



The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

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Meeting of the Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres held in the Tolbooth, Forres, on Thursday 15 th October 2015

Chair: S. Ferris

1. Attendees: E. Hayward, G. Murdoch, M. Walker, G. Hilditch, J. Guthrie, H. Shaw

Also Present : Cllrs L. Creswell, A McLean and A. Skene, G. McCartney(Forres Gazette); S. MacIennan (Minute Taker), Police Scotland & 6 Members of the Public (M.O.T.P.)

Apologies: Apologies for absence came from S.Noble, C. Rodgers, J.Duncan , Cllr Alexander

(FCC – Forres Community Council : TMC - The Moray Council FAF – Forres Area Forum)

Topic	Discussion	Action
2.	<p>Police Scotland Update: PC Jad Leach delivered the report. Motoring: Female,46, charged with dangerous driving and driving under the influence of drink or drugs. Four days later the same female was kept for court after being charged with driving under the influence of drink or drugs. She was released on bail and awaits trial. Male,46,charged with driving without a licence. Drug offences: two males,16,charged with possession of Cannabis; Male,35,charged with possession of Cannabis. Other offences: Male,22,charged and put to court for smashing window of Police vehicle whilst it was parked unattended. He was later released on curfew bail.Male,37,charged with playing excessively loud music and failing to desist when warned. Several items of stereo equipment have been seized. Female,44,charged with assault of male,21,on Forres High Street.</p> <p>Feedback from previous FCC meeting: Attention has been given to areas of Anderson Drive and MacDonald Drive following reports of excessive speed. There were few instances when Police were in the area. The issue of hazardous parking outside fast food outlets on High Street has been highlighted to officers and tickets have been issued. The initial approach is to educate drivers. Responding to a query PC Leach said that it is permissible to park on a single yellow line outside the designated time scale. The increased difficulties during the period when new paving is being laid were highlighted. E. Hayward suggested that owners of the Fast Food outlets be asked to display notices about dangerous parking. Local Priorities: In connection with Operation Regard and the Moray School Watch initiative Pilmuir Primary and Forres Academy will be the subject of additional patrols during the October break.</p>	
3.	<p>Public Session: MOTP asked for an update on Castlehill Church. She is concerned what will happen when winter is past. The owner has not made any improvements and three dates for action have been passed. It was reported that Cllr Alexander said that progress is being made and he has not given up on pursuing the issue. E. Hayward reported that she has contacted Craig Wilson and Historic Scotland. She has received papers about demolition of listed buildings. It is a lengthy and complex process.</p>	

	Another MOTP suggested that the least that should be done is to board up the building to prevent access for birds and vermin.																												
4.	<p>Ratification of Minutes of 25th June 2015</p> <p>The Minutes were proposed by E.Hayward, seconded by J. Guthrie and ratified by the Vice Chair, S. Ferris. E. Hayward asked that all those receiving draft minutes respond to Minute Taker with any amendments or a nil return within days.</p>	ALL																											
5.	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>Traffic Calming Measures: E. Hayward reported that Kevin Price has advised that the speed survey at Anderson Crescent has yet to be carried out. The survey at Mundole has not been carried out to date. S. Ferris commented that it is taking a very long time.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Playpark Equipment: The survey of equipment at Randolph Lane will be carried out as soon as possible. The grass at Corrou Court has been cut following a complaint by a resident.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Lochyhill Water Issues: It was pointed out that the original report stated that the Treatment Works does not have the capacity for additional housing. It is now stated that there is adequate capacity. S. Ferris proposed that E. Hayward make contact to ask which report is correct.</td> <td>EH</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Mannachie Tall Trees: G. Hilditch visited the site and the issue has been referred to Altyre Estate. Mosset Burn: E. Hayward reported that the overhanging trees at the Old Brig site had been inspected and there is no flood risk.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Forres Groups Contacts: FCC members are asked to hand in contact information as soon as possible.</td> <td>ALL</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Forres 20/20 Vision (PFR - Planning for Real): The Town Hall has been booked for the drop in sessions to create the model. A logo has been chosen and a press release has been prepared. Information is available on Facebook and Twitter.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Forres Lights: G. Murdoch reported that a visit will be made by the steering group to Pitlochry to view The Enchanted Forest event and continue research into costs and logistics.</td> <td>GM</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Drumduan Upper School: S. Ferris reported that this issue has been addressed.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>FCC Vacancies: FCC members are urged to continue to seek candidates for the two vacancies.</td> <td>ALL</td> </tr> </table>		Traffic Calming Measures: E. Hayward reported that Kevin Price has advised that the speed survey at Anderson Crescent has yet to be carried out. The survey at Mundole has not been carried out to date. S. Ferris commented that it is taking a very long time.			Playpark Equipment: The survey of equipment at Randolph Lane will be carried out as soon as possible. The grass at Corrou Court has been cut following a complaint by a resident.			Lochyhill Water Issues: It was pointed out that the original report stated that the Treatment Works does not have the capacity for additional housing. It is now stated that there is adequate capacity. S. Ferris proposed that E. Hayward make contact to ask which report is correct.	EH		Mannachie Tall Trees: G. Hilditch visited the site and the issue has been referred to Altyre Estate. Mosset Burn: E. Hayward reported that the overhanging trees at the Old Brig site had been inspected and there is no flood risk.			Forres Groups Contacts: FCC members are asked to hand in contact information as soon as possible.	ALL		Forres 20/20 Vision (PFR - Planning for Real): The Town Hall has been booked for the drop in sessions to create the model. A logo has been chosen and a press release has been prepared. Information is available on Facebook and Twitter.			Forres Lights: G. Murdoch reported that a visit will be made by the steering group to Pitlochry to view The Enchanted Forest event and continue research into costs and logistics.	GM		Drumduan Upper School: S. Ferris reported that this issue has been addressed.			FCC Vacancies: FCC members are urged to continue to seek candidates for the two vacancies.	ALL	
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6.	<p>Moray Councillors' Reports:</p> <p>Cllr Skene: Heldon and Laich Election: The election of an Independent candidate means that the present administration will continue. Teacher Summit: Representatives of 7 North East local authorities attended a summit with the Cabinet Secretary for Education. The present difficulties in recruiting staff were made very clear. TMC has met staffing requirements for this year's census and will not be charged for shortage. Children and Young People: Proposals are being formulated for re-zoning of Secondary Schools and consultation opportunities will be provided. It is proposed that all pupils living in the Alves Catchment Area will transfer to Forres Academy. Forres Station Upgrade: The public information session was well attended. 50 parking spaces are to be provided at the new station. Cllr Skene thinks that more spaces will be needed when a more regular service between Elgin and Inverness is begun. Kinloss Church will be celebrating its 250th</p>																												

