



Minutes of the meeting held on

9th March 2011

I. Present

C.Roy, S.Kinnear, J.Skabara, W.Paterson, M.Duckworth, J.Pearson, J.Cuthbertson,
P.C.McNally, P.Campbell, Cllr O'Brien

Approximately 40 members of the public, including representatives of the Fintry Development Trust (FDT).

II. Apologies

None.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

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

IV. Matters Arising

1) Actions Intimated:

i. Communications:

- a.** Post Office – J.Skabara had written to the new owners of Balgair Castle Caravan Park to wish them success and ask them to encourage future use of the Post Office.
- b.** Traffic Calming – J.Skabara had returned the village map to Alan Ogilvie (Traffic Management team-leader) with the suggested locations for the 3 speed monitoring strips.
- c.** Spout Burn Bridge – S.Kinnear had contacted Helen Geddes to find out if any funding is available for the repair of the bridge and the development of the village green area and been told to wait until the next financial year starts in April. **S. Kinnear to follow up in April.**
- d.** Census – J.Skabara had displayed posters about the Census to take place on March 27th.
- e.** Drains – C.Roy had checked which drains were in need of clearing. **C.Roy to inform Stirling Council.**
- f.** Fintry Inn - C.Roy had contacted FDT to suggest a public meeting to precede the March FCC meeting (see Agenda item).
- g.** Flagpoles – C.Roy had replied to Helen Geddes with information about flagpoles in Fintry.
- h.** Access Survey – C.Roy had looked at the survey and found that it was not relevant to FCC.
- i.** Fintry Focus – C.Roy had included all items into the Fintry Focus.
- j.** Winter Questionnaire – S.Kinnear had mailed the completed questionnaire.

- ii. Telephone Box – J.Skabara asked if someone else would take this task on. **C.Roy to check condition of box.**
 - iii. Bank – S.Kinnear and J.Skabara had been to the bank to try and finalise the changing of the signatories but had not been able to do so. **S.Kinnear and J.Hume (previous Treasurer) to go to the bank to close the account. S.Kinnear to open a new account at the Post Office.**
 - iv. Benches – C.Roy had purchased a plaque for the bench on the Sports Field. **J.Pearson to attach the plaque to the bench.**
- 2) Village Officer – no news about the new Village Officer yet.
 - 3) SW Area Forum – C.Roy had attended the last meeting (report attached).
 - 4) Fintry Inn – C.Roy stated that the rumour which had been circulating which suggested that FDT were buying the Fintry Inn is not true. G.Cowtan (Director, FDT) explained that a few months ago FDT became concerned that the Inn could be sold to property developers and that Fintry would lose its Inn. G.Cowtan made it clear that it was not within FDT's remit to purchase the Inn but if the community of Fintry want to keep their Inn, then FDT would be willing to support the community with advice on applications for funding etc. No money from the wind farm would be used. FDT are willing to carry out a feasibility study and part of the study would be to ascertain the feeling of the community. FCC Councillor Jamie Pearson represents FCC on the FDT board and attends all board meetings and is willing to take questions and/or concerns to the FDT from residents. Members of the public expressed their views and raised a number of questions which were answered by FDT representatives and the owner of the Fintry Inn, Senga Hunter. **J.Pearson to continue to update on the issue.**

V. Police Report

P.C.McNally reported that there had been no crime in Fintry although thefts of diesel were continuing especially from farms, and P.C.McNally advised people to keep fuel stores secure. A resident on Main Street had reported that someone's dog was repeatedly fouling outside their house. P.C.McNally issued a request to all dog owners to pick up after their dogs. P.C.McNally passed a consultation document to FCC which was considering the possibility of amalgamating the Police Forces of Scotland into three or even one large Force. FCC was asked to have a look and comment. (See Correspondence). A member of the public asked if the Police would ever consider the bad condition of the roads at the moment to be dangerous and intervene in asking for them to be repaired. **P.C.McNally to report the member of the public's concern.**

VI. Councillors Report

As the meeting was so well attended, Cllr O'Brien offered to answer any questions and listen to any issues. With reference to the member of the public's concern about the state of the roads, Cllr O'Brien apologised for the lack of money available to resurface the roads. A member of the public asked about the lack of waste bins in lay-bys which seem to have been replaced by black bin bags which easily get shredded by the weather or wild animals resulting in the rubbish being blown around. **Cllr O'Brien to check why bin bags are being used instead of bins.**

VII. Finance

The balance of the account was £2095.62 with £499.15 in the old Youth Club account. C.Roy and S.Kinnear had attended a Sports Centre meeting to offer the money from the Youth Club account to the Sports Centre to buy something for the young people of the village.

