

Be at the heart of YOUR community

Findochty Community Council Minutes

Date: Monday 17th June 2024

Time: 7pm

Venue: Findochty Town Hall

Attendees -

Community Councillors: Caroline Ferguson (CF), Ron Dawson (RD), Morag Campbell (MC), Lorna Simpson (LS), Cheryl Birtwistle (CB), Jeffrey Masterson (JF),

Associate members:

Members of Public: 6

Moray Council: Cllr Sonya Warren

Community Police:

1. Chairperson Welcome

CF welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised apologies had been received from John Gardiner, Paul Steel and Sean Brown

2. Community Police Update:

No police were in attendance; however it was reported that in May 2024, there were eighteen calls made to Police Scotland for Findochty & District and following initial investigation only two resulted in a crime being reported.

These related to

- A report of threatening and abusive behaviour.
- A road traffic offence.

3. Primary School:

The primary school noted there had been some vandalism to the Ketter outdoor storage, which had been reported to the police. There are also plans for a community garden, the planters have now been moved down to bottom of field. It is hoped that the community will be involved in this project.

4. Approval of previous meeting:

Minutes were agreed as accurate.

5. Treasurer Report

Treasurer not present to provide Monthly Report. A donation had been handed in for maintenance and flower fund. The collection from Keystore raised £104.53, CB has posted a thank you on Facebook to the community for their generosity.

6. Safe Access Route

Seafield Estates have given approval for Community Council to pursue the safe access route; however they cannot offer any financial support or man power to assist with the project. Community member John Rodgers willing to have a look at area to give a rough guide to work involved and possible costings. CF has been looking at possible funding options. It was suggested to contact James Hunter at lands within Moray Council to see if they can offer any assistance. Another suggestion was if community justice team could provide any support.

RESOLVED:

1. CB to contact James Hunter at Moray Council.

7. Community Feedback

CF advised she had received some concerns regarding the Stripey pathway running behind Burnside Street. It had been noted that the area is being used as a through road by the house situated at the end of the Stripey. Concerns were that the ground had become quite worn. Discussion was held that the front wall at the property had been removed to allow through road access. It was suggested and agreed that Community Council to contact Seafield Estates to see who has responsibility for maintaining the access way. Several excellent submissions were received for the logo competition. It was agreed it would go to public vote, with closing date end of the month. The winner of the competition to be invited to next meeting and presented their prize a £25 Keystore Voucher and a form of keepsake.

CB had contacted Sustrans regarding the Portknockie to Findochty line, however they can offer no financial assistance at this time, as they have no funding.

The CCLO had provided some legal info regarding the camper parked at the Harbour, it has now however moved on.

CB had reported the damaged bus shelter. RD advised someone had been out to take away the damaged Perspex.

Community Council had been contacted by Cullen and Deskford Community Council regarding a General Election Hustings Event. Community Council have advised they will support the event, but we have no members available to attend the meetings.

RESOLVED:

1. CF and CB to arrange logo competition prize.
2. CB to contact Seafield Estates regarding Stripey maintenance.

8. Dog Fouling

CB advised the waste bags seemed to be being used as quite a few were needing regularly replaced, discussion was held over the financial impact of this. It was agreed by committee to continue purchasing, CB to look at cheaper options. CB still to place a station at The Hythe.

It was suggested that a bin at Mini Hampden would be a good addition, as there is no bin near there. CB to contact council to see if they can place one there.

RESOLVED:

1. CB to place station at The Hythe
2. CB to contact council re bin at Mini Hampden

9. Fundraising

CF discussed the idea of a once a year event. The idea of a raffle was discussed. It was agreed this was a good idea, a win your Christmas Dinner raffle to be organised by Community Council, it will be sold online and then at the Town Hall Winter Fair being held in November..

10. Community Council Maintenance

Andy Slater has advised he is stepping back from maintenance around the village. Everyone expressed what a fantastic job Andy has done over the years, and how grateful we all are to the work he has done.

Discussion was held over what Community Council do moving forward.

Storage for equipment needs to be sourced, and a possible rota of maintenance set up. CB and CF to look at sources of land or buildings for storage. CB to contact Alec Burrell at estates to see if there are any Council buildings in the village.

CF to contact Andy to get a list/map of what he does and the frequency to help plan moving forward.

It was agreed to get Andy a thank you for all his hard work, it was decided a plaque and a nice bottle.

CF asked CB to contact the CCLO to see how other Community Councils store their equipment.

RESOLVED:

1. CB and CF to look into storage.
2. CF to contact Andy
3. CB to contact the CCLO
4. CB to contact Alec Burrell at estates.

11. Reports

- a. **Moray Councillors** – Cllr Warren advised the dredger would be coming to Findochty when work is completed in Buckie. No updates from Learning Estate. Cllr Warren advised that grass cutting is no longer being done next to play equipment or picnic benches to reduce the risk of damage to equipment. At the moment the Buckie High School refurbishment is scheduled for 2029
- b. **Town Hall** – The damaged wall at Town Hall has now been repaired. The Pop Up Café continues to go from strength to strength. The election polling station will be situated in the Heritage

Room. A pop up library service had been due to visit the town hall to discuss the idea, they had however not arrived.

c. Community Council Sub-groups

Harbour Advisory Group – no new updates.

Christmas lights – Joe Innes currently holding a fundraiser with proceeds being donated to Christmas Lights.

Maintenance/Gardening – Discussion held regarding noticeboard and its replacement. It was agreed that the cost to replace the board was too high, and that the use of the other areas in the village to be utilised. Committee agreed to remove old notice board without replacement.

Litter pick- no update.

- i.
- ii. **Defibrillator**- all in working order.
- iii.

RESOLVED:

1. Community Council to remove notice board.

12. AOCB

Metal grate at the bottom of the Stripey is again beginning to get built up with debris. CB to look into when it due to be cleared. Harbour toilets are in a poor state. CB to contact Moray Council.

13. Date, time and venue of next meeting

19th August 2024 at 7pm Findochty Town Hall

Meeting closed at 8.42pm