

GRANTOWN ON SPEY and VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 21 November 2017 at the Garth Hotel, Grantown at 1900hrs.

Present:	Barry Main (BM)	Chair
	Bill Sadler (BS)	Vice Chair
	Linda Coe (LC)	Secretary
	Beatrice Oliphant (BO)	Treasurer
	Catriona Brown (CB)	
	Fay Hampton (FH)	
	Kenny Kinnaird (KK)	
	Ewan MacGregor (EM)	
In attendance	Steven Park (SP)	Force 9 (items 1 and 2 only)
	Andrew Smith (AS)	Force 9 (items 1 and 2 only)
	Liz Henderson (LH)	CNPA Community Support Manager
	Jeannie Munro (JM)	Resident
Apologies:	Martin Ross (MR)	
	Muriel Cockburn (MC)	Councillor

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

2. Presentation on Clash Gour Windfarm

SP and AS gave a presentation on various aspects of the proposed Clash Gour Windfarm. The proposal is being developed by Force 9 in partnership with EDF Energy who will own the Windfarm. The project proposes up to 63 new wind turbines, with tip heights between 135m and 175m, in the three distinct parcels of land to the southwest, north and east of the current Berry Burn windfarm, which was also developed by Force 9 Energy. The capacity of each turbine is proposed to be 5 MW which gives a maximum capacity for the Windfarm of 315 MW. The size of this proposed development is such that the planning process will be conducted at Scottish Government. The current intention is to make an application under s36 of

the Electricity Act 1989 to the Scottish Government in the summer of 2018 by which time details of the grid connection should be known.

Force 9 highlighted the potential economic benefits to the area arising from the supporting civil works that would be required and could be sourced locally. Once operating there would be a requirement for ongoing maintenance.

Force 9 also highlighted the revenue and profit share opportunities for local communities and confirmed that Grantown is one of the three communities who could benefit. A conference in Elgin was to be held on 24 November to discuss this aspect. Local Energy Scotland had been set up by the Scottish Government to advise communities on these matters. In addition, once the Windfarm was operational it was understood that EdF Energy would put in place a Community Benefit package at the prevailing Scottish Government recommended rate: currently £5,000 per MW of installed capacity, for every year of operation (anticipated to be 25 years) to help fund local community projects.

The Chair thanked SP and AS for a helpful background briefing.

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 October 2017 were approved.

Proposed: BS; Seconded: KK

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Conservation Area BS reported that the Steering Group met on 17 November mostly in preparation for the HC Consultation which was taking place from 29 November until 6 December 2017 in the old Library.

4.2 Notice Board in Square FH reported that the posters to be put in the Noticeboard had been finalised by CNPA and would be put up when the correct replacement perspex had been fitted.

4.3 Old Spey Bridge BS reported that there appeared to be certain difficulties identifying the owner of the bridge which was hampering progress. He also advised that he doubted the funding which was originally identified by HC for repairs would still be available.

4.4 Meeting with Bill Lobban BM provided an update on the yellow lines issue following the meeting with Bill Lobban on 27 October. He believed that progress had been and hoped to have an updated plan as well as a Note of the Meeting for the next Meeting.

Action: BM

4.5 Dog Warden FH reported that she had acquired the required Notices from the Dog Warden and would be posting them in appropriate places. As far as securing enforcement by the Warden she advised that the CC should write to the Warden outlining the complaints. BM agreed to draft an email for review by LC. FH agreed to provide BM with the Warden's contact details.

Action: BM, FH and LC

4.6 Overgrown hedge BM reported that following his email to HC the hedge between Grant House and Ian Charles had been trimmed and had been advised that the remaining hedge trimming was imminent.

5. Treasurer's Report BO advised that she could not update the September bank balance provided at the October Meeting. She further advised that the CC was awaiting the HC grant following provision of the documents required by HC. BM agreed to follow up with Liz Cowie.

Action: BM

6. Planning Report

BS updated the Meeting on the Planning Group discussion on the planning application for 16 houses near Beachen Court. The purpose of the discussion was to identify the points to be made on behalf of the CC at the CNPA planning committee meeting. LH agreed to provide LC with the dates for upcoming Planning Meetings and advised that the CC would be advised two weeks before a meeting if the matter was likely to be on the Agenda with confirmation a week later. This meant very little time to prepare so it was fortunate that some thought has already been given about the points to be made in the limited time we would be given. BS agreed that the script would be worked on further.

Action: BS

7. Grantown Initiative

BS updated the Meeting on the GI meeting on 14 November. GI had discussed the Hogmanay event, the view point path and an upcoming meeting with Drew Hendry on 7 December. BS advised that the GI AGM would be on Tuesday 13 February 2018.

8. Ian Charles Hospital

BM advised that he had received a response from David Alsten which confirmed that Ian Charles would not close before the new hospital opened. It was not entirely clear from the email what was proposed for respite and palliative care in Grantown nor indeed what the plans were for the improvements to the Health Centre. The hospital building had been gifted to the people of Grantown by the Seafield Estate and the CC agreed that BM would follow up with David Alsten how and when the building would be returned to Grantown. BM would also confirm the terms of the gift with the

Seafield Estate. LC agreed to provide a draft letter for BM to send to David Alsten. BS agreed to investigate adding the future use of the hospital building to the Conservation Area consultation.

Action: BM, BS and LC

9. Strathspey Hotel

BS reported on a meeting with Stuart Black of HC to discuss safety and conservation issues. HC were also concerned and would be looking at the options for dealing with the matter. Compulsory purchase by HC was an option provided a suitable business plan is provided. The CC was asked to investigate this option with local groups and HIE for likely sources of financial support. BS agreed to investigate adding this issue to the Conservation Area consultation.

Action: BS

10. General Appearance of the Town

BO reported community concerns at the general untidiness and lack of maintenance in the Square, particularly weeds. She had been advised by HC that the limited funds available had been allocated to winter clearing rather than weeding. BO agreed to discuss this allocation further with HC. Concern had also been expressed about the state of the duck pond and surrounding area. It was understood that the Anagach Woods Trust might be dealing with this and EM agreed to discuss further with Basil Dunlop.

Action: EM

11. Police update

LC advised that she would make contact with Simon Filer at Aviemore regarding future Police attendance at Meetings. BO agreed to follow up speeding issues with Bill Lobban.

Action: BO and LC

12. Correspondence

12.1 Badenoch & Strathspey CC Forum BM advised that he intended to be at the next meeting on Tuesday 5 December.

12.2 CNPA Local Development Plan 2020 CNPA had issued its Main Issues Report for Consultation which would close for comments on 2 March 2018. The Planning Group would review and advise of any comments at the January Meeting.

Action: BS

13. AOCB

13.1 School speed restriction signs The CC was made aware that the 20mph signs outside the primary school were not working. BM agreed to follow up.

Action: BM

14. Next Meeting

The next Meeting would be on **Tuesday 19 December 2017** at 1900 in the Courthouse, hopefully.

Agenda items should be notified to BM and LC by **Saturday 9 December** for inclusion in the Agenda.

The Meeting closed at 2100.