

Fintray Community Council

Minutes of meeting

Tuesday 7th June 2022, 7.30pm Fintray Village Hall

Present: - Roddy MacInnes (Chair), Katherine Gerrard (Secretary), Cllr. Trevor Mason, Cllr Dominic Lonchay, Mel Roberts, Jeanette Smart, Belinda Miller, Ian Thomson, Ilene Fyfe, Sandy Fyfe, Evelyn Morrice, Gina Ford, Laura Simpson (Minute Secretary)

Apologies: - Richard Taylor, Cllr Glen Reid, Cllr Jim Gifford

Declaration of interest: - There were no declarations of interest

Approval of the Minutes of last meeting: - Proposed by Ian Thomson, seconded by Roddy MacInnes

Matters arising from the Minutes: -

Page 2 - rewiring of hall - approved by Community Association. Hosie's will rewire the hall to enable a generator to run for the kitchen, meeting room, anteroom and toilets in case of a power outage/storm.

Police Report - omission of oil/bogus builders. Cat Denham, Sergeant, found oil theft reported and from March-May there were ongoing enquiries. She could not find a record of the builders but has been made aware of this.

Treasurer's Report: - The balance in the Fintray CC account to date is £3317.08.

Planning Applications: - none

Fintray Community Council election: - There are 6 members which allows 1 co-opted member

Tolbooth: - The fence at the Old Post Office came down to show the 'Witches Arch,' Roddy was approached and has spoken to the householders as the Arch is on public ground. Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Department didn't know it was on public ground. It is of local interest so they are linking with Land Registry Scotland who will investigate and move forward from there. Ilene informed that the ground previously belonged to Aberdeen City Council.

Fintray trough: - Situated at the end of Lairds Park, Ian Gerrard has repaired the iron work. Roddy agreed to contact Companies for quotes to re-do the lettering. This was unanimously approved.

Information Board for Old Church: - CC previously offered money towards this. Roddy contacted the Archaeology Department to ask about it and move it along. Roddy will contact the Environmental Department about the trees that have fallen in the cemetery. Mel asked about having some of the headstones tidied/sorted but this has previously been investigated to no avail. Belinda thinks it is not policy for the Council to maintain cemeteries which no longer have burials taking place.

Update on new style of LDP, including process: - Local Development Plan is part of the National Framework Plan which is a strategic plan to be run in a 5-year cycle. It will include sustainability, climate change etc and will put some responsibility on communities.

2023 - 3 stages

- Evidence Report
- Local Place Plan (what do we want life in Fintray to be like?)
- Proposed Local Development Plan

2023 will be the year to say what we want in Fintray. Cllr Lonchay advised the CC will be first point of contact for consultations. Ian suggested, as in previous years, the CC needs to effectively communicate with the wider community to gather ideas and opinions. CC can now start thinking about the Development Plan but dates will be issued by Aberdeenshire Council in due course. Cllr Lonchay will advise when he knows the dates. Previous submissions have been successful.

Tour of Britain 4th September 2022: - The route will run very close to the village and the road towards Dyce will be closed for some time. The Community Association is keen to encourage community events to run over the weekend and Roddy offered support from the CC. Gina has previously seen communities 'dressing the route' which she thought may be adopted here. This will be added to the agenda for the next meeting. Belinda said there may be a race for amateurs the day before.

Community Association update: - Picnic in the Park raised £700 for the community. This will be split between the school and the Community Association.

LED lights, Insulations and Heating - an application has been submitted to the airport fund for insulation. An application is with the Garioch Area Fund for LED's. Ian believes this is the first application and is asking for CC support with this. Electricity bills are going to be very high and these costs can't be passed on to the users so improved insulation and LEDs will help keep the costs down. Ashdale Hall in Westhill has seen a 20% decrease in the bills following this work being done. The hope is to have this work completed by winter and it may reduce the increase in bills. Ian has been advised by Susan Adams that there is a £30k fund, with a cap of £5k per application. Cllr Lonchay will follow this up as the Council is very keen to support the change of lightbulbs. He will get back to us.

Defibrillator Maintenance - This is currently shared 'collectively' with the Rotary Club in Blackburn. The Community Association is currently covering the cost and is now asking the Community Council to pay £500 for the required new battery and £100 per year for maintenance as this is a benefit for the whole community. Blackburn Rotary have taken 'Guardianship' for our defib and have paid for the new case. They check the battery and pads and advise when they require to be changed. The only other maintenance cost would be if the pads are used. Gina proposed the CC pay the CA £500 to be sent to the Rotary. Katherine seconded.

Garden Open Day Sun 26th June, 1230-430:- Tickers £5 per adult to be purchased from the Hall. 5 gardens will be open, Maggie in Lairds Park, Mel in Hatton Court, Maureen at Highland Cottages, Ian and Belinda at the Lodge and Alistair at Fintray Gardens.

Heatherwick will also be open that day for Amnesty International. SWI will be baking and Hiretech donated money for tea/coffee - cakes and refreshments are included in the ticket price. 60% of proceeds will go to the Community Association (nominated charity) and 40% to the Scottish Garden Scheme who will nominate their charities.

Aberdeenshire Councillors' updates: - Cllr Trevor Mason took the opportunity to introduce himself. He was elected in May and has previously been the chair for Ellon Community Council. He has been undertaking Induction and Training. He has attended an Area Committee Meeting and today is his first day of official Council Business.

Cllr Dominic Lonchay advised that the May elections saw lots of new Councillors. Marion Ewenson is the new Chair of the Garioch Area Committee and Jim Gifford is the Vice Chair.

The absence of a Kinellar Community Council has been noted and he is keen to see this restart.

There is a change of parking to take place outside the Blackburn Co-op with 3 parallel spaces being added in the existing loading bay. Deliveries will use these spaces when needed for loading/unloading.

With regards to the Police Report, Cllr Lonchay advised that as of 6th July, all new cars in Britain will have a system that will cut the power in the car if the speed limit is exceeded. There will be an option to override the system.

Correspondence received since last meeting: - A list of all correspondence received and forwarded to CC members since the last meeting had been emailed along with the Agenda.

Additional Business:-

Gina attended the Garioch Community Council Forum and it was felt some departments within the Council were not taking requests from CC's seriously. Departments have been reminded of the legitimacy of these enquiries and there is an expectation that Council employees should support this. There are a substantial number of vacancies within the Council which does not help. The same Chairperson was re-elected and there will be another meeting in September. Cllr Lonchay said to contact local Councillors if there are issues with getting responses from the Council and they will follow up on this.

Date of next meeting: - Tuesday 2nd August at 730pm in the Village Hall