

DRAFT

HELDON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held 17 May 2022 in Fogwatt Hall

Chairman	Mr J Mountford – Dallas	
Treasurer		
Secretary		
	Mrs M Evans – Duffus	Mr N Sutherland - Dallas
	Mrs S Hodder - Pluscarden	Mr W Mustard – Fogwatt & Birnie
	Mr K Milne - Miltonduff	Mrs A Masson – Alves
	Mr W Duncan - Fogwatt	
Attendee	Debra Duke	
Apologies	Mrs D Kelly - Alves	Mr C Souter - Miltonduff
	Ms Jo Kirby - Miltonduff	Mrs L Smailes – Pluscarden

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mrs D Kelly, Mrs L Smailes, Ms Jo Kirby and Mr C Souter.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 05 April 2022 were approved.

Proposed: Mr W Duncan Seconded: Mrs S Hodder

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) Cloddach Bridge: no update so far as the report is not due to be published till June. The roadblocks are still in place but the signage is much improved.

b) Duffus road surfaces: a considerable amount of work has been carried out along the edges of the first part of the Duffus to Elgin road and this is a substantial improvement. A map of proposed roadworks in and around Duffus has been received with some limited road resurfacing and footway work indicated but with surface dressing still shown for the older roads within the village.

c) Fogwatt 'Slow signs': no response and no progress so far. The road has been resurfaced from the first house to the last and either a 'slow' sign or a speed bump would be helpful.

d) Tree cutting: nothing further to report. An investigation is due to take place to determine whose responsibility it is according to where the trees are rooted.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Most correspondence had been circulated to all members but some might need further action.

a) Community meeting places: it was not felt that this was a problem in Heldon as the area is pretty well served by village halls.

b) Fuel poverty subgroup: this is a JCC subgroup looking at ways to reduce the carbon footprint. Anyone interested in joining can contact Debra. What could local communities do? Bottled gas does not have a price cap. A Conference will take place on 26 June. It was felt that an opportunity for long-term effect had been missed by not investing in the proposed Wind Farms.

c) Licences for Community Events: a reminder that events catering for more than 500 require a public licence but Heldon Jubilee events are likely to be small community-based occasions.

d) Minutes Secretary: the Minutes Secretary was happy to carry on in post.

e) Social Media Policy: the Chairman had contacted our Social Media Community Councillor and asked her to read the Policy then to report back both to him and to Debra. We only have a Facebook page but it was agreed that a back-up Policy would protect us.

f) CARES (Community and Renewables Energy Scheme) Green Energy Funding: this is available for green energy projects within community village halls. It would ease pressure on Wind Farm funding.

g) A96 Corridor Consultation: the proposal to dual the whole length of the A96 is now under review.

h) JCC Meeting: neither the Chairman nor the Minutes Secretary had been able to attend this meeting.

1. Complaints Procedure: this is being reviewed. The section dealing with disputes between Community Councillors and the public is a bit clunky. It is important to be able to say that all procedures were followed.

2. Protection of vulnerable people: this is also being reviewed. If there are concerns, who do we report to and how? It is important to know the procedure.

5. FINANCE REPORT

The Treasurer had submitted her report as she was unable to attend the meeting. There had been no change to the HCC account since the last meeting. Two bills have been paid from Rothes 1 and the funding from Rothes 2 has been received so the Pluscarden Hall and Dallas purchase projects can go ahead. The Mosstowie school play equipment still has to satisfy Council procurement procedures.

Roths 1	£22,029.96
Roths 2	73,737.48
HCC balance	1,122.73
Total	£96,890.17

6. PLANNING ISSUES

All planning details had been circulated. There were no issues.

A new distillery is in the pipeline but has not come into the planning procedure as yet. We will be consulted when the time comes.

There are three applications for Wind Farms: Berry Burn 2, Clash Gour and Rothes 3. Clash Gour and Rothes 3 are still at the Edinburgh stage.

A proposed Kellas Wind Farm has not yet gone to planning.

7. AOCB – to include area reports

- At the last Fogwatt Hall AGM a concern was expressed about the speed of traffic on the Clackmarras road. There is already a 'slow' sign at either end but this is not effective. Additional signs can be purchased by the residents but planning approval would be needed from both the Council and the nearby landowner.
- Are we allowed to hold meetings in schools again or is the Council still restricting access? HCC would be interested in using Mosstowie School again. The chairman had completed the survey and a report on the Learning Estate is underway.
- Concern was expressed about the single-track bridge below Pluscarden. The pull-in place for traffic had been improved but no 'Passing Place' sign had been erected so this area could be blocked, leaving traffic approaching the bridge but meeting oncoming traffic with nowhere to pull in.
- Break-ins had been reported in Mosstowie, Dallas and Pluscarden so it is important to lock all outbuildings.
- We have been very well served by our local Councillors over the years and Debra was requested to ask the new local Council members to note the date of our next meeting.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Date of the next meeting:

Tuesday 28 June 2022 at 7.30 pm, possibly in Alves Hall. To be confirmed.