

Fintry Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on

8th December 2010

I. Present

C.Roy, J.Pearson, J.Skabara, S.Kinnear, P.C.McNally.

II. Apologies

W.Paterson, P.Campbell, R.Garvie, Cllr Berrill.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes from the last meeting were approved and signed by C.Roy (Chairperson).

IV. Matters Arising

1) Actions Intimated

- i. Telephone Box – **J.Skabara to check condition of telephone box and send an e-mail to British Telecom if necessary to remind them of the poor and unclean state of the pay phone.**
- ii. Church parking & dog barking – see Police Report.
- iii. Spout Burn Bridge –The bad weather has made it impossible for J.Pearson to check the sub-structure of the bridge in the last few checks. **J.Pearson to check the sub-structure of the bridge when the weather improves and speak to W.McGhee about carrying out any necessary repairs.**
- iv. Bus Shelter – J.Skabara had thanked Cllr O'Brien for his help in getting the bus shelter roof repaired.
- v. Old Meal Mill – P.Campbell had checked with a colleague, Andrew Paterson, who advised "At present I am unaware of a HMO operating in the Fintry area. Prior to any license being issued the landlord must display a public notice for 21 days stating that an license is being applied for and gives the public a set time line to make any valid objection to the property operating as a HMO".
- vi. Traffic Calming – J.Skabara had e-mailed Alan Ogilvie directly to request speed monitoring strips but had received no reply. **J.Skabara to e-mail again and send copies to all 3 Stirling Councillors and to Bruce Crawford.**
- vii. Website – **J.Skabara to find out how to add notices to the FCC website.**
- viii. Petty Cash book and box – **S.Kinnear will set up once the signatories on the bank account are finally sorted out.**
- ix. Wii for Sports Club – there had not been a Sports Club meeting in the last few weeks to discuss this. **S.Kinnear to phone C.Longley (Chair, Fintry Sports Club) to mention the idea.**
- x. Land Use Strategy Response – C.Roy sent our response in.
- xi. Community Council Vacancy Confirmation form – J.Skabara had returned the form and **will e-mail relevant dates to C.Roy for inclusion in the Fintry Focus.**
- xii. Ribbon of Wildness letter – **C.Roy to include in Fintry Focus and check that the letter has been forwarded to the FDT.**
- xiii. People's Postcode Dream Lottery Fund – J.Skabara had forwarded the information to Jamie Pearson.
- xiv. ASCC Annual Elections – unfortunately, the deadline to send this in was missed.
- xv. Public Partnership – attended by J.Pearson who reported that Bob Jack had spoken about how Stirling Council would be making an £8 million cut in their budget next year. Most of this would be by reducing the amount paid out in wages. The local bus services were also discussed and, for the Fintry DRT, several options were suggested including extending the service to Lennoxton (not likely) and extending the service to Larbert hospital.
- xvi. Retention of documents – J.Skabara had asked P.Campbell about this and Pam had replied to say: "it is good practice to keep financial records for 5 years, however inland revenue advise 7 years; if the topic is quite controversial or recurring issue the CC may wish to keep it longer, if not would suggest it was up to the CC, the council retain copies of minutes if sent; correspondence a judgment of the CC - is there value to retain the information. You may wish to retain all copies of the minutes, however it might be worth considering forwarding minutes to Stirling Council and they can retain them, and place in archive."

