

## **Findochty and District Community Council**

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at Findochty Town Hall at 19:00.

### **Present**

Ryan Main (RM) – Chairperson, Gayle Calder (GC) - Vice Chairperson, Andrew Slater (AS), Henry Marshall (HM), John Oliver (JO), Andrew Mackie – Community Warden (AM)

Apologies were received from Ruth O’Hanlon (RO), Martin Legge (ML) and Cllr Anne McKay

### **1. Introduction from Chairman and Apologies**

RM opened the meeting at 19.05 and welcomed all attendees with best wishes for the New Year. Apologies given as noted above.

### **2. Update from Grampian Police**

PC McKinnon and PC Millican of Grampian Police were in attendance and provided a brief update on current issues. The issue of youths loitering around the village was raised and it was noted that there were some concerns regarding possible underage drinking and anti-social behaviour. The issue of vehicles speeding throughout the village was also raised. The police officers present advised that they would monitor both issues.

### **3. Update from Community Warden**

AM was in attendance to provide an update. He advised that he intends to attend all our meetings, other than when he’s on leave. He advised that there is a directive for Community Wardens to be more visible within communities. He stated that he would be available to attend any community events that were organised and it was agreed that that could be very beneficial.

The issue of dog-fouling around the village was raised by the Community Council yet again. The worst areas were identified and advised to AM who will monitor. AM also issued leaflets which could be laminated and put up at various locations.

### **4. Matters arising from previous meetings**

#### **Work requiring to be done in and around the village –**

##### **Outstanding**

- Site of former Bus Shelter – Delivery of the new bench is still awaited. GC will chase up.
- Oil / diesel spillage reported on footpath on Seaview Road, opposite Keystore. This has caused damage to the footpath. Cllr Anne McKay to pursue on the Community Council’s behalf. This has been recorded.
- Electric Box is all rusty and needs repainting. JO will paint when weather is suitable.
- Preparations are underway for the bench at the middle jetty for visitors. Proposed bench has been removed from existing location and holes required to be drilled with anchor fixings at new location in order to complete. HM will continue work on this.
- It is noted that repairs to the stage in the Town Hall have been completed with new timber boards being installed.
- No traffic signs for ‘Craigview’ and Castle Street is out of view. Issue mentioned regarding the siting of street signs on the side of buildings which can apparently no longer be done due to building ownership issues. RM to contact The Moray Council Traffic Section for clarification.
- Dog Fouling Bin on the Cycle Path has been replaced.
- Rubbish pickers have been sourced and provided by AM. The Community Council thanked AM for his help and efforts in acquiring these.

- Snooker Table. A draft voting slip for residents to have their say on the future of the snooker table in the Town Hall has been written for inclusion within the next Newsletter.
- GC advised that Seafield Estates had stated that they had no objection to our proposals to create a seating area on the grass area between the Public Toilets and the Howff. Some ideas were discussed such as a wildlife information board and it was agreed that it would be a good idea to involve the school in such a project. It was discussed that such a project could be undertaken in March. Dates to be agreed at next meeting.

## **5. Update on current projects**

### **WEBSITE**

RM has e-mailed Neil Hedley of Hedley Enterprises to try to arrange a further meeting to finalise website design and content.

ML to look into funding from the European Fisheries Fund.

RO to put an article in the next newsletter asking any businesses to express their interest in advertising on the website for a cost of £25 per year. Draft version has been sent out to members for review.

### **FORMER LIBRARY BUILDING**

RM to amend consultation document following review by Gillian Bailey of The Moray Council.

### **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

- Nick Goodchild has confirmed that we can have the use of the middle room within the Town Hall. The existing contents are to be removed and sorted through in preparation for use to store Christmas Lights and associated equipment. Lease documents are awaited.

## **6. Current matters to be discussed and taken forward**

- 'Snow Patrol' - AS suggested purchasing snow shovels and rock salt which was on special offer in Tesco. It was agreed that this would be a prudent move and would be of benefit to the village.

## **7. Finance / Administration matters**

Cheque in the sum of £450.00 received from Seafield Estates for use within the community. ML to bank cheque and send letter of thanks to Seafield Estates. Possible uses of this funding to be discussed further and agreed.

## **7. AOCB**

### **MORAY COUNCIL BUDGET CUTS**

RM updated attendees regarding the impending cuts to the Moray Council budgets. He provided an update following his attendance at the Budget Workshop held in the Fisherman's Hall. It was suggested to the Councillors and Council Officers in attendance at the workshop that as a Community Council we would be prepared to consider an increased involvement in maintaining amenity areas within the village, within reason. Following the media interest and articles regarding the Moray Coast being voted as one of the top twenty coastal locations in the World, RM stressed that it was vital that this status is maintained. Whilst as a Community Council we will strive to achieve that within our area, it was also felt that The Moray Council still had a prominent and important role to play in that regard. One of the items suggested was for the Community Council to carry out increased grass cutting to amenity areas, as it is felt that this is an area of The Moray Council which is likely to suffer cuts to budgets. RM to speak with Ken Kennedy of The Moray Council Lands and Parks regarding the possibility of training and use of their equipment to

maintain grass areas. The possible purchase of such equipment was also discussed and RM to enquire in this regard also.

## **COMMUNITY DAY**

The proposed summertime community day / weekend was discussed further, with potential dates and events mooted. It was agreed that a further meeting would be held at the Town Hall on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at 7pm to firm up ideas and progress.

RM brought the meeting to a close at 21.15 and thanked all attendees for their attendance and contribution.

**Date of next meeting 6<sup>th</sup> February 2013, 7pm at Findochty Town Hall Committee Room.**