



Minutes of the meeting held on

9th September 2020

(A virtual meeting held via Zoom)

I. Present/apologies for absence:

- **Present:** Ken Smith (Chair), Michele Bennett (Vice Chair), Sue Wallace (Treasurer), Angela May (Secretary), Karen Milliken, Hendy Spence
- **Apologies:** Meg Duckworth (Planning/Licensing)

II. Declaration of interest in any items of business

None

III. Approval of Minutes of last meeting:

Approved

IV. Stirling Councillor's Report

- No report submitted

V. Police Report

- No report submitted
- There have been reports of stolen cars and cars broken into in Fintry and the neighbouring villages. The police are aware and believe that it is the work of an organized gang from Glasgow. Please be vigilant.

VI. Treasurer's Report

- General Fund Account:
Fintry Community Council will receive £381.03 from Stirling Council this year. This breaks down as £240 for general use and £140 for minute taking. This is a reduction compared to last year but should cover the basic administration needs.
We have been awarded a total of £7350 for COVID response which has been transferred to the Common Good Fund as all spending had been taken from this account.
The current balance in this account is £4,198.04. We will need £600 to cover admin cost so we have £3500 available for resilience projects.
- Foundation Fund:
The foundation fund received £24,858.40 from the Kingsburn fund in June 2020 following completion of the annual report. Individual reports detailing the grant spending will need to be completed by the end of this year.

Foundation Fund Income:

March 2020 Surplus	£20,815
Kingsburn	£24,858
COVID GRANTS	£10,683
Total	£56,357

Foundation Fund Spend summary (since April 2020)

Community Transport Scheme	£672
Continued Path Maintenance	£3,968
Primary School Grant	£2,500
Administration (printing)	£200
COVID spending	£12,196
Total	£19,536

The current bank balance is £36,820

- COVID-19 response:

We have received £10,683 in grants specifically for the community COVID response. We have spent £12,196 so only £1,500 of Kingsburn funds have been used to date to cover COVID related spending. Our planned spend based on current funds is shown below. In addition, I have allocated money to a proposed travel grant for young people to apply for to assist with transport cost from Fintry to a further education establishment.

Michele had also seen a Covid related fund to help people get back to normal which might be applicable to helping young people with travel costs. Michele will check the information and pass it on to Sue if relevant.

Michele also noted that the furlough scheme is about to come to an end and she would look out for any other funding available. It was agreed that the spending of any further funding would be discussed by the Community Councillors first. Any Covid or Welfare grants will be spent in line with the grant criteria.

Foundation Scotland Budget	Description	Budget	Spend	Remaining
Commissioned Service	Community Transport Scheme	£2,500	£672	£1,828
Commissioned Activity	Continued Path Maintenance	£5,000	£3,968	£1,032
Commissioned Activity	Maintenance of resilience fund assets	£1,000		£1,000
Fintry Special Project	Community Garden & Resilience Fund	£2,000		£2,000
Fintry Special Project	Menzies Hall Resilience Hub	£13,000		£13,000
Fintry Special Project	COVID-19 Hardship Fund	£5,160		£5,160
Micro Grants-A	Individual Grants £250-500	£2,000		£2,000
Micro Grants-B	Individual Grants £250-500	£2,000		£2,000
Main Grants	Constituted Groups £500-2500	£10,000	£2,500	£7,500
Student Study Grant	Student Study Grant	£1,000		£1,000
Administration Fee	FCC Admin work	£500	£200	£300
	Total	£44,160	£7,340	£36,820

It was agreed that the application process for applying for macro and micro grants should be kept open until December and then reviewed.

VII. Planning

- An application by Force 9 Energy for up to five wind turbines, hard standings, meteorological mast, control building, new access track and ancillary buildings 2 km north west of Western Cringate Farm.
- An application for a forestry road at Mount Farm has been approved.
- An application for a single storey extension to the side of a dwelling house at 13 Menzies Drive has been approved.
- An application for a forestry road at Meikle Bin has been made by Forestry and Land Scotland.
- An application for a forestry road at Todholes, Fintry has been made by Forestry and Land Scotland.

