



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust held in Stratherrick Hall, Gorthleck on Wednesday 30 November 2016 at 7.30 p.m.**

<b>Present</b>	Peter Faye, Frank Ellam, Ken Sinclair, Stewart MacPherson, Sharon Ferguson, Hugh Nicol, Gordon McAndie
<b>Chair</b>	Zoe Iliffe
<b>In Attendance</b>	Laura Walker-Knowles (Administrator), Fiona Morrison (SSE), Marianne Townsley (SSE), Sian Glanrid-Jones (resident), Anna Low (resident), Jane O'Donovan (BCC), Lyne Wood (BCC)
<b>Apologies</b>	Graeme Ambrose
<b>Members</b>	Twenty-seven Ordinary Members

## **1. WELCOME**

The Chair informed the meeting that twenty-seven members were present and the meeting was therefore quorate and **declared** the meeting formally **open**.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chair referred to the letter and notice of meeting which had been produced and circulated to members as required. The content was agreed by the meeting with no objections from anyone present.

## **2. CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair presented her Annual Report giving an overview of the actions of the Trust over the year and advised that this could be viewed on the Trust's website. This included an update on the various projects being undertaken by the Trust. The Chair advised there would be an opportunity for questions later in the evening.

## **3. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE DIRECTORS' REPORT**

Frank Ellam, Finance Director introduced himself and presented the Finance Director's Financial Year End Report and Annual Accounts for year ending 30 June 2016. Frank explained the statutory requirements for accounts for a company limited by guarantee and talked through the Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet. Frank also updated that following negotiations with Stronelairg the profit and loss projections for 2017/18 will substantially increase income. In relation to the market value of investments Frank explained that the value was steadily rising, despite the Brexit vote.

The Report and Accounts of Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust for the year ended 30 June 2016 were considered and noted by the Members. Frank called for questions from the floor, but no questions were raised.

#### **4. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

Four completed nomination forms had been received. The following Directors were duly elected to the four vacancies. Sharon Ferguson, Julie Murphy, Garry Page and Terry McArvill-Ellis. The Chair declared them Member Directors to the Board.

The Chair explained that Gordon McAndie had stepped down and had been proposed by the Community Council as their nominated Director to the Trust and this would be discussed at the Board's post-AGM meeting.

***8.55 p.m. The Directors retired to the board meeting.***

**9.15 p.m. The Chair welcomed everyone back to the meeting and advised that following nomination and decision at the Board meeting she would continue as Chair again for the year.**

#### **OPEN QUESTIONS**

1. As a grateful prior recipient of sporting grants it was suggested that recipients may be very happy to wear a t-shirt/hat or display a car sticker with recognition of sponsorship/funding by the Trust. It was also commented that Frank Ellam's presentation of the figures was very clear and thanks to Frank were given.
2. Request for an update on Broadband. Sharon Ferguson, Vice Chair, explained that the Trust broadband team had been attending various meetings and there are many different solutions for different parts of the area. 4G is helpful but only for people with the right equipment, overall it will have to be a mix of different solutions and it will not be a blanket solution to all areas at once. The Chair reinforced it is the Trust's plan to make sure that everybody in the area, if possible, will benefit from a good broadband service.
3. Request for a rundown of the ideas for the Trust land at Riverside. The Chair said that ideas and suggestions so far were a covered play area, different sports pitches, changing facilities and allotments. Boleskine Community Care would like a perimeter footpath available for everyone to use. Other ideas are a community orchard and community gardens. Any developments would be sympathetic to the area and not imposing.
4. Are the Trust involved in the community – group Inverfarigaig project? Patrick Haston, the Chair of the Inverfarigaig Group, introduced himself and gave brief synopsis of the project. Trust involvement to date has been a start-up grant for the group. The group was set up in April and had their first official meeting in May. Hopefully most residents will have received a leaflet inviting them to a walk-through of the project on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 1 p.m. Mr Haston stated that the group's plan is to engage consultants to advise on what is possible and how much of the forestry land could be purchased. Any purchase could potentially attract financial support from the Scottish Land Fund.

However, this is dependent on a viable business plan and any final decision would ultimately be based on what the community wants.

5. Catriona Fraser, on behalf of the Community Council thanked the Trust for all their hard work. Thanks were returned to the Council from the Chair on behalf of the Trust. There is a good spirit of co-operation between the two bodies.
  
6. What are the Trust's future plans for our younger generation who may not be sport minded, such as youth clubs/after school and extra groups? Sharon Ferguson advised that a new group to represent the interests of that age group had recently been formed (Friends of the Royal Inverness Academy - FIRA) because it had been noted there was a distinct gap in funding opportunities for teenagers via the Trust. Sharon stressed the view that we still need more and new people to "make the magic happen", so volunteers to run youth clubs or similar are essential if these things are to happen in our area. Peter Faye suggested younger residents take the opportunity to join FIRA as junior members and as has been offered, form a junior committee and get involved in local activities; such experience would hopefully encourage them to be our future councillors and Trust members.

The Chair encouraged anyone with any concerns about the Trust to make the Board aware, as the Trust is here to listen and act in the interests of the members and residents of our area.

The Chair **declared** the meeting **closed** at 9.25 p.m.

Signed by Chair	_____
Date	_____