

## **FEUGHDEE WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Approved Minutes of Community Council Meeting  
Held in Strachan Hall on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30 pm

### **Present**

**Community Councillors:** Mr S Richards (Chair), Mrs J Randalls (Secretary), Mr J Andrew, Mrs C Roger, Ms K Rumbles, Ms L Craig, Ms S Wylde, Mr I Brockie, Mr P Tyrrell.

**Junior Councillors:** Miss N Milne, Miss A Lewsey, Miss D Curry.

**Banchory and Mid Deeside Councillors:** Cllr R Bruce.

**Minutes:** Ms A Dykes.

**Members of Public:** 3 Members of public were present.

### **1. Apologies and Absences**

Apologies were received from Ms M Stallaert, Cllr A Ross, Cllr E Durno, Mr I Adams, Mr R Clephan and Mr I Bertram.

### **2. Minutes of previous meeting 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019**

Item 6 Treasurer's Report: The financial commitments to y/e 31/03/19 should read £3217.69 (and not £3224.28).

Item 15 Midhill Community Benefit Applications: Mr Tyrrell requested a change to the wording - Inchmarlo Community Workshop application: The vulnerable person policy is in the process of being reviewed and will be attached to the application when review complete.

With these amendments the minutes were:

Proposed: Mrs C Rogers

Seconded: Ms S Wylde

### **3. Police Report**

The Police were not able to attend in person but a report had been sent.

Police reported that a large quantity of drugs had been seized on Deeside and that youths had been congregating in Banchory Primary school car park. Police have increased their presence.

### **4. Treasurers Report**

The Treasurer was unable to attend the meeting but had prepared the monthly report, which is as follows:

The balance in the FWCC account on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019 was £5,162.71

Funds for the Community Noticeboards are available.

Community Enterprise has reimbursed £206.59 for hire of village halls and for refreshments.

Currently finalising the year-end accounts in preparation for verification and presentation to FWCC at the April meeting.

P.Tyrrell reported that the invoice for Inchmarlo planters would be submitted before next meeting.

The annual admin grant from Aberdeenshire Council can now be applied for.

## **5. Councillors Report**

Cllr Bruce reminded that the LDP closing date for submissions is the 8<sup>th</sup> April.

Provision of Health Services in Banchory Area Consultation on the 1<sup>st</sup> May at the Guide Hut between 3pm and 7 pm.

The Council have launched their own App 'myAberdeenshire' which contains lots of useful information such as bin collection dates, school catering payments and report road defects etc

Community Ward Forum launching a health and social care consultation for Aberdeenshire. It was suggested that FWCC invite Jo Raine Mitchell to a joint meeting with other community councils. **Action JR**

## **6. Secretary's Report**

LDP submission due 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Consultation on the car parking charges email will be sent to councillors. Submission of comments by 19<sup>th</sup> April.

Cllr Bruce clarified that free car parks would remain free but the car parks where the first 45 minutes is free would now have a small charge. On street parking would remain free. Longer stays such as a half a day will become cheaper.

## **7. Communication**

It was agreed that setting up a sub group to improve communications within the community was important. Topics to be discussed may include formalising email addresses, noticeboards and their locations, creating a communications tool kit to develop a brand image with templates, high res photos, and posters.

Sam Wylde suggested that issues with fibre optic broadband should be included in this sub group, and that she would be happy to be part of the group. Sam has been trying to discover why the village of Strachan has not yet been connected to the fibre optic cable laid last summer. Other green boxes connected on the same fibre optic route to the Feughside exchange have already gone live. Finding contact details for

persons in OpenReach who can provide explanations has proved difficult. Cllr. Bruce may be able to provide contact.

Lynsey Craig said that the remit of the group should be clarified.

Katy Rumbles and Jill Randalls happy to be part of the group.

Simon Richards encouraged the youth members to get involved.

Lyndsey Craig will ensure that Ian Bertram happy to head up the group.

Community Noticeboards – Jill Randalls sent all members an email regarding 3 community noticeboards after successfully receiving funding from Fred Olson. The two options were to proceed with the online quote of £2700 (received August 18) or to accept the Inchmarlo Community Workshop quote of £2004.24 (without donation for running costs) (received February 19). The ICW's quote included installation, plus maintenance over a 5-year period.

Peter Tyrrell pointed out that there would be a delay of around 3 months due to quantity of work that ICW currently have. Jill Randalls did not feel that waiting would be a significant issue and Simon Richard felt it important to support a community enterprise.

Peter Tyrrell expressed concern that the maintenance of the noticeboard could turn into a constant source of aggravation over the next five years. Katie Rumbles suggested an agreement should be in place as to what the maintenance included.

There was a **unanimous vote** agreeing that Inchmarlo Community Workshop should supply the noticeboards. P.Tyrrell declared an interest as Chair of ICW and did not vote.

**Action: JR will contact ICW.**

## **8. Community Action Plan – update**

Lyndsey Craig reported that the final drafts of the research report, executive summary and folding card has now been received and are ready for final sign off.

