



Findochty Community

Council Minutes

Date: Monday 13th January 2025

Time: 7pm

Venue: Findochty Town Hall

Attendees -

Community Councillors: Cheryl Birtwistle (CB), Jeffrey Masterson (JF), Ron Dawson (RD),

Associate members: Paul Steel (PS), Paul Kerrison (PK)

Members of Public: 4

Moray Council: Cllr Warren & Cllr McLennan

Community Police: Not in attendance

1. Welcome from Secretary.

CB welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies received from Cllr Stuart, Lorna Simpson and Stephen Birtwistle.

2. Discuss the Election of a new Chairperson.

CB advised that since the last meeting Community Resilience member Anne Braidwood had been in touch to put her name forward for the position of chair. Anne's details were distributed to the committee prior to this meeting. A vote was held with Anne unanimously agreed as our new Chairperson.

3. To receive Community Police Update.

No police were in attendance. Report for this period had not yet been received. CB had emailed to check status of reports. An email has been received from Sergeant Dave Cooper who has passed our query to the new Buckie Policing Team Inspector David Robertson .

4. To approve the minutes held on 4th November 2024.

The minutes were approved as a correct record.

5. To receive Treasurers Report.

Paul expressed a thank you to Andrea Woodhead for reconciling accounts and submitting these for audit. This has now been done and submitted to Moray Council.

The current balance is £7,183.52

This is made up of

Admin Grant - £1,829.79

Events Fund - £837.52

Maintenance Fund - £2,682.34

General Fund - £1,833.87

Income received since the last meeting £892.20 from Moray Council Admin Grant and Seafield Estates donation.

Outgoings since the last meeting £367.51 which includes wreath, maintenance, admin and outstanding honorariums.

6. To discuss Community Council Engagement/Support.

CB advised that SB has reached out to neighbouring Community Councils to discuss how they gathered community support and engagement. It is hoped that SB will meet with other neighbouring members to discuss ideas.

7. To consider Community Feedback from email and Facebook received prior to the meeting.

We received information back from Matt Barnes regarding the beach clean seashore hubs. It was agreed we would find out how the hubs attach and how big they are. Committee were in agreement these were a good idea. Community member Roger Green had been in touch regarding the 20mph speed zoning strategy and asks if we as a community council we would support this initiative. Discussion was held and it was felt it was appropriate for us to support this moving forward.

An email was received regarding funding for bike shelters and repair stations. We had responded to this email suggesting a repair station would be beneficial at the start of the Findochty to Portessie line. However following their consideration our suggestion was rejected.

APPROVED:

- To further contact Matt Barnes regarding the seashore hub.
- To support the 20mph speed zoning strategy.

8. To discuss Community Council Website.

PK led us through a discussion regarding setting up of a Community Council website. Chairperson Peter West had been in touch regarding setting up of websites and a proposal of hosting Findochty as a sub domain with us having full control of our own web page. The approximate costs for hosting would be £30 per year. The committee agreed this was a minimal cost and a website could be a beneficial asset for the Community Council. Ideas of things to be included were an events calendar, possible advertising. It was agreed that PK would move forward with this project.

Community Council Liaison Officer Debra Duke had passed on information regarding a webpage branching from a central Joint Community Council website, after discussion it was agreed we would move forward with our own website.

APPROVED:

- PK to move forward creating a Community Council website.

9. To discuss Community Resilience.

PK updated us on the work of the resilience team. The resilience plan is now almost complete, just finalising of Town Hall key holder and to advertise for 4x4 drivers. The plan will then be submitted to Moray Council for consideration and approval.

Having costed an emergency resilience bag it was agreed that the ready made kits were just as cost effective. The resilience team have put a bid into the local fire station following their recent charity Christmas run for funding towards the bags and walkie talkies. They are awaiting to hear if their bid has been successful.

Discussion was held regarding having a public consultation event, it is hoped SSEN would attend, the resilience team will reach out to Community Council Liaison Officer to help.

10. Reports

. **To note reports from Local Councillors**

Apologies were received from Cllr Stuart. Updates from Cllrs Warren and McLennan included that repair works to the roads in Buckie are ongoing. McLaren's Brae is awaiting Scottish Water works, the work by the bowling green is still ongoing with work going on behind the scenes, but this is still in the priority list. Cllrs will ask for updates to be published on Moray Council communication streams.

Speeding and road safety, including a trend of road traffic accidents in the surrounding area remain an issue, with police continuing a presence of both marked and unmarked cars patrolling.

Antisocial parking remains an issue with both police and fire raising awareness and promoting positive awareness of safer parking.

No further updates on the School Learning Estate.

A public consultation for the M Connect service is being held. A drop in for this will be in Buckie Library on 18th February at 10 am to 1 pm. An online option is also available and as a community council we are encouraged to share this.

a. **To note report from Town Hall**

The Pop Up Cafe had a very successful breakfast with Santa which was enjoyed by all who attended. Pop Up Cafe will reopen around March.

b. **To note reports from Community Council Sub groups**

• **Harbour Advisory Group**

A 5% increase in harbour fees has been recommended by harbour users, this has not yet been agreed. The Selkie is not attending as regular as would be liked, with priority currently Buckie and Burghead.

There are some timbers at Sterlochy which are still to be removed.

There are also chains which are due to be renewed.

• **Christmas Lights**

No updates.

• **Maintenance/Gardening**

Further to the previous meeting, investigation shows Community Council own The White Mannie so are responsible for upkeep.

PS discussed planting of some small weatherproof shrubs around the village in sites agreed with Seafield Estates, Cllr Warren suggested Woodlands Trust for funding. PS to look into this option and come back to us.

Community Council Liaison Officer Debra Duke has advised contacting our insurance provider prior to purchasing our storage shed for guidance. CB to contact Zurich.

- **Defibrillators**

Pads have been replaced, invoice not yet received.

11. AOCB - To discuss any other matter not raised elsewhere on the agenda that can be added as agenda items for future meetings.

CB to check if bin calendars have been placed in chemist/shop.

Discussion held on frequency of meetings it was agreed that monthly meeting would be reinstated, on the occasion that secretary CB cannot attend due to work pattern , minutes would be taken on her behalf.

12. Date, time and venue of next meeting

Monday 10th February at 7pm in Findochty Town Hall

Meeting closed at 20.30