- xvii. Benches – bad weather and other commitments mean that these items are still to be dealt with. **J.Pearson to assess the condition of the village benches, C.Roy to organise a plaque for the bench on the Sports field.**
- xviii. Broadband – **C.Roy will mention this in the Fintry Focus, J.Skabara still looking at a way of including the information on the FCC website.**
- xix. Drain Clearance – some have been done. **C.Roy to monitor.** Also, an environmental survey had been carried out in the village and C.Roy had ascertained that this had not been done by Stirling Council. **C.Roy to find out if it was done by Scottish Water and what the findings were.**
- xx. DRT leaflets – **J.Skabara still trying to get hold of some of these.**
- xxi. Grit – J.Skabara had e-mailed Les Goodfellow with our queries about gritting on the Crow Road and the Menzies Estate and had received the following reply from Hunter Jamieson: “There has been no change to the gritting policy with regard to Crow Road and it will be treated as a priority 1 route as it was last winter. One of the disadvantages with a new smooth footpath surface is that it can be slippery during the winter. Our present winter service policy allows us to locate a maximum of 475 grit bins across the Council area and these have all been placed in accordance with the criteria stipulated in the policy. Unfortunately, the Menzies Estate is flat and does not meet the criteria and we are unable to place a grit bin here. If you wish the full policy can be accessed and read on the Council's website.”

V. Police Report

P.C. McNally reported that men had been seen stealing scrap metal and were apprehended. There has also been several instances of BT cable being removed illegally as it has a very high value at the moment. Anyone seen removing BT cable should be reported to the police. J.Pearson expressed his concern about parking on the road at Fintry Cemetery when there is a funeral. P.C.McNally gave J.Pearson a telephone number he could use to notify the police in future. **Parking at church and barking dog still to be dealt with.**

VI. Councillors Report

Not received.

VII. Finance

S.Kinnear reported that the balance of account is £2095.62 with £498.99 in the old Youth Club account as well.

VIII. Consultations

The timetable of events for the Local Development Plan has been revised. Representations are still being considered and the plan should be published in May 2011. A feedback form has been issued – **C.Roy to complete and circulate for agreement.**

IX. Planning

No planning applications had been received.

X. Correspondence

- 1) An e-mail about Stirling Council Local Office Closures. **C.Roy to put details in the Fintry Focus.**
- 2) A “Create Christmas” e-mail & poster. **J.Skabara to display poster at Sports Centre.**
- 3) An e-mail on behalf of Russell Taylor, Depute Electoral Registration Officer who would like to attend local meetings in early 2011 to provide information to electors on registering to vote and voting options at the elections to the Scottish Parliament on 5th May 2011 & on the referendum on the same day on the Westminster voting system. He would also like to discuss proposed changes in the voter registration options being used from next year in particular how, if electors provide email addresses, they can be used to gather the required information more quickly and cost effectively in the future. Russell Taylor is also Chairman of the CFSLA Payroll Lottery and could also provide information on the funding opportunities available. He wanted to know if anyone would be able to host a meeting and provide some proposed dates. **J.Skabara to reply to say that attendance may be limited if the meeting was just for Fintry residents and that it may be better for Mr.Taylor to attend a South West Area Forum meeting or provide C.Roy with information to put in the Fintry Focus.**
- 4) Newsletter from Cllr Lambie for last month (attached). **C.Roy to put information about reporting potholes in the Fintry Focus.**

- 5) Connect newsletter.
- 6) Rural SW Area Forum – minutes of September’s meeting and agenda for November’s meeting.
- 7) Poster and What’s On guides for Stirling Castle. **J.Skabara to display at Sports Centre.**
- 8) A Scottish Government Survey of Association of Scottish Community Councils Stakeholders.
This was completed at the meeting. **J.Skabara to return survey.**
- 9) New SSSI documents for Endrick Water.

XI. **A.O.B**
None

XII. **Date of next meeting**
January 19th 2010

Minutes submitted by: Jo Skabara (Secretary)

Minutes approved by: Cicely Roy (Chairperson)

