

Fintray Community Council

Minutes of virtual Committee meeting (due to Covid-19 pandemic)

Tuesday 14th December 2021 at 7.30pm (instead of 7th December as planned because of power failure)

(using Microsoft Teams)

Present - Roddy MacInnes (Chair), Katherine Gerrard (Secretary), Richard Taylor (Treasurer), Belinda Miller, Ian Thomson, Cllr Martin Ford, Gina Ford, Ilene Fyfe, Evelyn Morrice, Mel Roberts

Apologies – Jeanette Smart, Cllrs Dominic Lonchay, David Keating, Glen Reid, Laura Simpson

Declaration of interest - None

Approval of the Minutes of last meeting – Approved by Gina and seconded by Richard.

Matters arising from the Minutes –

Litter picking equipment- Mel asked for equipment and was advised by Roddy that she could help herself from the box situated outside his house.

Queen's Canopy – Fintray Estate have replied via Edward Johnston that they have no interest in this project. Roddy explained that after meeting with Mel and Martin it was agreed that perhaps some tentative enquiries could be made as to whether there was any potential in an area of land in the vicinity of Fintray Village being acquired to form a community woodland. So far there had been a negative response from local landowners. Lengthy discussion took place in this regard and it was agreed that Roddy would speak to one more landowner to assess interest. Martin advised that 'Shire Roads were not in favour of tree planting near any roads for understandable reasons. Overall it was acknowledged that it was likely that best option was to identify suitable small pockets of ground, possibly already in Council ownership where trees could be planted. Evelyn identified a potential area at Ogston Mill which she would photograph and send to Roddy. Request that members give some thought to this and email Fintray CC accordingly. **ACTION - Roddy/All CC Members/Evelyn**

Community Resilience Planning – Roddy, Ian, Belinda and Evelyn had met and a draft was agreed but storm Arwen has taken place since the meeting and this had brought other scenarios to light. The church hall could be an option to the village hall for a place of safety and it was suggested that 1 or 2 points of contact for outlying areas be identified. It was hoped that a skeleton of the plan be ready to discuss at the next meeting. **Action – Roddy, Ian Belinda, Evelyn**

Developer Obligations – Roddy thanked Ian for his response to this consultation which has been submitted.

Traffic Lights at Cothal – Roddy read the response received from the roads department to his request for information on the current situation. Gina reported that the 30mph sign had disappeared and she was asked to report this. Belinda asked if the leaf debris could be cleared

from the traffic light area as this was causing further hazard. Mel's suggestion that a Council sign reading "works pending" was dismissed. **Action Gina, Belinda**

Storm Arwen – The length of time for the power to be restored and dismay that there seemed to be a lack of plan from the Council after it was declared a major incident. Evelyn suggested that a list of items required for such an emergency be given to every household in the CC area.

Possible Purchase of generator – This was discussed. The village hall is not currently wired for a generator but during the recent electrical survey of the Hall Ian asked Hosies to quote for this. After the quote has been received a decision will be made.

Confirmation of future CC meetings – Dates confirmed as follows: - Tuesdays 1 February 5th April, 7th June, 2nd August, 4th October and 6th December 2022.

Police Report – Police Report had been circulated.

Treasurer's Report – Balance stands at £3542.03. There were no financial transactions since the last meeting. The Community Association asked if they could be reimbursed £70 for the Christmas tree. This was agreed.

Covid-19 update – New optional guidance from the Scottish Government issued today. Roddy thanked Evelyn for publishing up to day information on Fintray Cares. Ilene said that lateral flow tests could be picked up from Kinellar Hall.

Community Association update – The Christmas tree was lovely. Ian thanked the Rotary Club for their help in purchasing additional decorations and helping to put them up. The hall hires were down which was expected but worrying. The energy audit first stage was completed which would entail replacement lighting to LEDs, insulation and updating of heaters. Grants are available and the CA will submit an application in due course.

Correspondence received since last meeting - All emails etc have been forwarded by Katherine.

Aberdeenshire Councillors' updates - Martin gave an update on the Council budget. The expected budget gap for next year was £33m but a clearer idea of the budget position would be available at the beginning of February

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 1st February 2022 at 7.30pm by Microsoft Teams.