

# STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST LIMITED



## Chair's bulletin September 2016

Dear Member

Welcome to the latest edition of the Chair's bulletin. I hope you continue to find these Bulletins (that are just for Members) and the latest issue of Stratherrick & Foyers News interesting. Do remember if you would like to write an article, publish a letter or send in photographs for the News, we'd would love to hear from you.

### **LIGHTBULB SCHEME**

I am pleased to say that there was an excellent uptake of the Trust's recent Lightbulb Scheme and around 130 households in our community have benefitted from receiving up to 20 low energy lightbulbs from the Trust. Some orders were received just outside the deadline and other residents have recently enquired if the Scheme is still open. The Board therefore decided to extend the Scheme one last time until the end of October, however the deadline will not be extended again.

If you wish to receive an application form and details of the bulbs available under the Scheme please contact Steven Watson ([pc@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:pc@sfctrust.org.uk)) for details. Any orders received after 31 October 2016 will not be delivered.

### **FOYERS BAY**

Those of you who have been to the Lochside at Foyers recently will have noticed that the former fish farm has been cleared. You may also recall that the Trust first publicised ideas for a project around the Bay area at its Community Consultation Open Day in March this year. The positive response from that consultation and site clearance organised between SSE and the former fish farm operators has permitted the Trust to begin discussions with SSE with a view to the Trust acquiring an area of land at the Bay. These negotiations are ongoing. On top of that a team of volunteers (involving Trust directors, Steven Watson and residents with relevant knowledge) have been meeting regularly over the last few months to bring together proposals for a Bay project. One concern that residents did express was "jet-skiers" and this is being dealt with as part of the project. We will keep you all informed as soon as we can report further progress. Of course not everyone is "pro" change, some just want to see the status quo remain but the Team are trying to resolve all the issues to enable us to create an improved area whereby the whole community benefits.

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

It's that time of year again when we start to organise the Annual General Meeting. The AGM will be held at Stratherrick Hall on Wednesday, 30 November 2016. You will probably start to see public notices mid-October but Members will also receive their formal invitation.

As happens every year, a number of existing directors will step down from the Board. If there are more members who nominate themselves than vacancies, there will then be an election at the AGM. Remember, while the AGM is open to all residents, whether they are Members of the

Trust or not, only Members can elect the directors and decide who should sit on the Board and continue the work of the Trust.

### **BROADBAND/4G MOBILE**

Thanks to everyone who completed the Trust's Broadband Survey. We delivered around 380 surveys and are pleased to say that we received over 120 completed questionnaires. The results are currently being assessed. It's safe to say that the majority of respondents had either a poor or non-existent Broadband service. We will now be able to compile some relevant statistics from your responses to be able to decide our best course of action.

The Trust also understands from Councillor Margaret Davidson that 4G should be available in our area in the coming months. This will help boost mobile broadband services and will go some way to bridge some of the gaps but the Trust will continue to look at what it can do to improve broadband in our whole area.

### **LAND AT RIVERSIDE, FOYERS**

You will recall from Issue 2 of the Stratherrick & Foyers News that the Trust had asked for groups to come forward with ideas for what they wanted on the land at Riverside. The Trust has recently organised a meeting of all the relevant active groups from our area to discuss options and proposals with them. If your group has not been invited but you think you'd like to send someone along to the meeting, please contact Steven Watson.

That's the news for now. Thank you for your continuing support for the Trust and please do contact us if you have any comments; we appreciate any feedback. If you do have any questions, or even better would like to be involved with the Trust, please get in touch.

Zoe Iliffe  
Chair  
Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust Ltd

#### **Trust contact details**

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#### **Community Trust Directors**

Zoe Iliffe, Chair  
Sharon Ferguson, Vice Chair  
Frank Ellam, Finance Director  
Martin Donnelly, Liaison Director  
Graeme Ambrose  
Peter Faye  
Stewart MacPhearson  
Hugh Nicol  
Gordon McAndie  
Ken Sinclair