

STRATHPEFFER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Notes of meeting held on
9 February 2022 at 7:30 pm by
Zoom video call

Date:	Wednesday 9 February 2022
Time:	19:30
Location:	Zoom video call
Present (members):	Val Macgregor, Neil Moscrop, Ron McAulay and Archie Macnab
Present (public, officials and HC members):	Cllr Ian Cockburn
Apologies:	Alison Wood and Peter Maclellan
Declaration of interest:	None.
Appointment of Minute Secretary:	Ron McAulay

Agenda items		Actions
1.	Minutes of last meeting: Approved.	All
2.	Gail Maclean It was noted with deep sadness that Gail had passed away just before Christmas. All agreed that she would be sadly missed. Ron confirmed that he had notified Highland Council.	
3.	Inner Moray Firth Development Plan (IMFDP) – feedback from HC planners All were reminded of the feedback received from the HC planners which sets out the “settled view” of the Council with regard to the proposed IMFDP. This “settled view” generally accords with the view of the Community Council (CC) and it was noted that a further consultation will be held in the spring of 2022. The CC will submit a letter of support at that time and will encourage other members of the community to do so.	
	Works by Scottish Water at the junction of Garden House Brae and the A834 The works by Scottish Water had progressed very well and were due to be clear of the site	

4.	<p>on the following morning allowing the road through the village to reopen. This would be a week ahead of schedule which was very welcome.</p> <p>The community benefit arising from these works has been agreed with Scottish Water as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A short section of path close to the school has been resurfaced. This is part of a safe route to school, • Thirty hi-viz bibs for the kids to wear have been provided to the school, and • The contractor will provide a number of loads of type one stone and whin dust to top up the Chisholm Trail (another safe route to school) with the assistance of local volunteers laying the stone and dust. <p>Ron will liaise with the parent group at the school to help mobilise volunteers for this work.</p>	Ron
5.	<p>Public Toilets in the Village</p> <p>Ron confirmed that an arrangement with HC had been made which involved local members of the community unlocking and locking the toilets at the beginning and end of each day. This arrangement has now been in place for a number of weeks and seems to be operating well. Thanks go to those who are doing the opening and locking.</p>	
6.	<p>Strathroy Wind Farm - Update</p> <p>Ron advised all that the planning appeal by Energie Kontor (EK) for the Strathroy wind farm had been upheld. However, EK appear to be now considering a significant amendment to their proposals to remove one turbine and increase the height of the remaining seven turbines by 30m. This would require a further planning application and they are holding consultation events on the 17/2/22 and 3/3/22 between 2 and 6pm. Details of locations for these events are not yet known but EK has promised to advise Ron. Ron agreed to keep all posted as and when he hears more.</p>	Ron.
7.	<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"> • All finger signs have now been received and with the exception of the new signs being fixed to the two old posts in the Square, all were now in place. • The available funds remaining from this fund amount to around £1.5k. Ron advised that he had emailed the TCF fund team to see if they would approve the remaining funds being used on signage for the Pavilion grounds. He has yet to receive a response and will chase them again. 	Ron
8.	<p>Place Based Investment Programme – 2022 – HC fund</p> <p>This is a new fund which will be available for a total of five years. Two bids had been submitted to this fund for this year. One for the improvement works in the Square and one for the access roads and path network in the new play park. Cllr Cockburn advised that these bids had been considered at the meeting of the Wester Ross, Strathpeffer and Lochalsh committee that same day. The bid for the Square had been rejected due to concerns that the Development Trust may be left with burdens over the quality of work, maintenance, etc. for the new harling, windows, etc.. It was suggested that the owners should submit a similar bid next year in their own name which would help to address these concerns.</p> <p>The bid for the play park was approved which was welcomed.</p>	
9.	<p>Condition of Achterneed Road</p> <p>A discussion was held on the condition of this road and it was agreed that once the current winter demands had passed, Cllr Ian Cockburn would arrange a meeting on site with the Roads area manager to look at the road and discuss what might be done. Val asked that she be invited to the meeting too.</p>	Cllr Cockburn

10.	<p>Christmas Lights</p> <p>It was noted that the Christmas lights were now down and back in the store. A couple of the lights had developed faults which were being looked at to see if they could be repaired easily. All agreed that thanks were due to Joe Burr and his colleague for erecting the lights and subsequently removing them.</p> <p>Ron also pointed out the issue with the lights for the Christmas tree. More lights will be needed for the tree and it was suggested and agreed that we should submit a bid to the EDF wind farm fund for monies to buy additional lights for the tree.</p> <p>Neil made the suggestion that we should try and secure a fund to help pay/or subsidise different events during the year such as an easter event, the Halloween event in the Pavilion gardens, etc. After some discussion, it was agreed that Neil, Archie and Ron should have a chat and then prepare a bid for funding.</p>	Ron. Archie/ Neil/Ron
11.	<p>Financial Update</p> <p>Archie gave his usual update. The bank account is positive with around £3,251 but this includes a sum of £2,500 which is reserved for the Strathpeffer Together initiative.</p>	-
12.	<p>Future meetings to be held in person</p> <p>It was agreed that in line with the new advice from HC, we should hold our next meeting in person. Ron will book a room at the Community Centre. It was also agreed that we should retain the facility of allowing folk to join in using Zoom.</p>	Ron.
13.	<p>Any other business:</p> <p>Signs for Scottish Water works</p> <p>Comments had been received about the signs advising of the road closure not making it clear that the businesses in Strathpeffer were open for business. However, as the road was to be opened the next day, it was agreed that there was no further action required here.</p> <p>Damage to the bollards and railings at the Pavilion</p> <p>Archie confirmed that the Pavilion team were trying to get someone to provide quotes for the work of reinstating the bollards and railings after the two separate accidents/incidents recently.</p>	
14.	<p>Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p>Wednesday 2 March 2021 at 7:30pm at the Community Centre</p>	All
Date: 10/2/22		