

Meeting Minutes

Meeting on Thursday 1st August 2024 at Edinkillie Hall

FCC members present:

Tony Pinner (TP), Howard Davenport (HD), Tom Hardie (TH), Peter Taylor (PT),

Also present:

Andy Munro (AM), Juli Salt, Rosemary Pannell (RP), Carol MacRae (CM)

Apologies:

Anna Gatward (AG), Anne Garrow, Kathleen Robertson

1) Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes agreed.

2) Current Standing Items

a) Traffic Safety in Rafford

- **Provision of a pavement in Upper Rafford**

Construction works complete, but some snagging items to be tackled. Elaine Penny, Roads Engineer, to propose some road markings at crossing points.

- **Vehicle Activated Signs**

PT reported he was still waiting for a response from JCC to the question of insurance of CC owned assets. **(Action: PT to follow up)**

- **Village Entrance Signs**

HD reported that he had followed up with Elaine Penny and Landowner on land for the Village Entrance sign at the south end of Upper Rafford. Elaine has agreed to mark out the area of the field needed for the sign, which the owners will review. **(Action: HD to follow up)**

b) Broadband

R100

TH that the ongoing roadworks from St Leonards Road on Forres to Upper Rafford for the installation of ducting, are due to be completed by 9th August. He also reported that some additional ducting is due to be installed down Old Road from the south then along to Redhill. TH added that the fibre cables would be installed into the ducting at a later date. Additional road works and cabinets would be needed to hook up to individual properties. (no planning permission needed)

HD reported that he had seen the completion dates slip from April to June 2025 on Digital Scotland Address Checker for R100. It was agreed to write to R Lochhead to query this. **(Action: HD)**

CM queried a request to install cable or ducting along the track from Rafford Church to Granary Farm. **(Action: TH to follow up)**

External Reality

TH noted that ER had looked further at the possibility of wireless backhaul to provide a temporary connection to Upper Rafford, but it had proved infeasible.

c) Brockloch Field Development

TP reported that further landscaping drawings had been submitted at the request of TMC Planning department.

d) Windfarm Developments

HD reported an update from EDF on meeting with Community Energy Moray held in mid-June.

- EDF are working on creating a comprehensive community investment portfolio across its portfolio, including Clashgour.
- EDF will be launching a local sponsorship fund later this year enabling groups with Moray to apply for a share of a pot of money.
- A further supply chain engagement event to be held in 2025.

e) Joint Community Council

Next meeting 8th August. **(Action: PT to attend)**

f) Resilience Planning

PT had circulated a draft outline of a Resilience Plan to CC members to review. **(Action: all CC members)**

PT raised some issues to be addressed:

- Any equipment bought by FCC would need insurance cover
- Village Halls should be contacted regarding possible storage of Resilience Equipment
- Contact Forres CC, regarding their experience and lending out of their Resilience equipment.

g) Forres Health Services

TH reported that an email has been sent including the questions for the NHS Forres Locality Planning Group that were agreed in the previous FCC meeting.

A further question was discussed, following problems encountered by a West Coast pharmacy trying to contact Forres Health Centre regarding the supply of urgently needed drugs for a Forres patient: "What facilities are in place to allow other professional bodies, such as pharmacies, to contact the Forres Health Centre, without having to wait in the general queue for the phone to be answered?"

(Action: TH to follow up)

3) Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

a. A940 Road Junction at Edinkillie Church

AM reported problems with drainage at the new road layout, with increasing run-off onto the road. vehicles. It was agreed that AM should phone PT when the road is flooded, so pictures can be taken, and forwarded to TMC Roads Dept. **(Actions: AM, PT)**

b. FCC membership

HD reported that the position of voluntary Minute Secretary has been advertised with TSI Moray. It was agreed that further efforts to attract new members were required:

- The recruitment poster to be refreshed including purpose of the FCC and level of commitment needed. **(Action: TP)**
- RP recommended face-to-face contact with potential members, and suggested FCC attendance at community events such as Rafford Village Café and Edinkillie Cake and Cuppa. **(Action: all CC members)**

c. Local Place Plans

TP reported that, following the June quarterly JCC LPP meeting, that the deadline for submission of LPPs had been delayed until January 2025.

