

Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust Minutes of Meeting 24 8 10

1. Present: H. Grainger, A. Sutherland, F. Ellam, S. Ferguson, M. Bateman, W. Fraser (for final 15 minutes).
2. There were no apologies.
3. The previous minutes were approved by H. Grainger and seconded by S. Fergusson.
4. Matters arising from the last meeting: H. Grainger's attendance had been omitted from the minutes. This was duly noted.
5. S. Fergusson had not yet attended the thermal imaging operator's course but it was agreed that the Trust should meet the cost of £99. This includes the use of the specialist camera by arrangement. An enquiry regarding a survey had been received from a householder in Fortrose and it was agreed that S. Ferguson would communicate with him.
6. Application to extend the Foyers school car park £992.88
Background : It is against Council policy for school playgrounds and car parks to coincide. The existing parking area outside the playground is only large enough for 3 cars and is usually occupied by staff vehicles so when parents drop or pick up children they have to open the school gate and turn inside the playground.
The school inspector has highlighted this safety concern. Although some children walk to school a number from Lower Foyers are delivered and picked up by parents.
Highland Councillors have said there are no plans to close Foyers school and should it be proposed there would have to be a very full public consultation. There are currently less than 20 pupils on the roll, the school house is empty and has no direct vehicular access except through the playground and its head teacher function is shared with Farr school (Mrs. Lamont).
It was agreed that H. Grainger would discuss with the applicant Morag Cameron. (I have done this since this minute was taken and she has emphasised the chaos at either end of the school day and suggested the trustees attend a parent council meeting). It also has to be said that this problem does seem to be of the education authority's making.
A decision was deferred until the next meeting.
7. Boleskine Camanachd Club application - £1000.
It is still not clear why the present savings cannot be used for purchase of the equipment and has the Farr Community fund been asked to contribute? A decision was deferred until these points could be answered.
8. The Wade Bridge Application. Work is ongoing.
9. Errogie Smiddy. The Secretary gave an update on the ongoing discussions with Highland Council planners and road engineers.

10. Energy Saving. The bills for the phase one works are being met directly by the Treasurer.
11. There was a general discussion on the incentives being offered to energy schemes which can contribute power into the national grid and whether the Trust should pursue such initiatives. For the meantime it was agreed that the Trust should explore the possibility of providing “A” rated appliances to domestic householders in the area and to gauge demand by placing a preliminary advertisement in the next Boleskine Bulletin seeking interested parties.
12. Current financial position: The first variable payment element from Glendoe up to March 09 when production ceased is £16,000 and could be up to £100,000 p.a. in future to provide an annual income of up to £130,000. Currently the Trust has approximately £100,000 in the bank.
13. The Trust received a thank you letter from Stratherrick Primary School for their grant towards school trips.
14. The Secretary submitted and had approved an expenses bill for the period from 20th. April 2010 for £298.20
15. Date of next meeting Tuesday 5th. October 2010 Stratherrick Hall 7.30.

A. Sutherland (Secretary)