

Meeting Notes

Meeting of Monday 7th March 2022 by Zoom

FCC members present :

Tony Pinner (TP), Anna Gatward (AG), Howard Davenport (HD), John Finch (JF),

Also present:

Andy Munro (AM), Pat Hern (PH), Lorna Creswell (LC), Claire Feaver (CF),
George Alexander (GA), Mark Abbs, Megan Palmer Abbs, Ruaridh Milne (RM)

Apologies:

Stewart McCracken (SMcC), Shirley Munn (SM), Anne Garrow

1) Minutes of previous meeting

agreed

2) Matters Arising

a. Unadopted road at Lyneside

CF has passed on a response from Douglas Ross, who had assurances from Springfield that they would work with Grant Nicholson to repair the road. **(Action: HD to circulate the letter.)**

AG reported some neighbours had made some interim repairs to the potholes with road planings.

It was suggested that FCC follow up with Grant Nicholson before the next FCC meeting, to emphasise the urgency for local residents. **(Action ??)**

b. Resilience Plans

Jim Patterson chair of Burghead and Cummington CC, and deputy chair of JCC, gave a presentation on the development of Resilience Plans.

Jim explained that National Government, Scottish Government and Moray Council all have Resilience Plans in place, which had left Community Councils to complete the process. Jim has worked with JCC and a number of other CC's on Resilience Plans and has developed a template to assist. He ran through the followings aspects:

- Plan Guide
- Community Emergence Plan (who, what where, when, contact lists etc)
- Household Plans
- Risk Assessment (probability/impact matrix)
- Community Resilience Questionnaire

Jim told us they were working with SSE for grants to cover printing, visits, and a roadshow, available up to end of April. This could include funding for a 10kW generator to plug into village halls.

Jim offered assistance with development of a Finderne Resilience Plan, and would provide templates to assist.

FCC members to take a look at the documents, and decide whether to press ahead with development of a Plan. **(Action: all FCC members)**

c. Finderne Calendar

Flyer to advertise the calendar to be developed by Nick Gibbons. **(Action: HD to follow up with Nick)**

d. Half Davoch Road Visibility

AM agreed to contact Gary Grant of Moray Council, to confirm location of the visibility problem. **(Action AM)**

e. Community Consultation

HD reported that after some initial input from Megan Abbs, that SMcC, JF, and HD are in the process of developing a survey document. Subgroup to complete draft questionnaire, then circulate to members for approval. HD suggested that we get this issued in the next month or so. **(Action: HD, JF, & SMcK)**

It was noted that FDT had recently issued surveys on use of Halls and other meeting spaces, on community transport, and broadband. It was suggested that we work more closely with FDT, to coordinate, and avoid community overload. **(Action: SMcK to liaise with Brian Higgs)**

f. Joint Community Council

This item has been added to the agenda, to provide a report back on recent JCC meetings. **(Action:SM)**

g. Edinkillie Cemetary

HD reported that he had visited the cemetery to assess the condition of the access road and carpark area. HD has contacted James Hunter at Land and Parks department to see if anything could be done. Awaiting a response. HD suggested that we could form a work party to clear away some of the moss and mud if nothing was forthcoming from Moray Council. AM reported that the biggest problem was in the area close to the cemetery, with people attending funerals in formal shoes.

h. FCC Constitution

HD reported that SMcK, JF, HD had signed this off today and SMcK would put it in the post to Debra Duke. **(Action SMcK)**

3) Current Standing Items

a) Traffic Safety in Rafford

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

HD reported that Elaine Penny the Moray Council Roads Engineer, had received a definite "no" from 2 households, but was happy to progress with the others. We need to arrange a further meeting with Elaine Penny to discuss next steps. **(Action SM/HD)**

- **Village Entrance Signage**

HD reported that we had received some suggestions for layout of signage from Elaine Penny, which had been distributed to members. It was agreed that FCC members should make a decision on which type of sign we should implement. AG asking if funding was an issue in deciding type and quantity of signs **(Action SM/HD to clarify funding with Elaine Penny, and to facilitate decision).**

