

FINDHORN & KINLOSS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 27 January 2023 at Osprey Room, James Milne Institute, Findhorn

Present: A Skene (Chair), C Brenton (Vice-Chair), D Anderson (Minutes), R Hutchinson, S Moat, J Hynam

Attendance: Cllr Van Der Horn, Cllr K Robertson, A Griffin (Kinloss Barracks), D Low (Kinloss Barracks), Y Square (Police Scotland)

Item 1 Agenda:

1. **a. Apologies:** S Dominey, J O'Hagan, M La Tourelle, Cllr Lawrence
- b. Declaration of Interest:** To be declared if necessary.

Item 2 Public Session:

2.1 Y Square attended from the Community Policing team in Forres. The Community Safety Partnership report for January has yet to be issued. However there have been no major or significant issues to report for our area. Y Square confirmed that when possible, duties and rotas allowing, officers will attend Community Council meetings.

2.2 There has been no public correspondence since the November meeting.

2.3 There was to be a presentation by S Jamieson on the STEM workshops undertaken at Morayvia in Kinloss to report on the use of the £500 donation provided by FKCC in 2022 from the SSE Grant. Unfortunately S Jamieson could not attend so a written report was read out instead. There have been a series of STEM workshops and event days throughout the year, to which a total of 171 children and young people attended and 55 adults. The report highlighted that of the £500 donation, £199.10 remains. The expenditure during 2022 covered refreshments and lunches for the workshop attendees, STEM materials for the workshops and a donation to the 39 Regiment for the use of a bouncy castle at events. It is hoped that S Jamieson will be available at a later date to give a full report.

Item 3 Ratification of Minute of meeting from 24th November 2022:

3.1 An amendment to item 4.4 in the minutes was requested by C Low to reflect that the Findhorn Residents Association should write to the FKCC regarding a donation to the Findhorn play park. Subject to the amendment, the minutes of the November meeting were agreed as accurate proposed by S Moat and seconded by J Hynam.

Item 4 Matters Arising:

4.1 (2.3) A Skene wrote to the Moray Council regarding the cutting back of trees/vegetation on the public road at Milton Brodie. She received a response from the Council stating that the works had not been undertaken by the Council and were likely to have been done by a local landowner.

4.2 (2.5) Information on Avian Flu was posted on the FKCC social media. Cllr Robertson highlighted that investigation of the outbreak is on-going, with DEFRA focussing on the captive bird population. Cllr Van Der Horn offered to contact Nature Scot with regard to an update on the outbreak within the wild bird population.
ACTION: Cllr Van Der Horn to contact Nature Scot.

4.3 (4.3) J O'Hagan has contacted Kieran's Legacy regarding the purchase of a defibrillator for Southside and is still awaiting further details. **ACTION: C Brenton & J O'Hagan to liaise further with Keiran's Legacy and feedback at next meeting.**

4.4 (4.4) There has been no correspondence from the Findhorn Residents Association (FRA) regarding the potential use of the remainder of the SSE grant for improvements to the children's Play Park in Findhorn.
ACTION: A Skene to contact FRA to find out if they are still interested.

4.5 (9.2) S Moat met with C Shreenan during the Christmas period for the handover of the accounts.

4.6 (13.1) There were no comments received on planning application 22/01342/APP Alter and extend dwellinghouse, remove oil tank and install new air source heat pump at 200 Findhorn and therefore no submission was made.

Item 5 The Findhorn Village Conservation Company update:

5.1 C Hunt reported that the Christmas period had been a quiet time for TFVCC. However works to refurbish the first toilet block were nearing completion and works on the second toilet block would commence in about a month's time. Permission has been granted for the installation of a hot water shower at the second toilet block. A payment would be required to use this shower. However there would also be a cold water shower available outside of the refurbished toilet block, the use of which would be free.

5.2 TFVCC undertook a survey on the future of Findhorn Church and are in discussions with the Church of Scotland. A Griffin asked if there was any update on the completion of the paperwork for the works to the steps at Findhorn Beach. C Hunt stated that TFVCC were still awaiting confirmation from The Crown Estate as to whether their application for a grant had been successful. A Griffin highlighted that as the paperwork needed to be reviewed by the MoD out with the Kinloss Barracks, the sooner the completed paperwork was provided, the better.

Item 6 Kinloss Barracks Report:

6.1 A Griffin introduced her new colleague D Low who is 'the other half' of the job share for the community liaison post. There is no report from Orbex. However there have been low flying exercises taking place around the Barracks, which will continue during February. There will also be extra military transport vehicles on the public roads leading to Kinloss Barracks and the RAF at Lossiemouth.

