

Fintray Community Council

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Tuesday 6th June 2023 at 7.30pm Hatton of Fintray Village Hall

Present - Roddy MacInnes (Chair), Katherine Gerrard (Secretary), Richard Taylor (Treasurer), Cllr D Lonchay, Cllr J Gifford, Cllr T Mason, Gina Ford, Ilene Fyfe, Sandy Fyfe, Kat Lancaster, Sarah Hashim, Ian Thompson, Belinda Miller, Evelyn Morrice, Craig Cormack (NUFC), Abby Abdessadek (NUFC), John Matthew (NUFC), Laura Simpson (Minute Secretary)

Apologies - None

Declaration of interest - None

Approval of the Minutes of last meeting -

Proposed by Katherine Gerrard seconded by Ian Thompson

Matters arising from the Minutes --

Generator - trial run took place in April and went well. The hall is now ready to be used as a place of respite in the case of power outage for any length of time. There is still work to be done to have the generator stored beside the hall.

Gardening Club - work has still to take place to tidy up and keep the ground at the entrance to Hatton Court low maintenance. The CC had already agreed in principle to contribute up to £500 towards the cost of this. This was proposed to go ahead by Roddy MacInnes and seconded by Gina Ford.

Roddy and Richard will meet to discuss the copy of online banking guidelines given by Alison Cumming. Evelyn has requested a copy of this too as it may be useful to her as Treasurer of the Community Association.

The Council are looking at inserting additional poles to prevent any repeats of the football pitch being driven on.

Police Report - attached

Treasurer's Report - Cash in bank £2599.58

Planning - There are no applications.

Ian attended the Local Place Plan meeting. The process for the LDP has started. Submissions about what communities would like to see are submitted as an evidence report. It is required to be in line with national framework too. Consultation with the community will take place in the Autumn. Until publication it is unknown if the Council will take account of what has been requested. Ian suggested that if a bid is put in, it could be done through the CC, perhaps by joining the different associations together eg school, Community Council, Community Association. Even if the wish is for the village to stay as it is, that needs to be stated. There will be more guidance about this to follow. Ian and Roddy will get together over the next couple of weeks to clarify this new process. Nothing needs to be submitted until Spring.

Fintray Community Council election -

No election was needed as the Community Councillor nominations were below the threshold.

Giant Hogweed - On the left-hand side heading up the hill to Dyce. Roddy has been in touch with Edward Johnston who advised him that Fintray Estate are in the process of securing a company to deal with the problem.

Recreation Area -

John Matthews, Newmachar FC, had met with Roddy and agreed to come along to the meeting tonight due to there being some queries regarding the Club's use of the recreational area. NUFC very much want to work with the community of Fintray and not cause undue disruption. They were aware of the grass area and goals in the village and, as their Club has expanded, they required to find additional areas for training. They are in the advanced process of securing land in the vicinity of Dyce and have submitted final stage planning permission. The Club has become a victim of its own success, with children from all over the NE attending the Club and, as a result, finding suitable training venues is problematic. In respect of Fintray it is intended that the 2012 age group only will train one day midweek at Fintray alongside a Sunday game but will require to move to another location when they move up to 11 a side as Fintray will be unsuitable. There was wide and open discussion in respect of the designation of the area being used and the fact that some residents were unhappy that a "mini pitch" had been marked out as it inferred ownership. Overall, however, there was an acknowledgement of the disciplined, focussed and courteous manner in which training and playing took place which was a credit to Club and coaches. The coaches were keen to stress that their main aim is to give their young players an opportunity to play football and the Club does not want to upset anyone. They try to be respectful and teach the children to be the same. He is happy to talk to residents at any time if there are any concerns and are aware of the requirements of the Sunday morning fitness group. The Club acknowledge the offer of parking at the rear of the Northern Lights and underlined they do encourage car sharing to parking impacts at the recreational area.

Meetings attended -

Roddy attended the Risk and resilience meeting, investigating the roles of the CC in emergencies

School Assembly and shared the need for a community to work together and will be involved in some collaborative work in the next term in respect of household emergency boxes.

Ian (see above)

Community Association update -

Looking at installing Wi-Fi in the hall. It has been put on hold in the meantime as there is an installation cost and a monthly fee, which at this time does not appear viable. Belinda had some suggestions so Sheila will be asked to make contact with her regarding this.

Ian will be investigating funding to help fund new heating.

Picnic in the park on 17th June

Soup and Sweet 1st October

Family ceilidh 24th November

Gardening club AGM this Thursday

Aberdeenshire Councillors' updates -

Cllr Gifford: There are some funds available for installation of Wi-Fi, a maximum grant of £500 for capital (setting up, not monthly payments).

Cllr Mason: the funding gaps will get bigger each year. There is more AI being used on phone lines etc. It is likely that there will be a new leader of the Council appointed soon.

Cllr Lonchay: money problems becoming a lot more difficult. The local authorities may well have to transform from 32 authorities and are now engaged in a transformation programme, it is unknown how this will play out yet.

Audit council have told Aberdeenshire Council their capital plan is unsustainable so this will have to be addressed and will not bring cheer.

Correspondence received since last meeting – attached. Katherine has forwarded this to members prior to the meeting.

Kat suggested a printed newsletter so that events and happenings are accessible to all. This sparked a lot of discussion and Rod will take it to the CC forum meeting he is attending tomorrow.

A condolence card will be sent to Betty Craigmile, who was an active member of Fintray and Kinellar Community Council, on the passing of her husband.

Date of next meeting - Tuesday 1st August at 7.30pm

Meetings take place every other month on the 1st Tuesday. Attendance at these meetings is open to everyone living in the parish of Fintray. Email: fintraycc@gmail.com