**Action: Secretary** will send out to FWCC members and CAP Steering Group. Comments should be submitted to the Secretary within two weeks.

There was a discussion on the number of copies required of each document. It was felt that 700 cards and 5 copies of the Research Report would suffice, along with several copies of the Exec Summary (this being a couple of A4 pages and easy to print extra copies). Digital format to be requested.

**Action: Lynsey Craig** will contact Community Enterprise regarding any additional costs.

Roll out and launch – CE will host 2 meetings. It was suggested mail drop of cards prior to launch, which John Andrews said would be a good opportunity for face to face discussion. Plan to launch CAP mid-May.

## 9. Planning Issues

Three non-contentious applications have been received.

Two applications for The Belts had been received and an extension to a house in Auchattie.

## 10. Transport, Roads and Infrastructure.

John Andrew has had further discussions with Aberdeenshire Council regarding the upgrade of the Glendye Snow Gate Webcam to record images. They continue to express an interest. John has asked Deeside Computers to liaise with Aberdeenshire Council over technical aspects. Deeside Computers confirmed that the FWCC name would still feature on the still frame photos.

At the January meeting a resident highlighted the fact that water drains from Strachan School garden onto the adjoining road. This causes potentially dangerous conditions for both vehicles and pedestrians in cold weather.

**Action: John Andrew** will continue dialogue with Aberdeenshire Council on this matter.

Road Closure between Feughside and Strachan. Sam Wylde confirmed that there was no access for pedestrians or emergency services despite the public notice stating these would be maintained. There has been no work for two weeks. Sam has written to Jennifer Stewart about the access but has not yet received a response.

**Action: JA** to communicate with Aberdeenshire Council

## 11. Main Issues Report and Local Development Plan – FWCC response.

The Secretary had sent out to members those emails received, regarding comments on the Main Issues Report and LDP, for discussion at tonight's meeting.

Peter Tyrrell has received a number of responses from Inchmarlo Residents and asked if their comments could be included as part of the FWCC response.

The Secretary clarified that FWCC won't collate and forward the comments. The CC will consider and assess all the comments received from any part of the community and then decide on its own response to the consultation.

Peter Tyrrell also stated he had issued a questionnaire. Responses included concerns about the increase in traffic and the pressure additional residents would have on local health services. There are also concerns that the number of places in the care home should be expanding as well as increasing the number of houses. A number of houses have been for sale for a long period of time.

Sam Wylde pointed out the lack of sheltered housing for rent in this area and suggested the Council be requested to change the plan to include rentable sheltered social housing as well as private housing.

Peter Tyrrell expressed concern that the LDP does not fully reflect all the building applications that are approved out with the LDP. There should be a map which shows the LDP plus the developments that have had planning permission.

FWCC responses will include:

MR050

Inchmarlo – traffic concerns A93, concern for accessibility to rentable sheltered housing and pressure on health services due to increase in elderly residents.

MR029 North of the B974, Deebank Proposal for 10 homes

MR030 North of the B974, Deebank Proposal for Royal Deeside Visitor Centre and Heritage Hub

Road safety and proximity to river Dee special area conservation

FWCC support Council's view

MR031 Land West of Auchattie. Proposal for 15 homes.

Concerns over destruction of ancient woodland and increase in traffic.

FWCC support Council's view

MR033 Land at Banchory West, South East of Golf Course. Proposal for 10 homes.

Not cohesive and needs to stop Banchory and Inchmarlo joining up. Accident blackspot

FWCC support Council's view

**Action: JR or IA** will submit responses by 8<sup>th</sup> April

## **12. Midhill Community Benefit Fund.**

Current balance is £4547.

Next subcommittee meeting will be 23<sup>rd</sup> April which will be a review meeting. Peter Tyrrell was concerned after going through notes from Nicola Loosely that there was mention of an Application Evaluation Document, which he has not seen. It was agreed that this was actually the Scoring sheet that is currently in use.

Peter Tyrrell will hold 2 x 30 minute training sessions on community benefit fund and this will be at 7pm before 7.30 pm committee meeting.

Next funding is due in October.

Application by FWCC for £1000 for running costs for the snow gate webcam funding was **unanimously agreed**.

## **13. Potential change to FWCC boundary**

Simon Richards clarified that a full discussion would take place at next months meeting when Janelle Clark and Kirsty Macleod from Marr Area office will be present. Sam Wylde was then invited to clarify why she had asked for this to be an agenda item.

Sam's reasons are:

- Inchmarlo and Feughside are two very different communities (geographically and demographically) with different needs and priorities.
- The amount of time spent at FWCC meetings discussing matters that are not relevant to the other community.
- The on going concerns about seat representation.
- Comments at CAP meetings highlighting dissatisfaction with the boundary as is.
- The CAP Research Report found that there are no projects that will join the two separate communities of Inchmarlo and Strachan and that the two communities have different priorities.

Sam Wyld suggested that the boundary should be changed to make two new community councils - Feughside and Inchmarlo. Consideration should also be given to Feughside working in collaboration with Finzean and/or Banchory. Inchmarlo could work in collaboration with Mid Deeside and/or Banchory.