- **Vehicle Activated Signs**

HD has asked for some updated costs from suppliers of speed signs. HD suggested that FCC review these costs and decide which type of signs we need and how many (should this include Lower and Upper Rafford). We need to check if they should be mains or solar powered. SMcC also suggested signs that record traffic speed would be a good idea. Elaine Penny was to ask the Council Procurement department to provide costing. **(Action: SM to follow up with EP)**

- **Traffic Calming Measures/Twenty's Plenty**

Further action on these items is on hold. HD reported that we had received a response to our letter to Graham Leadbitter, Leader of Moray Council, but it did not address policy issues. **(Action - HD to send follow up)**

- **Police Speed Checks**

It was reported that there had been a Police presence in the village this week to do speed checks.

b) Community Broadband

JF reported that a letter had been send from FCC to Richard Lochhead and to Douglas Ross, asking for an extension to the March 31st deadline for application for Interim Vouchers under the R100 Scheme.

It was noted that there are some anomalies in the R100 rollout, where some properties appear to be ineligible despite households on either side being included. FDT were following up on this.

c) Brochloch Field Development

No further update.

d) **Windfarm Developments**

Cairn Duhie

No further information

Clashgour/Rothes 3

Still awaiting a decision on the Public Inquiry from Scottish Ministers.

Berry Burn 2

Planning approved.

Lethen

Planning Application was submitted on 17th December. HD submitted a letter with a representation stressing linking windfarm tracks and existing paths and the need to avoid permanent lighting.

Ourack

HD submitted a similar response to the online survey.

Energising Moray

It was agreed that FCC should ask for regular updates of their activities. (**Action SMcK/TP**)

e) **Pending Items**

i) **A96 Dualling**

Still under review by Scottish Government

ii) **Wild Fires**

We are waiting for the Scottish Government report on improvements to current practices.

iii) **Loch of Blairs**

It was agreed to close this item.

4) Planning Report (TP)

TP had reported that no further applications in Finderne had been raised.

5) Secretary's Report (HD)

HD reported correspondence received by email:

- Royal Volunteer Society transport initiative, looking for publicity and for volunteers. HD suggested we include this on FCC Facebook page (**Action SM**)
- Moray Council running 2 drop in sessions to assist people with completing digital census forms. To be included in next community newsletter (**Action HD**)
- Moray Transport forum being re-launched on Sat 19th March, and is open for participants. GA reported that the Moray Growth Deal Bus Revolution is being trialled in the East of Moray. He recommended participation as this will have a very positive impact for Finderne when it is rolled out across the whole of Moray. (**Action: HD forward to FDT.**)

- Back on our Feet, a funding opportunity for youth groups, a participative budgeting scheme aimed at 15 – 25 year olds.
- Leancoil History project looking for volunteers to take oral histories from the community.
- Scottish Government Investing in Communities fund re-opening in April.
- Active Travel Strategy Consultation. Post meeting note – consultation closing 1st April. 2 virtual consultation events being held on Monday 28th March. HD previously suggested it is important for FCC (& FDT) to respond to this. All agreed that a shared use path from Rafford to Forres would be an excellent asset for the community, but funding may be a problem.

6) Treasurers Report (AG)

Updated balances: £831

Breakdown:

- £551 Moray Council Admin Grant balance
- £280 SSEN Grant Fund for Covid support of vulnerable people

IT was agreed to distribute SSEN balance to Rafford Village Hall Community Café, and Edinkillie Hall Cake and Cuppa on a 50:50 basis. AG to contact Jane Young at Edinkillie Hall and Alison MacKay at Edinkillie Hall for payment details. **(Action: AG)**

7) AOCB

- **Clashgour Wind Farm**

AM reported that test drillings for pylons was due to commence.

- **Wildflower Planting**

RM mentioned that wild flower seeds would be required for further seeding of the wild flower areas at Church later in the year

8) Next meeting

Next meeting Monday 11th April, face to face in Edinkillie Hall, subject to Covid situation at the time.