

BIRSE PARISH LIAISON GROUP

Record of Meeting 13th November 2012 at Finzean Old School

Finzean Community Association
Birse Area Community Association
Ballogie Community Association

Finzean Community Council
Birse & Ballogie Community Council
Birse Community Trust

Present:-

John Forster	BCT	Jean McLeod	BCT
Davie Hector	FCC	Guy Haslam	FCA
Dawn Gibbs	BCA	Jane Winton	BACA
Richard Wright	BACA	Brian Robertson	BBCC
Rick Paul (Secretary)	BCT		

Apologies:- Robin Callander BCT

1. Introduction

1.1 JF welcomed committee members and reminded them that the purpose of the meeting was to share information of interest to all. He confirmed that the meeting would be chaired by BCT and draft minutes would be circulated.

1.2 One apology was noted and there were three items for AOB.

2. Last Meeting

2.1 The minutes of the last meeting on 18th January 2012 were approved.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Aberdeenshire Local and Core Paths Plan. J McL reported that there had been no response from the Scottish reporter's unit to Finzean's objection to Tom's Cairn being included in the Core Paths Plan.

3.2 Birse Graveyard Extension. Although approved by Aberdeenshire Council, BR reported that there had been no developments on the ground with Birse Graveyard extension.

3.3 Broadband and Mobile Signals. BR reported that BBCC had unsuccessfully applied to BT for funding to improve broadband speeds, but would re-apply next year. All agreed that mobile reception remains patchy throughout the parish.

3.4 Local Telephone Lists. The lists were met with mixed feelings. It was agreed that they would be circulated to members for consideration.

4. Topics for Discussion.

4.1 Interpretive Panels at Potarch and on the Deeside Way. BCT and BBCC had been consulted by Aberdeenshire Council about the panels at Potarch. BCT had recommended changes. RC will speak to BBCC about the proposed panels on the Deeside Way.

4.2 Road Collisions with Deer. A proposal from the Deer Management Group that deer warning signs should be placed on Corsedardar was not well received, as it was thought that every public road in the parish was subject to danger from deer crossing. Given that any signs resulting from this proposal would be wholly in Finzean, it was suggested that FCC

should take any action needed. It was noted that BCT and the local estates were interested in any information on local road kills of deer that might be passed on to them. .

4.3 Old Schools Proposal. It was confirmed that Members of the BPLG were still very keen that the proposal should go ahead. RC was due to follow up with Aberdeenshire Council after the local Councillors meeting on 5th November.

4.4 Community Representatives List. The list was approved with the following amendment and additions:-

BBCC - Brian Robertson is Treasurer

FCC - Add Stuart Christie

BCA - Add Ken Taylor

4.5 Other Updates and Topics from each Group

BBCC - Planning Applications. BR reported that three planning applications for houses north of Woodside Cottage had been withdrawn and that two applications south of Woodside Cottage had been refused on the grounds of lack of off-road pedestrian access to connect with other developments in Marywell.

Although generally in favour of new housing, BR said that BBCC had long been pressing for safe off-road paths to connect different parts of Ballogie. BBCC requested that BCT consider working with other community groups to take a strategic view of path development in the parish as a whole– for example championing paths from Starrypool to Finzean, Ballogie to the Deeside Way, and Marywell to Ballogie Nursery.

BBCC would attend the Marr Community Forum at Finzean Hall on Wednesday 21st November

FCC - DH reported that FCC had objected to proposals to turn the Feughside Inn into housing on the grounds of historical importance, and loss of amenity, employment and tourism.

FCA - GH reported that FCA was seeking funding to tarmac Finzean Hall car park.

5. Any Other Business

5.1 BCT Website. Committee members discussed the BCT website and whether it could be used to promote local events. They agreed that it was a good idea in principle, but difficult to keep up to date. It was suggested that BCT could consider putting in links to other CC's and CA's websites. .

5.2 Data Protection Act. Members recommended that BCT investigate the implications of the Data Protection Act with reference to personal information held on computers.

5.3 Birse and Feughside Church. It was noted that the local Church of Scotland presbytery had agreed that the current ministerial vacancy in the parish could be filled and discussions with prospective Ministers had begun. It was hoped that a new Minister would be in place in the first half of next year.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be hosted by FCA at Finzean Hall, 7:30 start, in April 2013 – date to be confirmed.