



Minutes of the meeting held on

13th June 2012

I. Present

C. Roy, S. Kinnear, M. Duckworth, J. Hulme, J. Pearson, PC McNally, Cllr Ian Muirhead, Mark van Rij, 77 members of the public.

II. Apologies

J Skabara, R. Garvie, W. Paterson.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

A member of the public asked that amendments be made to the minutes from the last meeting to show that there had been two members of the public present, and to provide more detail of the discussion A.O.B. item i. **ACTION POINT:** Amended minutes to be presented for approval at the next meeting.

IV. Matters Arising

1) Actions Intimated:

- i Local Housing Need - Statistics showing details of the housing demand, requested from Tony Cain at SC - have been promised, but not yet obtained.
- ii Rotation of the road sign at Knockraich - this has been done.
- iii Survey - FDT has agreed to carry out the survey as part of their present F8 project. FCC questions include location of the pillar box and problems with TV reception. A member of the public asked if there is a chosen site – no – but some have suggested moving it to the Sports Club if there is strong enough demand.
- iv Jubilee tree - Proposal to plant a tree to mark the Diamond Jubilee. The white poplar suggested for planting in the cemetery has been approved by Stirling Council's Cemetery Officer. A nursery has quoted £15 for a four foot tree, and a support will also be needed. **ACTION POINT:** C. Roy to order the tree.
- v Windfarm Benefit Fund - The treasurer has received a cheque for £250.00 from FDT. Local community groups may apply to this fund. SC is to provide us with a 'procedural tick list' to guide us on awarding these funds fairly.
- vi Public Entertainment Licence Consultation from SC - Done.
- vii Rural SW Stirling Forum meeting - C. Roy had been unable to attend.
- viii Council Housing Allocation Policy Consultation - Done. A member of the public asked to see FCC's response. **ACTION POINT:** J. Hulme to post a copy in the Sports Club.
- ix Brian Taylor's Big Debate - J. Hulme confirmed that this had been properly advertised.

2) Cairnoch Hill Windfarm:

Mark van Rij, a representative of Partnerships for Renewables, explained the situation at present: The proposed 16 turbine development is at pre-planning application stage. There have been bird, noise and aviation surveys. There was a small exhibition in Stirling and there has been discussion with Carron Valley Community Council. There was an exhibition in the Menzies Hall two weeks ago. The layout has been revised because of Historic Scotland's concern as to the impact on St. John de Graham's Castle. It is likely that the planning application will be submitted mid-July, after which the public can submit comments. The Forestry Commission has previously worked with other organisations where clear felling was required. At Cairnoch Hill the agreement is that for each tree removed, others will be planted - probably south of the reservoir.

A location map was displayed for the benefit of the audience, and montages circulated.
ACTION POINTS: These and other information to be made available at the Sports Club.
E-mails from Mr. and Mrs. Ellis to be forwarded to Partnerships Renewables.

Mark van Rij then answered questions:

Q – How many years for the replanted trees to become established?

A – There is a scoring system to ‘value’ a felled tree depending on its maturity and replanting is done accordingly.

Q – Is the company’s motivation to make profits and is the venture viable should Government funding be withdrawn in the future?

A – Yes, the motivation is of course about profits but also to reduce carbon output. We are working in partnership with the Forestry Commission.

Q – What if politics change and the priority for wind farms changes?

A – It is acknowledged that this would present a problem for the industry.

Q – Aviation – given that the extension to the Earlsburn windfarm has been delayed due to issues regarding aviation, has the siting for the proposed one at Cairnoch Hill been selected with this in mind?

A – Yes.

Q – What’s the response time to the Planning Panel?

A – Stirling Council has four months to consider the proposal, but it is unlikely it will take as long as that. Once a planning application is lodged the public have 28 days in which to respond.
[FCC will not be meeting again until September, but will check how long we have to respond.
ACTION POINT]

Q – Will there be any community benefit from the Cairnoch Hill windfarm?

A – This is not being fully discussed at this early stage. Suggestion is a possible £5000 per megawatt installed – and there will be a regulated investment scheme which will be explained on the Forestry Commission’s website.

Q – What will be the annual megawatt production?