VIII. Resilience Update

- Michele noted the restrictions that have been placed on East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire and Glasgow City regarding social visits within houses. The number of cases of Covid-19 has been rising in the Forth Valley area recently meaning that similar restrictions could be applied here soon. This will add to the feeling of isolation for many people and Michele will be applying for more funding to help vulnerable people and those who may end up shielding again.
- An application for £2.5K has been made to the Welfare Fund and Michele has been looking at funding from other sources for example, The People's Lottery to help with emergency food boxes and funding for the community gardens at the Primary School and on the Sports Field.
- The collection of prescriptions is ongoing as well as shopping for vulnerable people (although not as much as previously). The vegetables from the community garden and the school were gratefully received and there was lots of positive feedback.
- The flooding resilience group had a catch-up meeting last week.
 - Signage for the Kippen Road is to be funded by Stirling Council. They will be warning signs, not road closed signs.
 - The flooding camera is going to be repositioned to look up the field to monitor more closely exactly the point when the field starts to flood.
 - Another sensor has been proposed but would need to be funded by FCC. Paul Laidlaw from the Scottish Flood Forum (SFF) will provide a quote which Michele will circulate.
 - The drainage on Kippen Road was discussed. Maria Lucie (Flooding Manager, Stirling Council) feels that the drains should be cleared every time the road has flooded and will look into getting this done.
 - The group is looking at the possibility of piloting a scheme whereby three houses in the village which are the most badly affected by flooding are provided with a flood gate and automatic vent closers. A cost for each property's needs will be drawn up and funding will be sought either through FCC or from other sources.
 - More sandbags have been requested but will need to be collected.
- Work on the resilience hubs still needs to be completed at the church and at the Menzies Hall. Enough funds are available to complete the work at the Menzies Hall initially.
- A quote has been obtained to replace the noticeboard at the Police House. Michele will circulate.
- Karen asked about the repayment of expenses to the resilience volunteers and they will be paid as soon as possible.

IX. Roads/Loup

- Michele had spoken to Stirling Council about the cycle race which recently went through Fintry. The race organisers do not need permission to hold the race but if the cyclists are rude or aggressive the police should be informed.
- Several residents have expressed concern about the speed of vehicles going through the village. A traffic calming survey is scheduled following the installation of the 20 M.P.H. signs but cannot go ahead until Phase 4 out of lockdown. Hopefully this will result in a speed activation sign. Unfortunately, Fintry does not meet the criteria for a speed camera van.
- Angela asked about the crossing at the bottom of Dunmore Gardens which was proposed previously. This can only be done through the Safer Routes to School scheme. Michele will follow up on this.
- Angela also asked about the yellow lines around the junction of Kippen Road and Main Street. This has been put on hold as the Council staff who would normally do this have been transferred to other areas.
- The resurfacing works on Kippen Road (from the caravan park towards Culcreuch Avenue) have been rescheduled for 19th-30th October.
- Confirmation of a date for the culvert replacement on the B818 is still awaited. Maria Lucie (Flooding Manager, Stirling Council) will follow this up with the Roads Department.
- Michele met with Angela McGibbon from the Roads Department with regard to the issue of cars parking on the B818 between the Loup of Fintry and Todholes. Angela has initiated the legal process of making this stretch of road a clearway. This is a better option than double yellow lines as a

clearway gives the police more jurisdiction to issue fines and get cars towed away. Stirling Council has also been speaking to the Forestry Commission about making another car park. Karen was concerned that this would increase the number of visitors with a corresponding increase in litter and human excrement.

- The 30 M.P.H. sign on Kippen Road should be removed but no date has been given.

X. Shelloch Wind Farm

- Nine feedback forms have been received by Steven Parks at Liberty One Communications with regard to the proposals for the Shelloch Wind Farm and Steven has spoken to one person from the village. 27 responses have been received from the online survey and the majority of the responses were supportive. Permission for the wind farm was already agreed five years ago but amendments have been proposed. The most significant being that the route by which the turbines will be transported now goes through Kippen. Community benefits from the wind farm would be received by FCC at a value equivalent to £5,000 per Mega Watt of installed capacity, for every year of operation (anticipated to be 30 years) to help fund community projects. This would probably equate to around £30K per annum.

