

Findochty Community Council minutes

Date: Monday 7th November 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),

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

Members of Public: 11

Moray Council: Councillor Sonya Warren, Councillor John Stuart, Councillor Neil McLennan

Community Police:

1. Chairperson Welcome

CF welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the council members and associates. CF gave apologies that were received.

Debra Duke, Brian Brigginsshaw, Ruth O Hanlon and Sean Brown.

2. Community Police Update:

No police available to attend meeting, report given by CF.

In October there were 5 calls made to Police Scotland for Findochty & District, however following initial enquiry only 2 resulted in an actual crime being reported and investigated.

3. Primary School:

It was noted that the local primary school pupil council hope to have the pupil council and other pupils share with us what is happening in the school and any help they would like to receive from the community. The school have been involved in traffic safety and road concerns previously and it is looking to set up their junior road safety officers again. Primary 5/6 is looking into plastic pollution, recycling, and sustainability and littering and hope to educate the wider community.

4. Approval of previous meeting:

It was noted that an amendment was required in Treasurer Report section of previous minutes. Amendment noted that Town Hall room hire invoice has not yet been received.

5. Change to Gala Subgroup:

The Gala Committee were emailed so that clarification could be made in terms of Community Council Subgroups. The Gala Committee have advised they have never been a Subgroup and have their own Public Liability Insurance and obtain all their own licenses as required. It is recorded that The Gala Committee are their own organisation and are not part of the Community Council, the Community Council wish them well with future endeavours.

RESOLVED:

1. Gala Committee removed as a noted Subgroup.

6. Antisocial Behaviour

Following concerns raised at the previous meeting, the Community Council launched an online road safety survey. From this there were 18 responses, with 15 of these being speed concerns. It was discussed that perhaps this survey needs shared further, possibly with a paper consultation to gain a wider response. Community Council to share the speeding/traffic concerns with local councillors and police. It was noted that the Speed Indicator Device as you enter the village from Buckie is intermittently working. This is to be reported to council. A community member shared with us some research they had found regarding the speed reduction benefit of having worded signs along with the current number speed limit signs. Community Council will contact Moray Council to establish the feasibility of this.

Dog fouling was discussed. This has been reported to the local warden and is awaiting further contact. It was suggested to ask for further signage to be introduced in village, and to look into paper versions of the Moray Council Report It function.

RESOLVED:

1. To contact Local Councillors/Police regarding speed issues.
2. To report intermittent speed indicator device.
3. To contact Moray Council regarding improved speed signage.
4. To ask Community Warden for more dog fouling signage in village, and if paper posters of Reporting Function available

7. Community Feedback

The Findochty Christmas Light switch on will take place on Sunday 27th. There will be Family Fun and teas in the Church of Scotland Hall from 2pm – 4.30pm. Paul T will be playing at the Admirals from 4pm till 6pm. The local school children will also be singing weather permitting. The switch on will take place on Jubilee Terrace at approximately 5.30pm.

It was reported that the handrail on steps at The Stripe area is broken and damaged and is posing a safety risk. There are still some issues with land ownership responsibility of this area. Community council will raise it again with Seafeld Estates and Moray Council.

Contact was made via Facebook to enquire if Community Council were laying a wreath at the Remembrance Service at the Memorial. It was agreed that Committee happy to purchase a wreath, CB to order from The Legion in Buckie. CF and CB would attend service.

RESOLVED:

1. Broken handrail to be reported to Moray Council/Seafeld Estates
2. Wreath to be ordered.

8. Treasurer Report

Report was circulated to all members.

Balance was £3,555.34

Of that £2,419.16 was general funds and the remainder was administration grant.

It was noted that the Invoice for Town Hall Flag has been paid, still awaiting invoice for Meeting room hire.

Morag has now been added as a signatory but is waiting internet banking to be set up. Community Council now has satisfactory number of signatories.

Both Community Council and Christmas Lights Accounts have been independently audited and are available to view.

Expenses for a bottle of wine for the accounts being audited, along with postage costs for banking forms agreed.