Councillor Lambie Report

- **Grit Supplies and Community Stockpiles:** Following my previous meeting I can confirm that the council have 5,000 tons of grit within the depots at Springkerse and Callander. Elected members were involved in a scrutiny panel to look at winter provision and to avoid some of the problems of the previous year. Areas the scrutiny panel have addressed include: community salt bins, filling of existing bins, community information, provision for council buildings – schools, libraries, care homes, and provision of salt if repeat weather conditions are experienced etc.
- **Road Maintenance Programme - Fintry:** A road maintenance project for the Crow Road was transferred to the B818 – Carron Valley area, as it was deemed that this section was in greater need. I will be continuing to press for further works on the B8181 – Fintry to Killearn section, and I will be requesting that the money that was transferred to the Kildean development site in Stirling, is reinstated for the 2011/2010 roads maintenance budget. I have also been contacted by some residents re. the issue of potholes. I will be contacting roads about this issue and I have enclosed the pothole reporting mechanism on the following link.
www.stirling.gov.uk/my/forms/fill/2000300.
- **Road Maintenance Programme - General:** There are works planned for the A811 including the stretch near the Garden Estate, Buchlyvie, and Ballat Crossing. (**Update:** Since my last meeting with Kippen I have checked out the works done in Balfron, Killearn, Croftamie, and Drymen which all looks in order and have been completed ahead of schedule. The council resurfacing target per year is 4%, the achieved level for 2009/2010 was 7% as confirmed by the portfolio holder Cllr Jim Thomson. Also, CCs should have received the roads spreadsheet. Also, the current and planned road closures table is available on this link.
www.stirling.gov.uk/index/services/roads/roadclosures.htm
- **Road Safety/Speeding:** Indications are that the Central Scotland Safety Camera Partnership (CSSCP) campaign on the A811 is making a difference. I attended a police board meeting earlier this year where the Chief Constable introduced his 2009 report, and there is strong evidence that the number of RTAs (Road Traffic Accidents) on this road and rural roads in general has been reduced.
- **Police Activity:** At a recent meeting at Kippen CC – PC Andy Faulds highlighted incidents of theft in the Fintry area. PC Faulds gave some very useful tips to deter burglars including: Radio Alarms, Lighting with Timers etc. Also, he encouraged communities to report any suspicious activity, particularly during late afternoon 14:00 to 18:00 on weekdays – a time when many residents are at work.
- **Planning:** I have not received any communications re. planning applications in the Fintry CC area.
- **Windfarm Proposal:** There is a proposal from Banks Development Ltd. to construct an up to 20 turbine windfarm at Craigievern Farm near Drymen. This is on the boundary of the National Park but within an area of search according to the Stirling Council guidelines on Windfarm development. I also note that these guidelines indicate that the maximum turbine height appropriate for this site is up to 50 metres. However, the developer’s proposal is for turbines of

80 to 110 metres. The developers are proposing to speak to local communities which I am assuming will include Fintry.

- **Killearn Eco Fair:** Following a visit to the Fintry Renewables Event I also attended a related event in Killearn with an emphasis on – insulation, composting, carbon neutral houses etc.
- **Hospital Provision:** I have had a response from Eddie MacDonald General Manager Stirling Community Health Partnership. In summary the provision will be 24/7 access to minor injuries or out of hours service on the SRI site. More acute cases will be directed to Larbert. (Update: I have asked if the B818 is going to be a designated route to the hospital).
- **Public Toilets and Comfort Partnerships:** I have asked for an update on these from Ian Anderson (Assets Officer). There have been encouraging responses from communities including an innovative approach from Crianlarich who are looking to run the public toilets themselves
- **Deep Clean:** I understand that Fintry has had a deep clean operation. The feedback I have had is positive. I also understand that the gulleys and drains have also been cleaned.
- **Cleanliness Measurements:** A recent report re. Community LEAMS (Local Environmental Audit and Management System), which is prepared in conjunction with Stirling Council and KSB (Keep Scotland Beautiful), indicates high scores for most of the West Stirlingshire communities. (Note: The council have been developing a deep cleaning operation over the last two years which is proving to be very effective along with the contribution from villages e.g. Kippen Spring Clean).

Councillor Graham Lambie

Stirling Council Old Viewforth

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