VIII. Planning

No planning applications had been received for Fintry.

The Balgair Castle Caravan Park application for an underground sewage plant had been approved with conditions.

The application for the proposed allotment and car park at Strathblane had been withdrawn.

Concern had been raised about high hedges alongside Dunmore Street, Balfron.

IX. Correspondence

- 1) Information and a map about a proposed road closure – the B818, Killearn to Fintry Road will be closed to vehicles from 0800 hours until 1800 hours from Sunday 20th March until Friday 8th April to facilitate resurfacing works. The official diversion will be through Kippen but the back road to Balfron will still be open – displayed on both FCC notice boards.
- 2) A Consultation on the future of the Fire and Rescue Service in Scotland. **To be discussed at the next FCC meeting.**
- 3) A flyer about a Social Media workshop on Wednesday 23rd and Tuesday 29th March.
- 4) Online Bulletins for February and March of The Association of Scottish Community Councils.
- 5) A flyer about sessions for anyone who is a carer. **J.Skabara to display in Sports Centre.**
- 6) Newsletter for February of Stirling Carers Connection. **J.Skabara to display in Sports Centre.**
- 7) An e-mail and flyer about screenings of all the Harry Potter movies on Sunday afternoons at Balfron High as a money raiser for a pupil raising funds for Help Project India.
- 8) An e-mail about the formation of a Stirling Allotment Forum.
- 9) An e-mail about the forthcoming South West Area Forum meetings.
- 10) An e-mail with a link to view the final draft of the Council's Housing Need & Demand Analysis.
- 11) A Consultation on the Future of Policing in Scotland. **Members to view.**

X. A.O.B

- 1) Mr. Slavin (Depute from Balfron High School) attended the meeting to apologise for the lack of contact between BHS and the community of Fintry in the last couple of years due to concentration on the implementation of the Curriculum for Excellence. Mr. Slavin said that BHS is now keen to re-establish links, particularly with local businesses that may be able to help with apprenticeships and/or work experience placements. Mr. Slavin said he would pass his contact details on to J.Skabara.
- 2) C.Roy was unable to attend the Campsie Fells Strategic Review & Action Plan Consultation but has requested the resulting report.
- 3) J.Pearson mentioned the fact that some people are picking up dog mess but leaving the bags lying around or flinging them into bushes. He appealed for dog owners to dispose of the bags properly.

XI. Date of next meeting

April 20th 2011

C.Roy thanked everyone who had attended the meeting.

Vote of thanks to the Chair.

Minutes submitted by: Jo Skabara (Secretary)

Minutes approved by: Cicely Roy (Chairperson)

South West Rural Forum Meeting - 21st February 2011

Chief Inspector Kevin Findlater presented the PACT report as usual and added an update on the current general problem of housebreaking and theft of fuel, with an appeal for any suspicious activity to be promptly phoned in.

Then most of the time was spent on discussion about the forum itself. There was criticism of its effectiveness and particularly with respect of communication, and suggestions as to how improvements could be achieved.

The two topics gaining most support for follow up were health and economic development, and particularly the hospital situation linked to transport concerns, which consequently will feature on the May meeting's agenda. There may be a special sub-group/steering group meeting in June and volunteers with a special interest in the topic are sought. It is anticipated relevant Stirling Council officers will be involved to respond to questions that arise.

The Draft Joint Paths Agreement and Action Plan of the Stirling Joint Paths Group was presented and may, as the first of its kind in Scotland, be used as a model.

The Strathblane representative presented copies of a survey and Action Plan developed by the village.