Item 7 Chairpersons report:

7.1 No report.

Item 8 Secretary's report/Correspondence:

8.1 No report.

Item 9 Treasurer's Report:

9.1 S Moat reported that the bank balance is £3,138.81 which is made up of:

Balance C/F TMC admin grant	£ 1,616.68
Balance C/F Capital funds	£ 1,022.13
Balance C/F SSE grant	£ 500.00

Item 10 JCCM Report:

10.1 The next JCC Meeting will be on 9 February 2023 at 7.00pm via Zoom. A Skene is unable to attend. However C Brenton stated that she may be able to attend. **ACTION: A Skene to send Zoom link to C Brenton.**

Item 11 Moray Councillors' Report:

11.1 Cllr Robertson reported that the Council's budget is the main focus of Councillors at this time, with the Council Charges (e.g. parking charges, harbour charges etc.) going to Corporate Committee on 1 March. The Council are seeking permission to have a Bank Holiday for the King's Coronation. Permission from Scottish Government is required as it would reduce the number of teaching days at schools. Attainment within Education remains at a lower than average standard. However funding for the expansion of music tuition within schools is now available, including for brass instruments, pipes and drums and guitar.

11.2 Cllr Van Der Horn stated that he had been approached by members of the public regarding inconsiderate drivers on the Beach Road at Findhorn and by drivers who were concerned about the potholes in the track. C Hunt confirmed that there has been two test surfaces laid on the track which are being monitored over the winter with a view to undertaking further improvements. Cllr Van Der Horn also stated that he had received complaints that there were people shooting on Findhorn Bay, despite the Avian Flu outbreak. However there are no restrictions on accessing the bay, only advice to avoid going there or take bio security measures if you did walk in the area.

11.3 Cllr Van Der Horn also highlighted that there will be an ecologist looking at the nature sites in Moray to undertake 'health checks' and to see whether the criteria for specific designations was still being met. He had also had recent carbon literacy training by the Climate Change team at the Moray Council. This training is to be rolled out to other councillors, council officers, educators etc. There is a new active travel group formed in Forres who are looking to support the Council in identifying areas where infrastructure is in poor condition, or 'missing'. This type of public involvement is welcomed as it supports the small team working on active travel within the Council. Finally Cllr Van Der Horn highlighted the Just Transition funding which has been made available to the Park Ecovillage community. This funding includes studies and two sessions on ecological design which are to be open to members of the public.

Item 12 Park Ecovillage Findhorn report:

12.1 No report.

Item 13 Planning:

13.1 Two planning applications have been submitted for the FKCC area and were discussed during the meeting.

22/01745/APP Alter, extend and change use of fisherman's store to dwelling house at 43C Findhorn – This application is within the Conservation Area and includes solar panels. **ACTION: FKCC members to review and email A Skene with any comments.**

22/01896/APP Replace UPVC windows and doors with timber framed double glazed windows and insulated timber doors at 174 Findhorn – no objections.

Item 14 Any Other Competent Business:

14.1 Two applications for changes to licenses have been submitted, the first for the Kinloss Abbey Inn, the second for the Crown and Anchor in Findhorn. There are a number of changes sought at both establishments, including allowing young people unrestricted (area and time) access to all areas of the establishments and extending the operational hours. **ACTION: FKCC members to review the applications and meet via zoom on Thursday 2 February at 6.30 to discuss any response.**

14.2 R Hutchinson reported that the Watershed Sauna has received funding from Inspiring Scotland to run community wellbeing sauna sessions until March. These sessions are available to all residents within the FKCC area. Booking for the community sessions is through the Watershed website: <https://watershedsauna.com/community>

14.3 R Hutchinson also reported that Just Transition funding had been awarded to the Findhorn, Nairn and Lossie Rivers Trust to undertake a new project called The Findhorn Watershed Initiative, working with landowners, communities and all other stakeholders to initiate a watershed scale ecological restoration project starting in the upper catchment of the river Findhorn <https://findhornwatershed.com>

14.4 S Moat highlighted the new branding for the FKCC website and asked if it should be extended to agenda notices, minutes and other information posted on the FKCC noticeboards. It was agreed that this change would take place.

Item 15 Forthcoming Community Events:

15.1 The following forthcoming events were shared:

- Universal Hall promotions can be seen on website universalhall.co.uk
- 24 March 2023 at 7.00pm Forres Town Hall film night in aid of Forres Skate Park 'Lyle Lyle Crocodile' Booking via www.forreskatepark.org.uk
- Kinloss Krafty Kids Club, Kinloss Mondays between 9.00 and 11.00 Coffee and Games (free).

Item 16 Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 23 February 2023, 7pm in the Culbin Room, Kinloss Church.