XI. Transport

- Angela proposed a bus to Stirling once a month on a Friday evening to leave Fintry at 6 p.m. and return from Stirling at 10 p.m. This would give Fintry residents the opportunity to go to the Bingo, cinema or out for a meal without having to drive. Under the current Covid-19 guidelines the mini-bus from Buchanan Cabs would not be big enough to make the trip viable. Angela will get a price from a company who has bigger vehicles and circulate to FCC councillors. Plans will also go ahead for the Christmas bus to Glasgow.

XII. Play park equipment

- Questions have been raised about the condition of the equipment at the play park. Michele has spoken to Stirling Council and was told that no funding has been made available to them to fund the rolling programme of maintenance and replacement which had been planned. Michele has invited Paul Allan (Play and Maintenance Officer, Stirling Council) to come and have a look at the play park. The climbing frame in particular is in very bad condition.
- Funding may be available particularly as Fintry is a rural community with no public transport so this is the only facility available to Fintry's children. Michele would involve the children and their parents in completing any funding application.
- Michele also noted that there is no disabled access to the play park at the moment and that Stirling Council has an obligation to provide this.

XIII. Correspondence/Submitted Questions

- Dear Mr Smith,
I am writing to show my appreciation of the resilience team and the volunteers who have helped us during this very difficult time.
The team were and probably still are kept very busy delivering food, shopping, medicine and care to many people left on their own to manage.
I myself felt undeserving of such kindness but came to realise the relief of not having to find ways of ordering food and prescriptions without venturing out.
We are all very fortunate to be living in this great village with caring people coming together to help others.
- Hello
I saw on the village notice board that there is to be a committee meeting held on zoom this week.
I would like to thank Michele Bennet and all the Resilience Team for all they have done to help myself and my husband during the COVID-19 shielding for four months. Knowing that we could ask them to collect shopping for us when we could not obtain a supermarket delivery slot and pick up medicines for us from Killearn was a huge help and relief. The locally produced food, village grown produce and other treats were wonderful and cheered us enormously. Thank you to them all.
Kind regards
- Dear Hendy,
Fintry Resilience Team

Thank you to all of you in the FRT for the delivery of fresh vegetables which I believe were grown in the village, harvested in the morning and delivered in the early afternoon. We boiled the potatoes and they formed part of our evening meal - they were delicious. It also reawakened memories of my childhood spent on the Island of Arran.

At the beginning of World War II in 1940 and to escape the blitz I was evacuated, along with my mum, sister, aunt and cousin, to Lamlash on the Island of Arran. I can still remember being shown the fields on the outskirts of Lamlash where, in the early part of the 20th century, Donald McKelvie [1867-1947], a local potato breeder, conducted trials of new varieties of potatoes including Arran Pilot. We grew them in the garden in Lamlash and they were picked each day for the evening meal and I can still remember the taste.

Once again thank you for all the effort that the FRT and all the other groups that have worked so hard during the Pandemic to make the lives of all of us in Fintry that much more tolerable. This includes those who exercise on a daily basis but observe the social distancing, as observed from my "lockdown" window. The changes in the Sports Club including the expansion of the range of goods available and the supply and delivery of medication. All that I have had to do to be part of the "Crusade against the Coronavirus" was to stay at home.

I feel that the pandemic which has brought misery to many many people has also brought out the very best in our local community and our society in general and I am proud and privileged to be a member of such a caring society.

I hope that someone in the community, who is at the heart of the tremendous efforts that have been and are still being made, is recording them as they are part of the village's history and will become a part of Fintry folklore.

Once again thank you and congratulations to all.

- Hi

From your footage shown on Fintry Buddies the camera doesn't show the worst area of flooding at bottom of Menzies estate - so what's the point? The flooding only ever really reaches the Borland's - never as far as the Mill House. What I've asked before and never got a reply is who has access to the footage?