Aberdeenshire Council have identified the following options:

- Remain as FWCC but look at how to move forward in a positive manner.
- Either Inchmarlo or Strachan become a separate community council or join with another community council leaving the other area as Feughdee West CC.
- Dissolve Feughdee West and form two new community councils.

Janelle Clark (at a meeting earlier that afternoon with SR, JR and PT) had made clear that it would be unacceptable for rumours to circulate. There would be a process to follow and a community consultation if necessary. Members were asked to respect this advice.

Janelle Clarke and Kirsty Macleod have been invited to the next FWCC meeting. There will be no further discussion until then.

## **14. Agenda and Minutes**

Peter Tyrrell felt that the agendas were not detailed enough. Marr Area confirmed, by email, that FWCC agenda was comparable with other community councils. Peter confirmed he was happy with the agenda and was actually meaning the minutes.

Peter Tyrrell also stated that the way the minutes were handled was not in line with the Scheme of Establishment.

Our present procedure is as follows: Minutes taken and transcribed by the Minute Secretary. First draft minutes sent to Secretary to ensure accurate reflection of meeting. Draft minutes sent to members for comment. If comments received the Secretary makes any adjustment thought necessary and these draft minutes are then approved (or not) at the next meeting. Jill had emailed Marr Area with our minute procedure and it was stated that it was in line with the Scheme.

Peter felt it would be better if the discussions of the first draft took place at the meeting. Simon stated that the reason it was done this way was to reduce the time taken up at the meetings discussing wording /changes. It was possible to end up with much of the meeting being taken up by discussions agreeing the previous

minutes. Therefore, the current procedure means that what is presented at the meeting is a set of minutes that are very close to the final version ready for approval. If there are still further changes required they are added as amendments. It is efficient and makes good use of the CC meeting time. If an individual still feels strongly about a particular aspect they will still have an opportunity to question at the meeting.

Peter Tyrrell felt the minutes from the Special Meeting did not bare any resemblance to the meeting. It was pointed out that notes were taken at the meeting and not minutes. This was under guidance from the Marr Area. Notes are used as a reminder of what was discussed, whereas minutes are a formal public record. From the special meeting there were three action points noted. There was a vote to agree these action points at the February meeting.

Katy Rumbles felt that the tone of the notes didn't necessarily show the tone of the meeting, which she agreed is a hard thing to do.

Peter Tyrrell felt the special meeting was a very good meeting, but he felt that little was gained from it because the notes did not reflect what had been said. There was no mention of the road map and no mention of the regular updates.

Peter Tyrrell also felt that it was not correct to say FWCC has improved and is better than it was. He stated that a lot of people felt the same as him; not members of FWCC, but in general.

Simon Richards asked members if there had been improvements and whether we were working effectively as a community council. Cecilia Rogers agreed that currently the community council works well and feels very representative.

Katy Rumbles felt that the possibility of changing FWCC boundaries was not helpful in achieving a cohesive CC and was creating the potential for conflict.

Peter Tyrrell showed a folder, which he claimed, contained a Petition with 120 signatures from residents of Inchmarlo and Strachan. When asked to share the Petition he declined to do so claiming Data Protection Regulations would not permit this. He claimed it was titled "We the undersigned residents call for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the attached report". The report being the one produced by Marr Area in February 2018.

Simon Richards responded that he would speak again with Janelle Clark to further review the outcome of that afternoons meeting and confirm the Marr Area Office view. Peter Tyrrell claimed that Janelle Clark does not want to get involved in the "nitty gritty" of FWCC.

Simon Richards pointed out that the lack of involvement was because Marr Area Office believes that FWCC has improved to such an extent that the recommendations are no longer current. Peter Tyrrell did not agree with this.

The Chairperson also stated that he had no idea how or why or under what auspices

Peter Tyrrell had put out a Petition and would discuss this also with the Council. Peter Tyrrell suggested that the CC should hold a vote of no confidence in him (as was done for the previous Secretary) following Simon Richards statement that he felt Peter Tyrrell was out of order. Simon stressed he was not trying to get rid of Peter, but that Peters behavior and approach in relation to the so-called Petition were out of order.

**Post Meeting Note - After seeking guidance from the Marr Area Office (Janelle Clark), since the so-called Petition was not formally lodged, it cannot be considered.**

#### **15. Any other business.**

Strachan Village Gathering Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 7pm – an attempt to generate more social contact within the village of Strachan for Strachan residents

Sam Wyldie attended the Marr Community Forum (MAP) in Banchory on 18<sup>th</sup> March. MAP are interested in using community learning exchange projects to look into rural transport solutions. Sam said that she was interested in being involved and thought that FWCC would also be interested in joining any group, which could learn about transport solutions for rural areas. MAP will provide updates.

Following the special meeting Simon Richards had agreed to set up a meeting with a facilitator to go through some of the issues that remain with the community council and is waiting to hear back from Janelle Clark as to how to go about that meeting

Next meeting April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in Inchmarlo Hall

Meeting closed 21.32