TP offered to make an application to FDT for funding to engage Collective Architecture, who have experience in putting together an LPP for Findhorn Village. **(Action: TP)**

d. Lower Rafford Mini-Wetland

TH reported he had emailed TMC.

e. Path to Rafford Church

HD reported that he had met with Mike MacDonald to discuss the work involved. TH had agreement to use the Glebe field as a collection point for material removed. TH suggested a September/October timescale for organising a work party and agreed to co-ordinate this.

(Action: TH)

f. Road to Rafford Cemetery

HD reported he had written to TMC Parks and Road Department, asking for their help in repairing the short section of road from Kirkside to the Church Car Park. **(Action: HD to follow up)**

g. Fish Ladder at Lower Rafford Bridge

TH reported that he has cleared the fish ladder.

4) Planning Report (TP)

TP reported that no new planning applications of note for FINDERNE had been lodged. The following previous application was discussed.

- New house at Old Road Rafford – not yet determined. TH reported that Planning had requested a tree survey report.

5) Secretary's Report (HD)

HD gave a summary of correspondence received by email to 1st August 2024:

- 10th June – Sent Garry McCartney some photos of Footpaths for digital edition of Forres Gazette
- 11th June – rec'd info from Sandra McCallum of TMC on Digital Hubs
- 18th June – rec'd info from Graham Gibson of Abey, with info on the Paths for All £1.168m Ian Findlay path fund
- 21st Jun – email from Euan Tomes of Moray Estates notifying consultation on Aitnoch and Braemoray Long Term Forest Plan.
- 21st June – response from Robert Thorburn to FCC questions on R100 fibre network rollout plan, sent via Sandra McCallum.
- 26th June – email from Debra Duke notifying various funding opportunities
- 26th June – email from tsimoray, accepting our submission of Volunteer Opportunity for Minute Secretary.
- 28th June – email from Roy Dennis stating that the Edinkillie Community wanted to submit their own Local Place Plan.
- 1st July – email from Ian Chorlton of FDT, sharing notes from Broadband meeting with External Reality
- 2nd July – Update from EDF Renewable on Clash Gour Windfarm.
- 8th July – email from Energy Consents, with a request for feedback on Scoping Report for Beauly to Blackhillock overhead power line upgrade
- 10th July – rec'd CSP Newsletter June 2024 from Moray Police West
- 10th July – rec'd updated landscape drawing of Brockloch development from Ian Chorlton of FDT, showing revised layout of paths.
- 10th July – email from Debra Duke with notice of next JCC meeting on 8th August
- 15th July – email from RES, notifying submission of Planning Application for Corshellach Energy Storage proposal on farmland near Dunphail.
- 16th July – email from Emma Gordon, following up last LPP meeting.
- 17th July – email from Rhona McNicol identifying further funding opportunities for funding applications from local community resilience groups.
- 25th July – email forwarded by Debra Duke on SSEN Powering Communities to Net Zero Fund 2024, identifying funding opportunities including Village Halls, closing 31st August.
- 30th July – email from Debra D on JCC- Admin grant working group. Meeting to be held 21st August.

6) Treasurers Report (AG)

AG provided the following update prior to the meeting:

Bank Balance £20,746.66

- £20k SSEN;
- £448.87 Moray Council Admin Grant balance;
- £57.79 Newtyle Access Road Residents balance;
- £240 Stocksigns compensation.

AOCB

- **Matters arising from Secretaries Report**

RP raised the following:

- The Scottish Landfill Community Fund is worth looking at as possible funding source.
- Edinkillie Church will come up for sale, and should be included in LPP.
- Rafford Parish Church should also be considered. Malcolm Mackintosh had held a meeting to discuss some options.

7) Next meeting

Next meeting: 7:00 pm – Wednesday 28th August 2024, at Rafford Village Hall.