

FINTRAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Committee meeting Tuesday 7 February 2023 at 7.30pm Hatton of Fintray Village Hall

PRESENT: Roddy MacInnes (Chair), Katherine Gerrard (Secretary), Richard Taylor (Treasurer), Evelyn Morrice, Gina Ford, Ian Thomson, Cllr J Gifford, Cllr G Reid, Cllr T Mason, Laura Simpson (Minute Secretary)

APOLOGIES: Ilene Fyfe

Roddy welcomed everyone to the meeting

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Proposed by Richard Taylor and seconded by Katherine Gerrard

MATTERS ARISING

Roddy has been in contact with the Area Police Sergeant regarding the lack of crossing patroller at the school and there has been at least 1 speed check by the police since then.

War Memorial: Roddy has been in contact with Fintray Estate with regards ownership of the ground the memorial stands on. Cllr Reid advised research to begin the work on the war memorial is ongoing and he will report back when this is concluded.

POLICE REPORT

There was very little to report. Report of a cow on the road which was not there when the police attended.

Police Scotland are aware of the lack of crossing patroller and the specials task force will attend when available.

TREASURER'S REPORT

£3036.50 in bank, no spending since last meeting. There is now a debit card for the CC account. It has Richard's name on it. Roddy is now a full signatory on the account.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Approval has been granted to build a conservatory in a property in Cothal. Permission has been granted for an extension to a property on Lairds Park.

READY2GO

The decision has been made to cancel this service. It was not cost effective and the problems with software were too difficult to overcome. The abrupt end and lack of consultation between communities and Local Councillors is disappointing. It is felt if there is

consideration for a future service there requires to be significantly more consultation with communities, in particular rural communities, and the needs they have.

FULL FIBRE BROADBAND ACCESS

There are reports of people on the Newmachar side of the village being able to access Full Fibre Broadband, although many people still cannot access this.

Where there has been work taking place, areas are, at times, being left in unacceptable conditions, with Gina reporting pieces of wire protruding from the ground. She will send some photos to Cllr Reid who will bring this to the attention of the relevant parties. There was also no communication about when works would take place and what they would entail. Once works have taken place, individuals have to contact their provider and ask to be connected.

Evelyn has asked if there is a way of finding out as a community if connection is possible. **Roddy** will investigate.

GENERATOR UPDATE

The generator has arrived and is currently being stored at Brownhills. Hosie's will do the necessary work to enable the generator to be connected. Once this is done, the generator will come down and there will be a 'trial run'. Going forward, the plan is for the generator to be permanently situated outside the hall. There will need to be discussions about storage of the fuel (diesel), with any necessary guidance being adhered to.

NEWLY ADOPTED DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The plan takes us up to 2027, then only part of the plan relating to the village is the field to the west of Hatton Court being designated for 16 houses.

For the next Development Plan (beyond 2027), there will need to be consultation with residents of the village to get their views on how they see the village in the future. This will require a bit of work during the current year. Thanks to Ian for the work he has put into this.

POTHoles

There are numerous large potholes in the surrounding area. Evelyn advised that the large one beside the junction to the 'Lang Stracht' has been repaired.

When asked if the Council was liable Cllr Reid advised that potholes have to be reported and the Council given a reasonable period of time to react to it.

Advice is to report potholes as soon as you are aware of them. This can be done online or via the app.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PILOT

Evelyn and Roddy attended a community engagement day in November. Some of the proposals they wish to put forward as part of the pilot are

- Raise awareness of the role of the CC
- Approach the Community Association to gather information/photos of groups that are taking place
- Some discussion took place about the use of social media as the community website does not appear to be accessed by many people
- Roddy & Evelyn to make short video about what the Community Council does/what is available in the community

AGM 6 JUNE

Alison Cumming has been in touch regarding the AGM. There are 4 vacancies for the Community Council (not office bearer positions).

Nominations will open on 25th April and will close on 16th May. If required, ballot will take place on 23rd May.

Application Forms, both hard copy or email, will be available, from Roddy and Katherine.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Insulation has been put in and LED lights have been installed. This will hopefully help with running costs.

There have been a few fundraising events which have been well supported.

ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCILLORS' UPDATE

Cllr Reid : Kinellar Hall is in a serious position, so if anyone can volunteer to help/become a member of the Board, please do so. They need to elect 3 office bearers by the end of February. Aberdeenshire Council are looking at ways they can support them.

Railway Bridge at Dyce: gulleys have been cleared and it was discovered there was a problem with the manhole, if this work has not already taken place, it will be soon.

Bridge at Boat of Hatton: it is being monitored and Cllr Reid is waiting for information as to the plan with this.

Temporary Traffic Lights at Cothal: This has been brought up as a safety issue with people jumping the lights, the timing of the lights taking too long to change and how suitable the road is for HGV's.

Cllr Gifford:

Councils only have about 35% of their budget because so much of what they are given is ring-fenced and can only be spent on specific things.

Council tax will be set on Thursday

Cllr Gifford also made comment on the Local Development Plan

Cllr Mason had nothing to add to this.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

The list was issued to all members by Kathrine.

In addition to this, an invitation to a Participatory budgeting meeting has been received for the end of February. Roddy is happy to attend.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 4th April 7.30pm.