

**Minutes of the 15th Meeting of Fintray Community Council (FCC)**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

**Fintray Village Hall, 7.30pm**

**1. Welcome**

Present: Simon Glazier (Chair), Katherine Gerrard (Secretary), Sandy Fyfe, Florence Gauld (Minutes), Gina Ford, Jane Bayliss, Richard Taylor, Lindsay McLemman.

In attendance: Cllr Martin Ford, Cllr Fergus Hood, Ian Thompson, Belinda Miller, Malcolm Gauld, Alison Cumming, John Matheson.

2. Apologies were received from Ilene Fyfe, Cllr Glen Reid, Cllr Dominic Lochay.

**3. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting Community Council Meeting**

Approved by Sandy Fyfe and seconded by Simon Glazier.

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- Minutes of meeting: it is noted that the minutes of meetings have not been released to the public domain for a matter of months. It is suggested that the minutes be displayed in the notice board in Hatton of Fintray, the community website and the Fintray Folk website. The minutes must be displayed for a minimum of 3 days before the follow-on meeting.
- Paths around the village: there was further discussion about walking and cycling paths around the village and a path around Hill of Hatton wood was discussed again. It was raised during the meeting that local neighbours and landowners had not been consulted about the possibility of there being a path constructed around the wood. It was also highlighted that the area around the wood is prone to icing over the Winter period and could be a potential hazard. The point was also raised as to who would be responsible for the maintenance of those paths.
- A96 Dualling: it was reiterated that there are 4 possible routes, however the route selected would not transit across the bottom of Bennachie. In addition, option Q skirting Oldmeldrum is not favoured by the Scottish Government.
- Fintray Flood Resilience Plan: it was confirmed that 3 boxes for 'inflatable' sandbags had been ordered, one each for Hatton of Fintray, Milton of Fintray and Cothal. Boxes and sandbags would be uplifted or delivered from Hatton of Fintray village hall. Lindsay McLemman to issue a cheque for their payment.
- Community Council Forum: it is noted that there shall be several community council forum meetings in the month of March.
- Local Development Plan (LDP): it is noted that west of Hatton Court the number of new houses could be anywhere between 8 and 32, owing to the fact that the density of housing has been increased (as long as all housing criteria is met). It is advised by the Councillors that a decision has been made to increase housing density to the 'default density'. The total number of houses is now fixed and if there is a lobby to reduce the housing density, then other sites shall have to be found by the council. It is advised that documentation is out for consultation and now is the time to comment on this development. Closing date for comment is the 8<sup>th</sup> April. In May, councillors shall review and comment.

It is noted that many planning policies have to be adhered to and it is unlikely that a block of flats would be considered. Local amenities (or lack of them) in the village shall be considered during the decision-making process.

It was also discussed that as a general guidance in the plan, the land has to be available for development. If old sites are included, they shall be re-checked for availability.

It is confirmed that individual notifications shall be considered by the council, however the Community now needs to be represented.

- The Strategic Development Plan is now closed.

#### **5. Police Report**

- There were no incidences in the FCC area.
- School minutes: still reports of fast vehicles travelling through the village. If this behaviour is witnessed, telephone the none emergency number 101.
- The council is recording speeds in the village at the time of the meeting, this shall provide evidence going forward.

#### **6. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reports that FCC funds to hand were £2520.42. £1021.60 still to be paid out for the inflatable sandbags and boxes.

#### **7. Planning Applications**

One planning application in the village has been submitted for an extension to a house.

It is confirmed that as a body, FCC can comment on new planning applications.

#### **8. Community Council Elections 2019**

FCC was established in October 2016, elections can take place in October, or at the AGM on the 4th June (selected date). There can be 10 members on FCC – qualifications are to provide a witness, be over 16 years of age and of sound mind.

If it is necessary to have a ballot and an election then to adhere to the 4<sup>th</sup> June election date, it shall be necessary to open nominations on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April for 3 weeks. A location needs to be identified for a ballot with the suggestion that it runs during the week of the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> May.

If an election is required, the Electoral Registration Office can provide a list of personnel in the Community Council for that date.

#### **9. Correspondence Received Since Last Meeting**

A list of correspondence can be provided on request.

#### **10. Aberdeenshire Update**

- It is reported that there shall be an increase in the council tax rates. It is possible that there shall be an increase of 1.79% due to inflation plus 3% as per government recommendation, therefore 4.79% in total.
- It is advised that this shall be the most challenging budget to date, with the council having to make £20m in cuts.
- With the use of the distribution formula, it is noted that Aberdeenshire is the 3<sup>rd</sup> worst funded council in Scotland.

The date of the next scheduled meeting is Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 19:30 hours.