

STRATHPEFFER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Notes of meeting held on
4 August 2021 at 7:30 pm by
Zoom video call

Date:	Wednesday 4 August 2021
Time:	19:30
Location:	Zoom video call
Present (members):	Ron McAulay, Neil Moscrop, Val Macgregor, Alison Wood and Archie Macnab
Present (public, officials and HC members):	None
Apologies:	Gail Maclean, Peter Maclellan and Cllr Ian Cockburn
Declaration of interest:	None.
Appointment of Minute Secretary:	Ron McAulay

Agenda items		Actions
1.	Minutes of last meeting: Approved.	
2.	Matters arising if not covered elsewhere on agenda: Representative from HC Community Services team to attend a meeting of the CC Ron had yet to organise for someone to attend. Otherwise, all items were noted as either closed or were covered by items on the agenda.	Ron
3.	Strathroy Wind Farm Ron advised that the developer Energie Kontor Ltd had been in touch to tell us that they had lodged an appeal against the planning decision to refuse them planning permission. They had asked if we would be willing to submit a note of support to the Department of Planning and Environment Appeals (DPEA) at the Scottish Government. After much discussion, it was agreed that Ron would write to the DPEA along the following lines: "Strathpeffer CC is, in principle, supportive of the development of wind farms providing the	Ron.

	requirements of the planning officers are met and delivered as part of the development.”	
4.	<p>Next Edition of the Strath Times</p> <p>It was noted that the next edition of the Strath Times should be ready for publication next week. Most articles had been edited and the “laying out” of the paper would follow shortly.</p>	
5.	<p>Heritage Lottery fund (HLF) – proposed joint village application update</p> <p>An update was given as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ron confirmed that the Expression of Interest (EoI) had now been submitted to the HLF. • We should hear the outcome of that application within four working weeks of the submission date which was around a week earlier than the meeting date. • Ron is hopeful we will be successful however, if the HLF recommended some changes to the EoI then these could be done and the EoI resubmitted. • The amount being sought is as much as £2.5m with just short of £1.9m being potentially funded by HLF. The remainder would have to be found through match funding. • Further updates will be made to future meetings. 	
6.	<p>Town Centre Fund (TCF) – 2021</p> <p>Ron reported on <u>progress since the last meeting</u> with this fund as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new tourist brown sign for the east end of the village has now been erected. Thanks go to Peter Walling and his son Matthew who helped Ron to erect it. • Ron has spoken to the developer of the new housing scheme at Kinellan Drive, Compass, and they have agreed to erect three of the eight new fingerposts. Ron is in discussion with volunteers to erect the other five. • The drainage works being carried out by the Residents’ Association on the play park have started and are making good progress. • If the finger posts can be erected for free, then the funds saved may be able to be used for the purchase of an electric trishaw. Alison has spoken with Spokes for Folks and it was suggested that Ron and Alison meet with the organiser of Spokes for Folks to talk through the various issues. 	Alison and Ron.
7.	<p>Flooding and road condition issues in Strathpeffer</p> <p>On the road surfacing works, it was noted that the HC had now completed these works. They had also resurfaced the car park area around the new sweetie shop and cycle shop in the Square. This was very welcome news.</p> <p>On the various works to address the flooding issues, it was noted that a number of gulleys had been cleared out but had subsequently refilled with grit, sand, etc. Ron agreed to contact the Roads team at HC to try and get these and other flooding issues addressed.</p>	Ron.
8.	<p>Boundary Commission – update on position</p> <p>As Cllr Cockburn was on holiday there was no update available. However, Neil advised that the museum had now written to our local MSP asking her to resist the proposed outcomes. It was agreed that Ron would write along similar lines. Neil agreed to send Ron a copy of their letter.</p>	Ron and Neil
9.	<p>Use of the Gazebo in the Square</p> <p>Ron updated all on the keen interest by several groups to use the Gazebo. Most of these groups had been musical groups however, there was now a regular Saturday morning Yoga class and a proposed Zumba class. Currently people are contacting Ron to check availability and Ron has suggested that while the use of the gazebo is free to local community type groups, whoever uses it should collect for and contribute to a local charity. So far Highland</p>	

	Hospice and our own local gardening group have benefited. All were content with these arrangements.	
10.	<p>Wild Camping – Erection of “No Overnight Parking” signs at both Kinellan and Blackmuir Wood access roads</p> <p>The recent appearance of these new signs had raised a number of questions. It was not clear who had erected them and there were differing views about whether they were appropriate. It was suggested that signs advising people to clear away all their mess and to leave by a certain time in the morning (e.g.9am) might be a better more welcoming approach to visitors. All agreed that we did not want to see mess being left behind and all accepted that it was a small minority of campers or campervan users who acted irresponsibly. After much discussion, the following actions were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find out who erected the signs. Was it HC? Ask them what the reasoning behind their actions was. • Suggest an alternative form of wording for the signs which advised of the need to clear up after them and to leave by a set time. 	Ron
11.	<p>Financial Position of the CC</p> <p>Archie confirmed that while there was a good healthy balance in the bank account, two large sums were allocated to matters relating to the Strathpeffer Together Initiative. This would leave an amount around £1,600 in the bank.</p>	
12.	<p>Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hedges along the main A834 It was noted that the hedge cutting by the HC had now started along the back of the public pavement on the A834. Neil mentioned that the owners of the Red House may like their hedge to be included in this work. He agreed to speak to them the next day and to advise Ron who would then pass on the message to the HC team to see if there was still time to include it. • Strathpeffer.org website Archie advised that the website appears to have been hit by a wave of SPAM type emails. Bruce had suggested that it may be wise to move to a new website host. All agreed that Ron should speak with Bruce and if this change was considered the right thing to do and could be done at minimal cost, then Ron should ask Bruce to do so. • Old Fodderty Schoolhouse Val raised concerns that had been brought to her attention relating to storage of spoil down at the old schoolhouse. After much discussion, it was thought this might be work underway by the new owners who were renovating the old schoolhouse. It was agreed that no further action was required at this time and that the matter would be kept under observation. 	Neil and Ron Ron
13.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 1 September 2021 at 7:30pm at the Community Centre. Ron will book a room.</p>	All
Date: 5/8/21		