I for one would like it removed as it's not recording what it's supposed to. Can this be brought up at next meeting?

Response:

The camera is the property of Stirling Council, only the control room staff have access to it. The present location was chosen by Stirling Council and we believe it to be under review with a view to relocate.

- Hi there,

The camera is virtually useless as all it shows is a small view along Kippen Rd mainly consisting of branches overhanging the pavement which block out the view along both the road and pavement.

Considering the floodwaters completely block Kippen Rd, driveways there on and the road into the Menzies estate what is recorded does not reflect the true position. Yesterday it could have shown vehicles stranded in the flood water as well as houses threatened by the rising water.

If that is what we hope to persuade action from the authorities I fear we have no chance of success.

Perhaps the CC could arrange to have the camera moved or able to get a proper view of the chaos flooding causes to Fintry.

Best Regards

Response:

The camera is the property of Stirling Council and its position was selected by them.

I believe there are already discussions within the council to have the camera relocated.

- Hi Angela

Please would you include or put forward for the next meeting a question about what is happening, if anything, about the drains in Kippen Road?

The one outside our gate is blocked solid with silt and mud up to about a couple of inches from the top grid. Any rainfall instantly floods at the gate spraying up over our wall with every car and soaking pedestrians if they're not quick! The water can't drain away from our drive either as the down pipe water can't feed into the system and splurges back up all over the drive.

Could it be arranged for them to be sucked out again please? I know this doesn't solve the fact that the whole system down here seems to be blocked but it stops it flooding every time it rains.

Thanks

Response:

Drains have been discussed with Stirling Council who have informed us that they will need to be cleaned after every period of flooding. This is currently being investigated by Stirling Council.

- Hi

Reading through the minutes more thoroughly I see that there were actually 3 grants that went towards the Fintry care boxes and food boxes:

Community Grants COVID-19 Stirling Council Community Response Fund - £500

SSEN Resilient Communities Fund (2020 emergency response for COVID-19) -£1,500

Scottish Well Being Fund £5000.

Firstly, in your minutes you detailed only £2,417.16 of the Scottish Well Being Fund - can you detail how the rest of that grant was spent?

And, again, in the interest of adherence to the community council's governance rules of openness, honesty, fairness, transparency and accountability can you detail how the other 2 grants were distributed? I understand that, again, local businesses/individuals/parties benefitted from these grants by providing goods/services. I'd like details of: which businesses/individuals/parties received money from the grant, how much each got?

I'm also interested in who benefitted from the Force 9 and Stirling Resilience Grant for vehicle hire and insurance and what was the criteria for receiving these?

As stated in the response from Sue to my letter that the June 2020 meeting was the first that the council had gotten together as one group since lockdown in March - and this is the second time I've asked this question - who made the decisions for the spending of the grants for the Fintry care boxes, food boxes and fish n chips? Was it the Resilience Team?

Hope to hear from you soon

Response:

Dear,

Further to your continued emails.

All grants applied for had specific criteria which we met otherwise we would not have received them. Spending has been in line with the criteria of those grants and a full report will be submitted to each grant provider as requested by them for their scrutiny. The Resilience Team consists of the majority of the community council bar two members, the team includes Chair and Treasurer who are more than aware of the grants, their uses and spending. An overview of the spending to date was included in the minutes with names of businesses included and amounts received. Regards what has happened to the remainder of one of the grants, this remains to be decided as to date not all grant money has been allocated or spent. Further if there is any grant money remaining when the resilience plan is deactivated then what happens to that will be the concern of each grant body and for them to decide.

The sum of money to cover the hire vehicle was given to us by Force 9 Energy for the provision of the vehicle to aid in distribution of food and medical supplies during the

resilience plan, in the minutes it is detailed as a specific use donation, not a grant. Due to the insurance requirements of the vehicle hire company Force 9 were unable pay the hire company directly and so the money was transferred to the community council first as advised by the vehicle hire company. This is not unusual and especially so in the current circumstances. Stirling Council awarded us the £1,500 and advised it could be used for vehicle hire as they could not supply a vehicle as originally requested. As to who has benefitted from it, everyone who has had food or medical supplies delivered has benefited including yourself.