A – Potential of 45 megawatts in total (3 megawatts per turbine) – possibly generating 95 gigawatt hours per year.

3) HOUSING

The chairperson gave an outline of the situation to date:

She had consulted with Killearn Community Council as to how they advertise their meetings and was told it was similar to FCC. However, to extend advertising before the proposed meeting in October, notices will be enclosed with the Fintry Flower Show schedules to be delivered to every door. The main Menzies Hall has been booked for the meeting.

The Local Development Plan is only concerned with the **sites** – not details of the housing – so that should be the issue for discussion.

It had been stated that it was now ‘too late’ to do anything by way of response. Although the Draft Proposed Plan was out for consultation in December 2011 and FCC submitted a response, it is **not** too late as there is to be another consultation period of 6 to 12 weeks following the publication of the Proposed Plan in August or September: hence the proposed specially advertised October meeting.

Councillor Ian Muirhead confirmed that the development of the LDP has not been completed. He explained that there had been drop in sessions earlier, including one in Fintry in December, as part of the consultation on the Draft Proposed Plan.

It was pointed out that the Menzies Terrace site had been ‘on the agenda’ since 2003 and there had been information about the demand for social housing from SC and from the Scottish Rural Housing Association since 2009.

Discussion followed:

There was particular criticism of the Community Council's assertion in their response that 'Villagers are in favour of providing more small and/or affordable houses in the village ...' A discussion then took place as to whether Fintry Community Council should retract this, members of the public expressing concern that the whole community had not been consulted to gauge the wider view, including whether small, low cost housing is favoured or not.

It was suggested and agreed that the chairperson should e-mail SC following this meeting and the wording agreed was: *The Community Council were premature with their submission to the Draft Proposed Local Development Plan in that there was insufficient consultation with the wider community.*

ACTION POINT C. Roy to e-mail SC accordingly.

Cllr. Ian Muirhead also agreed to approach the Housing Department and Head of Planning re. this.

One member of the public mentioned the issue of the sewage works as this previously has been an issue with proposed additional housing and there is recent photographic evidence of raw sewage outflow into the Endrick.

A resident of the Menzies Estate stated that he has spent £1000's diverting water from his property. He questioned the suitability of the site as it may well lead to worsened flood problems. Another resident said SEPA had previously only shown a small area near to the sewage works liable to flooding, but in recent years a much wider area had been proved to be at risk. He pointed out that this raises questions as to the reliability of SEPA's information.

Assurances were given that the problems with the sewage works and flooding had been included in FCC's submission and also one from SEPA.

It was pointed out that the site is not currently within the village envelope, but the development would result in this being the case.

A resident of Menzies Terrace pointed out another concern - that there is only one access point to the existing Menzies Estate i.e. from the Kippen Road. Any new development at the site in question would therefore put more strain on this access. Furthermore, this access point has recently been blocked by flooding.

A member of the public asked if this provision of housing is 'a done deal'. The Chairperson replied by reading SRHA's housing list which recorded there are 107 applicants, with only 7 council properties in Fintry. 10 applicants are from Fintry; 13 from neighbouring villages and 14 from elsewhere in rural Stirling.

A member of the public asked about sites to the south of Main Street. SC's assessment of the area brought to their attention by FCC as unsuitable was explained.

A proposal was made that another meeting be arranged in the next couple of weeks. The chairperson pointed out that an extraordinary meeting can only be called at the written request of at least 20 people.

A proposal was then made that a small steering committee be formed to draw up a short questionnaire so that the views of the whole village can be obtained and analysed. There should also be a space on the questionnaire for adding any comments. Information as to where background information was to be found and to where questionnaires should be returned should be included. Volunteers for the committee were agreed: Paul Spence, David Findlay, Alan Flisch, Ken Barclay, Tom Gallacher, Dave Costello and Jamie Pearson.

Several people agreed to help with distribution of the questionnaire:

Michelle Baitrum	- Menzies Estate
Carol Hill	- Culcreuch Avenue
Moira McKay	- Main Street
Mr. and Mrs. Gallacher	- Dunmore Gardens
Flisch family	- west end of the village
John Duckworth	- Clachan area.

ACTION POINTS: The steering committee volunteers to arrange to meet. C. Roy to organize the display of background information at the Sports Club.

