

## **Findochty Community Council minutes**

**Date: Monday 3 October 2022**

**Time: 7pm**

**Venue: Findochty Town Hall**

### **Attendees:**

**Community Councillors:** Caroline Ferguson (CF), Jeff Masterson (JM), Ron Dawson (RD), John Gardiner (JG), Lorna Simpson (LS), Morag Campbell (MC), Brian Briggins (BB)

**Associate members:** Andrea Woodhead (treasurer), Cheryl Birtwistle (secretary), Paul Steel

**Members of Public:** 15

**Moray Council:** Debra Duke Community Council Liaison Officer (CCLO).

**Community Police:** PC Millican

### **1. Minutes of last meeting/Matters arising**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> September had been circulated to members and had been published on the Findochty Community Council Facebook page.

RESOLVED: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

### **2. Community feedback/Correspondence:**

A member of the public had contacted the community council to raise concerns with the volume of litter in the area, particularly the road leading in to Findochty from the main Cullen to Buckie Road. It asked whether fines were in place, but unless littering is witnessed this cannot be policed.

The Community Council will continue with their efforts of litter picking to keep the area clean.

The issue of dog mess was raised with Seafield Road, and Caravan Site being noted as worst areas, Community Council to link in with the local primary school to do a fresh dog litter campaign, as they had done in previous years.

CF advised that the school are learning about sustainability and ocean pollution and will possibly be doing an anti-litter campaign in the future.

The Community Council have received an invitation from The Lord-Lieutenant of Banffshire to attend A Service of Thanksgiving for The Life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at 3pm in Banff Parish Church. Members are welcomed to attend.

### **3. Community Police Update:**

Update given by PC Millican

In September there were 6 calls made to Police Scotland for Findochty & District, however following initial enquiry only 1 resulted in an actual crime being reported and investigated.

It was noted that On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October a very successful Blue Light Festival was held with over 1000 attending.

### **4. Planning:**

The Community Council received an email for the following planning application 22/00971/APP advising that permission has been refused. Community Council will continue to monitor the application for appeal processes.

### **5. Treasurers Report**

The report was circulated to all members.

It was noted that invoices for Town Hall Justers Flag contribution is still to be paid. Invoice for Meeting Room Hire is still to be received.

The financial year for the community council ended on 30 September 2022. The community council approved that Trevor Wilson Findochty Water Sports Club or Goldwells accountant to be appointed as independent examiner. AW to approach Trevor and pass accounts over for audit. Audited accounts to be approved at next meeting.

It was noted that Brian Brigginsshaw has been unable to be added as signatory due to no mobile phone access. A further signatory was still needed, Morag Campbell agreed to this role. The treasurer would provide a signatory form for Morag to be added.

AW produced the asset register for items currently held.

Query was raised regarding having a tractor mower, strimmer and ladder which is on long term loan but is not on asset list. CCLO to check regarding insurance cover for these items and advise Community Council accordingly.

Secretary and treasurer roles receive a £30 honorarium. It was discussed whether some expenses, such as stationery and printer ink, should be paid as separate expenses.

Balance was £3,689.34

Of that £2,586.16 was general funds and the remainder was administration grant.

#### **RESOLVED:**

1. Report until September 2022 was approved.
2. That Morag Campbell be approved as signatory.
3. To approach an independent examiner before next meeting. AW
4. Asset register produced.

5. Agreed Secretary/Treasurer stationery expenses be claimed as required.

## **6. Community Events/Fundraising**

It was proposed that Community Council hold a free Christmas Party for the children of Findochty. The committee agreed with the proposed event.

Fundraising would be done to enable this event and future community events. This would be done under the community council and not as a subcommittee, with fundraising monies being held in the Community Council Account and reported in the monthly treasurer report.

CF asked if anyone would be willing to be involved helping with fundraising. Sean Brown, Katrina Coull, Cheryl Birtwistle and Caroline Ferguson to support this. It was agreed to hold a raffle, with tickets being sold at a quiz night being held at the Town Hall on 25<sup>th</sup> November. The raffle draw will then take place at the Town Hall Christmas Show in December. Monies raised from this will then be used in aid of the Children's Christmas Party.

Further community events to be considered at future meetings include a weeklong Summer Festival linking in with other community groups.

### **RESOLVED:**

1. Children's Christmas Party agreed.
2. Fundraising for party starting with a raffle agreed.
3. Town Hall donating free hire of hall for Children's Party.

