

Findochty Community Council minutes

Date: Monday 16th January 2023

Time: 7pm

Venue: Findochty Town Hall

Attendees:

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

Associate members: Paul Steel (PS), Andrea Woodhead (AW), Cheryl Birtwistle (CB)

Members of Public: 10

Moray Council: none attended

Community Police: none attended

1. Chairperson Welcome

CF welcomed everyone to the meeting. CF gave apologies that were received from Debra Duke, Sonya Warren, John Stuart and Neil McLennan

2. Community Police Update:

No police were in attendance at meeting, CF gave the December update. In December there were 2 calls made to Police Scotland for Findochty & District, however following initial enquiry 0 resulted in an actual crimes being reported and investigated.

3. Primary School:

The school are keen to find out what plans will be in place for the Kings Coronation. There are hopes to link in with Town Hall which operates a book exchange,

4. Approval of previous meeting:

Minutes of previous meeting were agreed as accurate.

5. Antisocial Behaviour

Following from previous meetings the main concern is still speeding within the village. Communication received from local police is they will carry out speed checks as and when resources allow.

Nicola Moss has advised that the speed indicator device which has not been operational will be looked at.

AW advised that JCC as part of their community speed watch sub group are looking into the possibility of volunteers being trained in the use of speed monitoring equipment. This would involve a joint moray wide initiative of each council providing funding to pay for the initiative then resources being shared across Moray Community Councils.

6. Community Feedback

There is still ongoing correspondence between Seafield Estates and Moray Council regarding the Netherton Terrace step hand railing. The council are currently seeking further guidance as they believe the land is owned by Seafield and responsibility lies with them.

The Seaview/Netherton safety railings issue which was raised at the previous meeting has now been reported by Community Council.

Harbour Road closure barriers have been reported and this has been allocated to road maintenance team.

A query had been raised on Facebook regarding the poor conditions and potholes on Sterlochey Quay. Following this the Harbour Master was contacted and advised they are aware of this and it continues to be monitored but at present funding and priority lies with the closed harbour road. The concerns have however been passed on to the engineers to take on board.

Harbour Road still remains closed until required paperwork from Marine Scotland is in place for repairs to go ahead.

RESOLVED:

1. To follow up with council regarding Netherton steps railings

7. Treasurer Report

Audited accounts were approved for submission to Moray Council. It was also agreed the account summary would be published on Facebook.

Monthly Report was circulated to all members.

Balance was £3,380.78.

Of that £2346.60 was general funds and the remainder was administration grant. .

RESOLVED:

1. Audited accounts to be submitted to Moray Council and published on Facebook page.

8. Community Events/Fundraising

The Community Council held a very successful Children's Christmas Party. Funds raised for the party came to £1617.63 with an expenditure of £1305.32. This left a surplus of £312.31. It was proposed that these funds be donated to Findochty School PSG; this was agreed by the committee.

It is hoped to continue to have community events and to enable this the committee asked for community support to be part of a fundraising/events team. Ashleigh Campbell, Katie Wilson and Catherine Gardiner agreed to come on board to support this. It was proposed that the next community event will be the Kings Coronation, with the hope to bring all community groups together to celebrate.

Other suggestions for community events include a summer Finechty Festival which could have different groups running events throughout the week, an

intergenerational event, some suggestions included a pirate day with treasure hunt and a bingo night.

9. Community Resilience Plan

The Town Hall held their AGM and advised that they are to be a warm place hub within the village. A generator and changeover switch has now been purchased by Town Hall and installation will take place the last week in January. Community council would like to work together with Town Hall on a Resilience Plan with a list of community assets such as 4x4 vehicles, food hygiene holders, people who can store tinned/dried foods. Pam from the Town Hall will help with generating a list, but it needs a group and lead person to form a plan and take this forward. Anyone within the community who would like to get involved to reach out.

£500 funding is available from the FAB group, but there has to be specific items purchased and this should get approval from the group first.

More funding is to be available to support resilience plans through the Just Transitions Net Zero.

10. Reports

- a. **Moray Councillors-** No councillors in attendance, however Neil McLennan had advised that the speeding concerns highlighted at previous meetings have been relayed to the police.
- b. **Town Hall** the Town Hall is still doing well and was successful in their bid for funding for the changeover switch. The Pop Up café is not back open yet. RD advised that the ladies and gents toilets were being refurbished on January 17th.
- c. **Community Council Sub-groups**
 - i. **Harbour Advisory Group-** No updates.
 - ii. **Christmas lights-** It was advised that after Ruth O Hanlon had decided to step down from the lights committee, Rachel Watt was going to continue with help from others in the village. MC AND CF will also be within the group and will provide a link to community council. The group have yet to appoint office bearers but this will be done in due course. AW to ask Trevor if he will audit the 21/22 accounts. Christmas lights to continue to submit minutes of meetings and accounts to Community Council. The Lights group are currently looking at alternative storage facilities for the lights as the current facilities do not meet the needs required.
 - iii. **Maintenance/Gardening-** Concreting under benches at Crooked Hythe still to be done, awaiting better weather. PS has met with Seafield Estate regarding planting of shrubs in banks around village using Greening Grant funding. Seafield Estates has approved suggested sites. Concerns had been raised previously regarding maintenance of the new shrubs; PS has advised these would responsible planting of very low maintenance shrubs. PS awaiting an estimate from Christies for some coastal shrubs. Areas within the community will then be looked at and agreed by the committee.

PS advised some concerns had been raised to him regarding creels down by the harbour green area. He has been in touch with the council and harbour master regarding this and is awaiting correspondence from them. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

JG is to pass over concrete invoice to AW; this was approved at a previous meeting.

Grass cutting list was obtained from Moray Council. It was noted a few areas were not on list – Slip Shore, Morven Crescent Park and Town Hall garages. CB to contact Moray Council. PS to forward copy of grass cutting to Andy Slater.

- iv. **Litter pick**- to be arranged for March/April 2023. There are facilities at the beaches for those who wish to litter pick there
- v. **Defibrillator**- all in working order.
- vi. **Morven Play Park**- work has now started at the park, community council questioned if an official opening would take place.

RESOLVED:

1. JG to pass concrete invoice to AW
2. PS to forward grass cutting g rota to Andy Slater
3. CB to contact Moray Council with missing grass cutting areas

11.AOCB

- It was suggested that the community council publish the yearly bin calendar on Facebook
- Discussion was held regarding concerns raised on the Community Council Facebook regarding Gala Committee accounts. Although the committee felt the person had legitimate questions, the profile posting appeared to be a fake profile. The post was removed by Facebook for this reason. The committee agreed that only genuine profiles should be allowed to post for transparency and fairness to all in the community. As the Gala is not a subcommittee of Community Council CF again encouraged anyone with concerns to take them directly to the Gala at their public meeting being held in the town hall.

12. Date, time and venue of next meeting

Monday 6th February 2023 at 7pm Findochty Town Hall

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed

Chairperson

Date