



Findochty Community Council Minutes

Date: Monday 6th March 2023

Time: 7pm

Venue: Findochty Town Hall

Attendees -

Community Councillors: Caroline Ferguson (CF), Ron Dawson (RD), Morag Campbell (MC), Lorna Simpson (LS),

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

Members of Public: 7

Moray Council: Cllr Neil McLennan, Cllr Sonya Warren

Community Police:

1. Chairperson Welcome

CF welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave apologies received from Cllr John Stuart and John Gardiner.

2. Community Police Update:

No police in attendance and no report received by email.

3. Primary School:

The primary school will be holding a Coronation fun day celebration on Friday 5th of May. Community council will be supplying the school children with a crown to decorate as part of the community celebration.

4. Approval of previous meeting:

Some areas were highlighted as requiring changes within Local Councillor reports, changes were agreed and minutes to be updated and reissued.

5. Treasurer Report

Monthly Report was circulated to all members.

Balance was £4819.94

Of that £3638.88 was general funds and the remainder was administration grant.

AW advised following issues with the current bank an application has been made to CO-OP and we are awaiting a decision. If the application is unsuccessful Virgin Money would be the next option.

Invoice for building materials of sand/cement for Coo's Roadie repair approved.

CF asked if the heading of Gala Donation on monthly report could be amended to events funds, as previously agreed use of this donation.

RESOLVED:

1. Coos Roadie material cost approved.
2. AW to rename gala donation to events funds.

6. Antisocial Behaviour

Correspondence received from Nicola Moss at Moray Council where she advised that a speed survey was carried out in 2017 on the road into Findochty from Portknockie and that the results obtained then would not warrant them revisiting to update the survey. Following discussion, it was felt that the recent concerns and the considerable amount of time since the previous survey that there was a need for this to be looked at again. CB to contact Nicola to voice the concerns raised and ask her to reconsider looking at renewing the survey. Queries were also raised as to whether the speed indicator devices record speeds and regarding the calibration of these as they currently flag at approx. 27/28mph, CB to raise these queries with Nicola Moss also.

CF advised that the school Junior Road Safety Officers have resumed and have been conducting surveys and are keen to pursue road safety option for the village.

The removal of the previous lollipop person was discussed and the lack of safe crossing options for children going to and from school. CB to contact council and see if there are any options for a crossing to be installed; which would allow children to cross the road more safely. Discussion was also held regarding expanding the 20mph school zone if funding would allow with light up signage during school start and finish times. CB to contact council to seek further guidance on these options.

CF asked if Cllr McLennan would be a link for school JRSO's with regard to road safety measures and options available. Cllr McLennan agreed he would be happy to do this.

RESOLVED:

1. CB to contact Nicola Moss regarding reconsidering Speed Survey.
2. CB to contact Moray Council regarding crossing options for school children.

7. Community Feedback

CF went on to discuss some concerns which had been received via Facebook and email regarding potential antisocial behaviour/environmental health issues from a resident down by the Harbour Road area. Discussion was held regarding the best way to try and resolve the issue for all concerned.

Community council encouraged residents to continue to report any issues either on the council report it page, or if relevant to the police via Crime stoppers, if anyone wished to report and remain anonymous they can contact community council who will report on their behalf. It was discussed that the

resident concerned may also need some support in regard to concerns raised and community council will contact the Social Work Access Team and highlight a potential cause for concern. CF to also inform school head teacher as it was noted that children have been down near the area reported. Correspondence was received from Moray Council regarding our query of grass cutting at The Stripe steps. They confirmed that they do not cut this area it is not included in their rota. The Community Council to compile an updated list to forward to Andy Slater.

RESOLVED:

1. CB to contact Social Work Access Team.
2. CF to inform school head teacher.

8. Community Events/Fundraising

CF informed committee that the events group had met and discussed plans for the Coronation Celebration which will be held over 3 days.

Saturday 6th May will be a Fun day with inflatables, hook a duck, football inflatable. CB to apply for road closure.

Susan Begg advised she has an outside electric socket which can be utilised if required.

There will be a parade of the crowns decorated by the school children and a junior bake off.