The chairperson read out the e-mails that had been received from people unable to attend this evening's meeting but who wished to make their views known. These were from R. Garvie, Mr. and Mrs. Pairman, Mr. and Mrs. Kelso, Christine Wilson, and Christopher Wilson. The chairperson added that she hoped issues raised in these and emails from Mr. and Mrs. Spence and Mr. and Mrs. Nolan which also represented other residents had been sufficiently aired.

4) All weather court:

ACTION POINT: J.Lane volunteered to contact Nicole Paterson re repair.

V. Police Report

PC McNally reported that there had been a case of fraud where a local resident had received a telephone call informing them that they were due money from a PPI claim, but attempting to obtain money from the person before the award could be released.

The brass tap at the cemetery has been stolen. Stirling Council is aware of this and will shortly provide a water butt as a replacement measure.

Two weeks ago a car was stolen in Cumbernauld, it was driven out into the local area, abandoned and set on fire. The occupants had attempted to break into several houses in the area during the morning when people had left for work. All the perpetrators were caught.

VI. Councillor's Report

Councillor Muirhead reported that road improvements will continue through the coming year with the schedule for these due out in July. Money was being carried over into this financial year meaning an extra £0.75 million.

A resident had reported to the Chairperson that, as FCC's preferred option, the pavement between the east end of the village and the Clachan will be repaired rather than the road at this location. As FCC did not prefer this, the Chairperson will check with the Roads Department. ACTION POINT

VII. Finance

£250 has been received from Fintry Development Trust as the first tranche of money for the Community Benefit Fund. The treasurer invited submission of applications for funding in writing for any local project.

£850 from the Community Pride Fund was used for the Jubilee celebrations.

£309 administration grant has been received from SC.

VIII. Planning

Application is being made for a 65.3m high wind turbine at Jaw Farm. As a comparison, the two that are at the Jaw Farm at present are 25m high. Contact SC Planning Department for details. Demolition of a garage and erection of a replacement at 6 Menzies Drive.

IX. Correspondence

1. Public Information Notices Portal (PINs) – advertising leaflet (printed out). Accessed at www.tellmesotland.gov.uk. Stirling Council have been using the Portal to upload notices since February 2011 and are currently uploading Planning and Traffic notices. Advertising leaflets can be obtained from a Joanna Anderson.
2. E-mail from Helen Geddes: forwarded draft of *Building Community Resilience: Principles, Good Practice and Case Studies*. How communities should react to and cope with emergencies. Helen to respond to Scottish Government by 18th June (24 page document – electronic copy)
3. Invitation to an event in Dunfermline on Thursday 28th June. Village SOS Live in Scotland. Benefits of community enterprise. All day event – registration 09:45 to 10:15am. (Leaflet printed out)
4. Community Newsheet – May edition. (Forwarded to members)
5. Advice surgery poster from Rt Hon Anne McGuire MP. (Displayed)

6. Notice of Stirling Community Health Partnership Public Partnership Forum on Wed. 20th June 6:30 for 7:00pm at Stirling Community Hospital.
7. Newsletter *Rural Matters* (Rural Stirling Housing Association).
8. Stirling Council letter re decision making structure – list of wards and councilors etc.
9. Rural Stirling Housing Association acknowledgement of our reply to their allocation policy questionnaire, and results of the survey.
10. Total of 10 e-mails from residents re housing. See Matters Arising item 3 above.
11. Emails from Mr. and Mrs. Ellis objecting to the windfarm. (Not announced)
12. E-mail from Tony Cain re purchase of council houses.
13. Letter of resignation from Jo Skabara – former secretary of FCC. (Not announced)

X. **A.O.B**

- i A question was asked as to what the current position is re. the footpath going out from the village towards Knockraich Farm. The next step is to proceed with agreement between SC and Mr Haslam about the land needed then to erect a fence. ACTION POINT C.Roy to confer.
- ii Jubilee weekend was a great success and it was felt a letter of thanks should be sent to the organisers. ACTION POINT
- iii A flood monitor was installed by SC at the Fintry Bridge today.

XI. **Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 12th September 2012.

Vote of thanks to the chair.