## **7. Changes to reporting for sub committees**

Following on from the previous community council meeting some aspects of administration of sub-committees of the community council were outstanding, as required within the community council constitution and standing orders. The following sections of the constitution were relevant:

*Section 12: Copies of all minutes of meetings of the Community Council and of committees thereof shall be approved at the next prescribed meeting of the Community Council, but the draft minute shall be circulated within 30 days from the date of that meeting and ratified minutes within 14 days of approval, to Community Council members...*

*Section 11: The Community Council may appoint such committees as it may from time to time decide and shall determine their composition, terms of reference, duration, duties and powers.*

*Section 13:*

- a. All meetings of the Community Council and its committees shall be open to members of the public*
- b. Notices calling meetings of the Community Council and its committees shall be posted prominently within the Community Council area for a minimum period of 7 days before the date of any such meeting, and, where possible, be advertised by other suitable means.*

*Section 15: All monies raised by or on behalf of the Community Council or provided by Moray Council and other sources shall be applied to further the objectives of the Community Council and for no other purpose.*

Following the treasurer requesting copies of accounts and associated financial paperwork back to 2019 be forwarded to the community council.

- The Christmas Lights are confirmed as a sub committee and will forward their completed accounts.
- The Play Park Committee had no finances of their own as the work would be completed with a grant.
- The Gala Committee have advised Community Council they were never set up as a sub-committee.

It was noted that the Gala Committee had previously been minuted going back to 2018 as a sub committee of the Community Council. It was proposed that the Gala Committee be approached through email to decide if they wished to be a sub-committee. Thus, benefiting from the Community Council Insurance and licensing discounts from Moray Council, which would also mean reporting as required by Moray Council. Or if they wished to be a standalone committee separate from the Community Council obtaining their own insurances and licenses as required. It was agreed that a letter would be drafted and approved by committee members before being sent.

The hard work of the Gala Committee is very much appreciated by the community council, they do a great job which the community council would like to continue to support.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Christmas Lights Sub-Committee agreed to provide accounts and other financial documentation to the community council for the current financial year and for previous financial years.
2. That the Gala Sub-Committee be emailed to confirm their position as sub-committee. CF

## 8. Reports

- a. **Moray Councillors**- no councillors present to report.
- b. **Town Hall**- The Town Hall had their formal opening on 23 September. The community well attended this. Town Hall advised they were very much still there to support the Community Council moving forward.
- c. **Community Council Sub-groups**
  - i. **Harbour Advisory Group**- No update to report.
  - ii. **Christmas lights**- Apologies had been sent. Lights to be tested on 25<sup>th</sup> October and the new lights have been ordered. Their accounts were being audited and would be forwarded to treasurer upon the return.
  - iii. **Gala**- no update received.
  - iv. **Maintenance/Gardening**- All planters have been cleared. Works to Crooked Hythe path included shuttering being completed. Awaiting concrete to complete this process. The committee agreed happy to pay concrete cost. JG to contact Limehillock, with The Men's Shed agreeing to aid taking delivery of concrete. A further project to consider was information boards especially at Sunny Craig, with information about the local names of the area.
  - v. **Litter pick**- to be arranged for March/April 2023
  - vi. **Defibrillator**- all in working order.
  - vii. **Morven Play Park**- On schedule to start in October 2022. Have applied for funding from Buckie Area Developer Obligations to try to obtain football goals.

### RESOLVED:

To contribute £95.00 to the Town Hall Committee for the flag.  
To look into costing of 1 information board from supplier in Cullen.

## 9. AOCB

- Ongoing concern regarding The Stripe overgrown greenery/shrub area. This includes the storm grating which has an animal carcass caught in the grating. Moray Council and Seafield Estates to be contacted regarding maintenance of area.
- Community member raised concerns regarding road safety in the village, has noticed regular speeding of vehicles entering the village. This will be added to the agenda for the next meeting, and community council will reach out to local councillors. It was noted by CLO that it is a Moray wide issue and there is a JCC working group been set up regarding speeding/traffic issues.
- Community Council to check if any update regarding Harbour Road closure.

**10. Date, time and venue of next meeting**

The next meeting would be Monday 7 November.  
This will no longer be the AGM as originally planned.

*The meeting ended at 8:26pm.*

Signed

Date

Chairperson