If you feel we have broken the law, done anything wrong or committed some other offence other than being guilty of simply trying to help people through a difficult time then put them in writing and they will be addressed accordingly.

Regards

Ken Smith

(FCC Chair)

- Dear Sir,
Speeding in the village seems to be getting out of hand. The twenty mile an hour signs appear to being ignored. There is confusion on the Kippen Road coming into the village a thirty mile signs quickly followed by a twenty mile sign.
Large vehicles like logging lorries, tractors and vans are especially noticeable by their speed.
Can this problem be addressed once more by FFC, the Police and Road Transport.
Regards

Response:

Dear,

I refer to you email regarding the above and would like to mention that the Community Council are concerned as yourselves with regard to the speeding in the village myself and Ken have been in discussion with the local police in Balfron regarding this who have advised us that they will be carrying out more speeding checks within the village.

I have also been in contact with Stirling Council's Senior Road safety Officer & Traffic Management Engineer in relation to 20 mph enforcement normally once these signs are in put place after six months the Council do another road speed survey to see if any other traffic calming measures are needed Fintry was down to be done in August but of course due to COVID-19 this may not happen but it will be carried out at a later date. The Council hopes to be back working at full capacity by phase 4 or 5.

In relation to the log Lorries could you by any chance identify which company it is coming through the village as there is two contracts going on up the Crow Road at the moment as my understanding is that the agreement was they were to go through Lennoxton and not Fintry it would be very useful so I can get contact with the logging companies direct.

Michele Bennett

Vice-chair

Good Afternoon,

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to say a formal thank you to all those involved with the community council and resilience efforts during the Covid-19 crisis. I think the volunteers have gone above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that all the elderly and more vulnerable residents of Fintry have been cared for. The financial aspect is a factor for some but most importantly is the value in the kindness shown to those who may live alone or may have struggled during this time. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. I can not tell you how much it has cheered him up to have a friendly face drop in with his prescription or deliver him some fresh fruit and veg or a portion of fish and chips. It is the simplest things that has made the biggest difference to those who need it most.

I can appreciate that sourcing funding and organising all of this is not easy and it takes a Great amount of time and effort so without the Resilience team there in the first place to put in the ground work, there would have been no funds with which to do any of this work.

Despite the outstanding kindness shown by so many residents in Fintry there seems sadly to still be a bit of upset and uncertainty surrounding the funding and the resilience scheme. From our part at the Courtyard Café I would like to clarify a couple of points raised in the recent minutes surrounding the box scheme distributed to the elderly.

The local businesses including Betty Aitken, The Fintry Inn, Fintry Sports club and The Courtyard Café were all asked to contribute an item/items towards the boxes. As I am sure all of the businesses were, we were grateful for the opportunity to be part of this as it offered a small income at a very uncertain time. The Café contributed some dairy products and cakes, The Fintry Inn supplied pies, The Sports club Lasagne and eggs from Betty. The supply of our own cafe produce at a discounted rate of 20% totalled [REDACTED] per box. I believe that this was similar to the amount charged by the Fintry Inn and the Sports Club.

In addition to the items noted above, the boxes contained a loaf of bread and a selection of fresh fruit and vegetables. The boxes themselves, the bread and the fruit and veg were co-ordinated by the Café, we ordered these in through our wholesale accounts so that they could be supplied and delivered at cost price and to save the time and effort of a supermarket shop. All of the boxes, bread and fruit and veg were supplied to the Resilience team at cost price and the Café did not profit from these in anyway. The invoices were all supplied to the Resilience team and the Community council should anyone require further details. Unfortunately the way in which the totals have been minuted by the Community Council, it looks as though the Courtyard Café has benefited significantly more than the other businesses. This is simply because in addition to the Café produce supplied our invoice included the cost price of the bread, fruit and veg. I would greatly appreciate if this could be amended or further detailed in the minutes to avoid further confusion.