Teas and coffees will be served and The Admirals are looking into a big screen to show the Coronation live. The event to start at 12pm.

Sunday 7th will be the big picnic/community lunch which will likely be held at Mini Hampden as this is best located for use of toilets, the bowling green have advised we can also use the toilet facilities there. At the picnic will be family potted sports.

Monday 8th the Water sports club have said they will launch the Skiffs, the Bowling Club will offer taster sessions, Strathlene Golf Club have been contacted but we are awaiting to hear a response from them.

The Rotary Club are holding their classic car and tractor rally on the Sunday. LS to contact for details and she will pass to CB to link in with our programme of events.

CB and CF have put in an application for Lottery Funding for a summer events programme. The funding is quite specific so CF advised we await hearing if we will be awarded this.

It was discussed waiting on applying for other funding sources till a project such as the Heritage Trail is planned as applications require specific costings and plans.

It was suggested looking at the Findochty Common Good Fund as another source of funding.

RESOLVED:

1. LS to pass Rotary details to CB

9. FABDT Group

CF updated the group that the Findochty and Buckie Development Trust group have their EGM on 15th March where trustees will be appointed. She gave the committee an overview of the group and how it can work to make improvements in the area, at the information meeting attended by CF, CB and AW ideas such as improving the line between Buckie and Findochty were suggested as well as potential youth groups. CF encouraged people to become members to share their views and have a vote, membership is free.

10. Harbour Road Closure

Discussion was held regarding the continued Harbour Road closure. Work will commence once the new license is acquired.

The closure barriers continue to pose problems with blowing over and sand bags bursting, it was proposed could flower planters be put in place to create a more attractive appearance, CB to contact Stuart Akass to ask if this would be allowed.

11. Pavement Parking Exemption

Discussion was held adding the following streets to be put forward to those already noted –

Reidhaven Crescent –The Circle, Dyce Crescent, Commercial Street, Main Street, Morven Crescent, Sterlochy Street, The Creagan, Duke Street, New Street, Old Street, Siller Street, North Blantyre Street and Church Street.

CB to put a last call on Facebook prior to submitting to Moray Council.

12. Morven Play park Bench

PS gave committee the bench price options he had sourced.

Adult Rainbow £512

Adult Brown £460

Junior Rainbow £447

These options will be fed back to Morven Park Committee to decide on choice. Discussion was held and it was approved Community Council would purchase a second bench for the Park.

Other points raised were updated signage for the park and would there be an official launch.

13. Community Resilience Plan

Discussion was held regarding setting up a resilience plan; it still needs someone to initiate and take the project on board. Ideas included having a simple action plan sent out by mail drop. Having a list of community assets and volunteers when the need arises. Possibly look at Hopeman who have a plan in action already to get ideas, and also look at existing schemes like British Red Cross. Community member Anne Braidwood volunteered to start looking into some of this for us.

14. Reports

- a. **Moray Councillors** – nothing to report
- b. **Town Hall** – a recent breakfast for cyclists ran by the pop up cafe was held in town hall which was well attended. Pop up café is officially restarting on Thursday 31st March.
- c. **Community Council Sub-groups**
 - i. **Harbour Advisory Group** – No updates.
 - ii. **Christmas lights** – the 2022 year end accounts have been audited. Rachel Watt has been appointed chairperson.
 - iii. **Maintenance/Gardening** –Work at Crooked Hythe picnic benches is ongoing. Drain by harbour slip road beside AW is blocked, CB to report to council. Bin at Jubilee Terrace by slip broken CB to report. CF asked if school children could link in with community council for Coronation planting, CF to link in with PS.
 - iv. **Litter pick**- no update.
 - v. **Defibrillator**- all in working order.
 - vi. **Morven Play Park**- no updates.

RESOLVED:

1. Christmas lights accounts now audited.

15. AOCB

- It was noted that the 1st ladies toilet at harbour requires maintenance, CB to report issue.
- CF raised discussion that with the sad passing of committee member Brian there was currently a vacant seat, it was proposed that CB be co-opted onto committee and this was agreed.

16. Date, time and venue of next meeting

Monday 17th April 2023 at 7pm Findochty Town Hall