

BIRSE PARISH LIAISON GROUP

Minutes of Meeting in Finzean Old School Archive on 8th March 2016

Present:

Birse Area Community Association
Ballogie Community Association
Finzean Community Association
Finzean Community Council
Birse Community Trust

Richard Wright, Jane Winton
Dawn Gibbs
Alan Bennett
Andrew Wright
Doug Boyle, Robin Callander
Rick Paul

1. **Introduction**

It was confirmed that Doug Boyle would chair the meeting for BCT and that BCT will circulate a draft record of the Meeting. Apologies were noted from Jean McLeod (BCT), Davie Hector (FCC) and David Younie (B2C2). The Agenda was confirmed and one item noted for AOB.

2. **Last Meeting**

The Record of the Meeting on 22nd September 2015 was confirmed as agreed.

3. **Matters Arising**

5.4 The Fungle: It was noted that BCT is still involved in discussions about the improving the route of the Fungle in and around Balloch for public access.

5.6 Slewdrum: It was noted that BCT hopes to conclude the purchase of the additional 5 ha of land at Slewdrum before the end of March.

5.7 BCT Membership: It was noted that at the end of 2015, 7 months after BCT's AGM, it had 252 signed up members or 40% of those on the Electoral Register.

4. **BPLG**

4.1 BPLG Groups: It was noted that the constitutions for FCA, BACA, FCA and B2C2 are now on BCT's website, with FCC still due. It was agreed that each group's AGM Minutes would be posted on the website, with copies to be sent to RP.

4.2 FCA Office Bearers: It was agreed that the list of office bearers 1975-2015 should be amended to add house names, and then posted on the website.

4.3 Local Telephone Lists: It was agreed that BCT would circulate the latest lists.

5. **Other Topics for Discussion**

5.1 Flood Damage: BCT reported on the serious flood damage at the Bucket Mill and Sawmill as a result of the spates over the New Year period, with damage to sluice gates, lades and most seriously, the Sawmill weir, which burst and washed out. It was noted that re-building the weir will be a major challenge and that, while BCT is currently applying for grants, BCT would be grateful for donations and other assistance to help with the re-build. It was noted that there was also damage to the Finzean Community Path near the Farm Shop and that further repairs are due.

5.2 Community Paths: It was noted that, while dog mess continues to be a problem for the Ballogie and Finzean paths, more bins and signs seem to be helping.

5.3 Finzean School Wood: It was noted that BCT currently expect Guy Haslam's contractor to start building the John Forster memorial in April.

5.4 Finzean Hall: It was noted that Finzean Estate has offered to contribute to tarring more of the car park and that the remaining area is leased by BCT. It was agreed that FCA and BCT will keep in touch about developing a project to do this.

5.5 BCT Strategic Plan 2016-2020: It was noted that BCT's draft Plan will be circulated to BPLG groups for comments when it is ready, and that suggestions for potential projects that BCT might be able to carry out in future are welcome.

5.6 Glen Dye Windfarm: It was noted that FCC and FCA are monitoring this potential development for possible impacts on Finzean and whether there might be community funding opportunities if the project is to go ahead.

5.7 Housing: It was noted that there has been a significant increase in the number of houses in the parish over recent decades and that new builds continue, as reflected in the planning applications considered by FCC and BBCC. It was noted that BCT would be interested in monitoring the rate of new housing as part of understanding the development of the local communities.

6. Updates from Groups

(a) BACA - RW reported that BACA had hosted the post Remembrance Day refreshments in Birse Hall, that they had a successful AGM in December and that this year's annual BBQ is to be on 18th June.

(b) FCA - AB reported that FCA held a successful ceilidh which raised over £4000 for flood relief, that they have organised further defibrillator training in April and that their AGM will be on 21st June.

(c) FCC - AW reported that FCC is still in discussions with the Council about signage at the East Lodge junction, that they are co-operating with the police over a speeding initiative, and that discussion about a new school car park are ongoing.

(d) BCA - DG reported that BCA have organised a path opening ceremony and Easter egg hunt on 26th March and that they have obtained a plaque with help from MAP. They are hoping to lease a section of the park below the Nursery for a community shelter shed and possibly a children's playground, and they can now use the main room in the Ballogie Nursery for meetings and other purposes.

All groups confirmed that there have been no changes to the members of their committees since the last BPLG meeting.

7. Any Other Business

7.1 BCT AGM: It was noted that BCT's AGM will be on 17th May in Finzean Hall.

8. Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting will be hosted by BCA at Ballogie Nursery on Tuesday 8th November at 7:30 pm.

It was noted that BCT will email Group Chairs for any suggested agenda items, before circulating a draft Agenda for the meeting.
