding the outcome of this meeting.
- Mike McMillan of Strachan Hall committee read through the draft legal agreements provided by Natural Power regarding the Mid Hill Community Benefit Funds. He had a few minor comments. PT queried the names of the new CCs: Does FWCC decide these or is this up to the new CCs to decide? This will be discussed with Marr Area at Monday's meeting.
- FWCC receives 30% of the total community benefit received from Mid Hill I and Mid Hill II (the remaining 70% is shared by other local areas). The electoral roles will be used to calculate the % split of the FWCC Mid Hill Community Funds as agreed and minuted in past meetings. Based on the 2017 register this will be approximately 38% to Brathens, Glassel and Inchmarlo, and 62% to Feughside.

9) Transport roads and infrastructure:

JA was contacted by a local member of the community with regard to speeding along the A93. He has been in touch with the police and hopes that by raising the issue it will add to the community's case to introduce slow down measures. In the last week there have been two serious accidents between Smiddy Park and Inchmarlo Retirement Centre. JA has highlighted to the police as further evidence that there needs to be traffic calming measures in the area.

10) Planning:

Ref. No: APP/2020/1094 Certificate of Lawfulness - Addition and permanent residential occupation of 45 static caravans and permanent occupation of existing 25 static Castlewood Caravan Strachan Banchory Aberdeenshire AB31 6NQ

A detailed response was submitted by FWCC (and copied to our Councillors). The decision date is 8th August. FWCC will decide on any further action after the Council response is available.

July planning applications:

- Erection of Fishing and Entertainment Building (**Retrospective**)

Cammie House Strachan Banchory Aberdeenshire AB31 6LJ

Ref. No: APP/2020/1360 | Received: Fri 17 Jul 2020 | Validated: Tue 21 Jul 2020 | Status: Awaiting decision

FWCC decided to **object** for the following reasons:

1. Out of character for the location.
2. Not of similar design or size to other fishing lodges in the area.

3. Too big a development for permitted development.
4. Concerns with the retrospective nature of the application.
5. Problems with run off (especially after the tarmacking of the track) into the Feugh, and its effect on the pearl mussels
6. Environmental Impact Assessment does not mention the water vole population in the Feugh.
7. Concern that there would be change of use in the future.

Vote – 8 councillors voted **against** the application with 2 abstentions.

Action – **IA** to submit a response opposing the application

- Installation of a Pipebridge

SCOTTISH WATER Invercannie Waterworks Inchmarlo Banchory Aberdeenshire AB31 4AN
Ref. No: APP/2020/1304 | Received: Thu 09 Jul 2020 | Validated: Thu 09 Jul 2020 | Status: Awaiting decision
 FWCC has **no objection** to this essential infrastructure development.

- Demolition of Dwellinghouse and Erection of Replacement Dwellinghouse and Change of Use of Agricultural Land to Domestic Garden Ground

Affrusk Cottage Banchory Aberdeenshire AB31 6LD
Ref. No: APP/2020/1255 | Received: Fri 03 Jul 2020 | Validated: Mon 06 Jul 2020 | Status: Awaiting decision

Discussion included the following comments:

- It was thought that the Main Issues report was against the demolition of traditional buildings being replaced with new builds as traditional buildings were more sustainable and required less new materials than a new house.
- That there was a place in rural communities for modern architecture and modern building standards.
- The nature and size of the development was not in keeping with the character of the valley and surrounding area.
- That this application was adjacent to the two applications discussed at last months meeting (demolition of steading and erection of dwelling house, garage and agricultural building). There would therefore be two large executive houses (with potential for more) on the existing site.
- That all the planning applications for the Affrusk site should be looked at as a total development and the appropriateness for the area.
- It was noted that there were several large executive houses on the market in the immediate vicinity and that some had been on the market for a considerable amount of time. It was also noted that some were particular eyesores being so large, so prominent and so out of character.

Decision - FWCC will submit a response requesting that the planning dept. ensure that the development is sympathetic to the local area and that the Affrusk site is looked at as a whole (i.e. that all the planning applications are considered together).

Action - **IA**

- **GRA091** – Airwave pre- application consultation – Glen Dye Lodge

This is to replace the TETRA mast at Glen Dye Lodge with a taller mast. FWCC supports this application but only with a condition attached that the new infrastructure may be used by a commercial provider for mobile phone and line of sight broadband to serve the Glen Dye community.

Action – IA to submit feedback to Galloway Estates Ltd (email 27/07/20)

No comments have been received on the Local Development Plan. Closing date for submission is 5pm on 31st of July. Changes to the LDP will mainly affect Inchmarlo area.

11) Education and Youth:

MS reported that as the Scottish Government has decided that school pupils will not have to socially distance, the chance of the Strachan School being reused as an additional campus is unlikely.

The secretary received an email confirming this position from the Aberdeenshire Learning Estates team.

12) Mid Hill Community Benefit Fund:

PT reported that the Sub Committee review meeting was held on 20.07.20 and a number of changes were made to the guidance and application forms. It was proposed that the document with the tracked changes were sent to FWCC along with a copy of the minutes, once they had been approved by the sub group.

IA to ensure that all forms are available as attachments on the FWCC website.

The Chair of the Mid Hill CB Sub group had prepared an annual report which had been sent to councillors for review. No comments raised apart from changing the title of the photos to reflect that funding was from Fred Olsen Renewables.

JR asked for confirmation that all reports had been received in order to forward to Natural Power. PT thought that some had still not been obtained.

Natural Power had asked how Application 31 (extension to the Inchmarlo Community Workshop) would be signed off on completion. PT thought that completion would be by end September. It was agreed that the report will be sent to JR to forward to Natural Power.

13) Climate and Environment:

The waste incinerator application at Inverurie was discussed. Several of the members voiced the opinions that repair, reuse, recycle should be promoted rather than incineration. It was questioned whether this is a zero carbon option although it was thought that the heat and energy would be used for household supply. Concern was raised that bottom ash from this proposed incinerator could be transported by road to the IBA facility proposed for Drumoak. However it was acknowledged that the Scottish Government had a zero waste plan by 2025, which may result in more incinerator applications.

Action - CR proposed that she would investigate further.

14) Communication :

The need for a sub group meeting was raised by LC and SR. IB agreed to call a meeting.

The notice board at Strachan play park has now been installed by Inchmarlo Workshop members.

The board is still to filled with useful information.

Cllr Bruce asked that we advertise the use of My Aberdeenshire App on the noticeboard.

Key and magnets are currently held by IB.

15) Community Matters:

- SR reported that Ian Brockie would spruce up Frank Sheridan's bench in Strachan playpark.
- RC reported that a meeting regarding the Fetteresso Windfarm Extension Community Investment would take place next week with Marr Area Partnership and Banchory CC members. R.C will report back by email after the meeting.
- IB raised the issue of neglect of the walkway around Feugh Bridge. All regular maintenance stopped during lockdown. Cllr Bruce will raise with Aberdeenshire Council.

16) AOB: nothing raised.

17) Date of next meeting - Thursday 27th of August 2020 – online.

Meeting finished at 21.19 hrs