Knockraich Farm has been used as a centre for the resilience team and we are more than happy to continue to support the needs of the village in any way that we can. I would like to note however that we have not benefited financially from this arrangement and have offered our own time, efforts and space through goodwill alone. We have not received any grants or financial assistance other than for goods purchased in good faith to be distributed to Fintry residents in need. As long standing residents of Fintry this has caused us a huge amount of upset personal and as a business. The Covid-19 crisis has been such a trying time for everyone and I would applaud any business or individuals who have worked so hard though out to keep the village flowing.

Once again it is sad to see such outstanding acts of kindness by so many be overshadowed in this way.

Dear

Thank you for your email.

I am sorry if you feel we have deliberately misled anyone, it is not our intention and certainly did not intend to cause any stress for any person or business.

The breakdown of monies paid listed in the treasurers' report of June 2020 is only intended to show what the Community Council has spent to date with any business during in the current climate, it was not intended to provide detailed costs of any items or a breakdown in full while we are still actively working on providing assistance. There are also costs which we will not breakdown as they could breach confidentiality surrounding individuals. Mention is made in the minutes of our thanks to businesses that have provided items at cost and whilst not naming individual business. If we named each business who did provide items at cost, we would receive complaints from those that did not, therefore the decision was taken not to individually name.

Our intention once the resilience plan is deactivated is to provide a more detailed breakdown of the grants and the spending at which point, we will try and find a way of showing who has provided items at cost without being seen as biased to those who did not. We are also conscious of not publishing figures around the costs of the food boxes in an attempt to preserve people's dignity. Regardless of how much a person is struggling they always have their dignity and pride and we need to be careful not to take that away from them.

The Community Council is currently under additional scrutiny so we need to be seen as unbiased even more so. Appearing to remain unbiased in itself is a difficult task in a small community.

We shall address your email and concerns at our next meeting and look at how we can best publish the information around your assistance.

- Information has been received from Stirling Council regarding changes to bin collections as follows:
 - Roll out of new standard 'comb lift' bins to replace existing 'diamond lift' bins from Autumn 2020 to July 2021
 - Stopping the current free garden waste collection, and the introduction of an opt-in fortnightly garden waste collection permit (£35 per-year, per bin) from April 2021
 - A new 4-weekly collection frequency for the grey bin (non-recyclable waste), instead of the current fortnightly service. This will be phased in after July 2021.
 - A new 4-weekly collection frequency for the blue bin (plastics, cans and cartons), instead of the current fortnightly service. This will be phased in after July 2021.
 - The ending of glass box collections when the Scottish Government's National Deposit Return Scheme starts in July 2022. Glass collections will continue until the new scheme fully kicks in. After this, glass waste not covered by the scheme can be put in your blue bin.
 - Please note that green bin (paper and cardboard) collections will stay the same and will be collected every four weeks and there will be no change to the frequency of brown bin collections (fortnightly).
- Notification from Stirling Council regarding a complaint about FCC. To date no additional details have been provided by Stirling Council
- An email from the Fintry Development Trust (FDT) regarding the Shelloch Wind Farm offering advice if required.

- It was agreed that, due to the ongoing pandemic, FCC meetings for the remainder of 2020 would be held by Zoom and limited to FCC Councillors only.

XV. A.O.B.

- Hendy had attended a recent Sports Club meeting and will circulate the minutes to FCC Councillors.
- Funding can now be applied for to extend Cicely's Way to the far end of the Castle Drive. Michele had spoken to the land owner who is in agreement for this to go ahead. Michele will arrange a meeting with Paths for All to get their advice and will get quotes for the work needed. It was agreed that quotes should include a price for a path with fencing down the road side and a price without fencing.
- Angela asked if the FCC would fund the purchase of some items to facilitate a jam making project in the village for distribution to vulnerable residents in the village as a way of maintaining contact. This was agreed. ***

XVI. Date of next meeting

- Wednesday 7th October, 2020

*****14th September 2020**

Note from the Chair

After the meeting was minuted the use of funding for the provision of jam has been dropped due to the generosity of volunteers in the village.

Please note that the Community Council are not responsible for the contents of the jam or any other produce.