RESOLVED:

1. Morag added as signatory.
2. Accounts now independently audited.
3. Treasurer expenses agreed.

9. Community Events/Fundraising

The Children's Christmas Party will be held on 15th December in the Town Hall, for children 12 and under. The Town Hall has kindly agreed free use of the hall for the party.

The Committee are very grateful for all the raffle donations received from the community and businesses. This will be put together at the weekend, with tickets on sale from Monday 14th both online and in the Keystore. Tickets are £1 an entry.

A family quiz night is being held on 25th November with funds raised being donated to the party.

A tabletop/craft sale is being held on 4th of December, volunteers are required for serving teas at the event.

Further fundraising ideas suggested were an Easter Fayre with events such as a craft fair and Easter treasure hunt.

10. Reports

- a. **Moray Councillors-** A welcome was given to newly elected Councillor John Stuart. They had attended the Education Committee meeting for prioritisation of the 2 High Schools in Moray which were in poor condition, these being Forres and Buckie. The local councillors advocated for Buckie; however Forres Academy won the vote. The video of this vote is available to view online. Buckie High School will be looking to be replaced by 2028/2029 with it being maintained until there is a new build in place. Community consultations will be starting. Buckie Swimming pool will continue to be maintained and useable. The Pontoon meeting will be later this month to get an update. There is a meeting on 17th November of Police and Fire Committee which will be feedback from at next meeting. There is a Cost of Living working group been established due to the current cost of living crisis. Included in this is the promotion of recycling of school uniforms. Findochty Primary School has a rail within the school where people can both donate or receive school uniform.
- b. **Town Hall-** The Town Hall has no update; they continue to provide a facility for people to rent and use. They are continuing to look at both external/internal maintenance as required.

c. **Community Council Sub-groups**

- i. **Harbour Advisory Group**- No updates to advise, however it was noted that works on the Harbour Road had been due to start today as contracted had been awarded but was no sign of this yet.
- ii. **Christmas lights**- Switch on to take place on Sunday 27th.
- iii. **Gala**- being removed as subgroup.
- iv. **Maintenance/Gardening**- All planters have been cleared. Some new planter tubs are required due to deterioration of some of them.
CB to send Greening Grant and Queens Canopy information to PS to review.
Some new signs required for harbour green picnic area to advise no parking. Possibly look at Sign Etch in Buckie.
Seat at Cliff Street still waiting to be demolished.
Works to Crooked Hythe path is now completed. Invoice for concrete still to be given to AW. Future project to be looked at is concrete screed under the picnic benches at this area.
PS has been looking at external podiums for discussed information boards.
Discussion held regarding which areas in village are maintained by council grass cutters, and which fall under Seafeld Estates for the Community Council to maintain. CB to contact both to clarify areas, and rota of Moray Council grass cutting.
To consider contacting Community Justice team for help with maintenance of some areas if required.
- v. **Litter pick**- to be arranged for March/April 2023. There are facilities at the beaches for those who wish to litter pick there
- vi. **Defibrillator**- all in working order.
- vii. **Morven Play Park**- all equipment has been delivered, awaiting update on work which was scheduled to start in October.

RESOLVED:

1. To look into rotas and locations of grass cutting with Moray Council/Seafeld Estates.

11.AOCB

- To look into possible funding options from The Lottery and Baxter's for funding for the Heritage Trail.
- Discussion to consider having a Community Council Resilience Plan, Men's Shed has advised they will have a generator to supply hot water when required in event of power outages.
- Community Council to consider a community Asset/Skills list for the village, Buckie and District Community Council are building a Resilience Plan, would they be able to support if needed.
- CF commended Men's Shed on great work they have done recently in community.
- It was raised by a member of the community the bad state of repair at Dyce Crescent, with footways covered in moss and grass growing through road. It was noted that this may be a non-adopted road within the village. Community Council to look into non adopted roads, and the required maintenance on Dyce Crescent.

12.Date, time and venue of next meeting

The next meeting was a planned AGM on 28th November at 7pm.
This has now been postponed till next year and the 28th of November will be an ordinary meeting

The meeting ended at 8:38pm.

Signed

Date Chairperson