	<p>Anniversary with an Open Day on Saturday 17th October.</p> <p>Cllr McLean: TMC has identified derelict buildings in Moray and is contacting owners, where possible, to assess future plans which may include compulsory purchase and demolition. There are 4 properties in Forres to be assessed. Moravia Museum will have an Opening Ceremony on Saturday 12th October. A96 Dualling: Rafford residents are unhappy with one of the options for the new road. They will be contacting Community Councils to seek support. Network Rail will issue a leaflet about the improvements to be made to all houses from Inverness to Aberdeen.</p> <p>Cllr Creswell: Integrated Health and Social Care is progressing with partnerships growing. There will be consultation meetings in November to consider priorities. Cllr Creswell is keen to get a local meeting group to look at wellbeing. Clean Up Projects: Any group requiring equipment for litter picks etc should contact Fiona Burnett who will advise and give support.</p> <p>Network Rail: The team listened to local views and will adapt the plans where appropriate. Living Golf: Cllr Creswell attended sessions in Forres and Lossiemouth to see the support and tuition given to those with a health challenge.</p> <p>Tsi Moray Awards: Forres was well represented at the ceremony and volunteers recognised for the contributions they make to the Forres area.</p>	
7.	<p>Planning Issues:</p> <p>It was agreed to invite Robert Grant of Springfield Homes to the January meeting to make a presentation about R3 Grantown Road and R3 Long plans. This will be in advance of public meetings which are planned for early 2016.</p>	EH
8.	<p>Chair's Report:</p> <p>a) Community Council Power Point Presentation: S. Noble attended the October meeting of Forres Area Forum and gave the presentation its first airing. It was well received by the group. S. Ferris will make adjustments to transitions and the final version should be available by December.</p>	SF
9.	<p>Secretary's Report:</p> <p>a) E. Hayward has limited the amount of paper work being emailed to Forres Community Councillors. The Chair of the JCC has received very few names for the Digicc training courses on offer to CC Members.</p> <p>b) Common Good Fund: E. Hayward has received verification that a query about Forres Mechanics rental will not be a cost to the fund. Charges are made when Financial or Legal Departments have to make lengthy searches for information.</p>	EH
10.	<p>Treasurer's Report:</p> <p>a) No change from previous meeting.</p> <p>b) S. Ferris asked for approval to purchase a wreath from Royal British Legion for the Remembrance Parade. E. Hayward will lay the wreath this year.</p>	SF EH
11.	<p>Group and Representatives' Reports:</p> <p>a) S. Ferris: Transition Town Forres Garden Group will hold the AGM on Sunday 25th October from 2pm to 4pm. There are plots available at a cost of £25 per annum and there is no waiting list.</p> <p>b) G. Hilditch: Culture Day was very successful and the town was busy with a wide range of activities on offer throughout the day.</p> <p>c) J. Guthrie: Forres Academy News Group (FANG) reported about the Mount Dora exchange visit in the Forres Gazette. The two</p>	

	<p>Forres representatives are enjoying their visit to Mount Dora.</p> <p>d) H Shaw: Forres Heritage Trust won its category in the Heritage Angels Awards. There is no financial award but the recognition of the group's efforts is very well deserved.</p>	
12.	<p>Any other Competent Business:</p> <p>a) Macbeth Costumes Displays: E. Hayward encouraged the public to visit the displays from the recent Macbeth film which may be seen at the Falconer Museum, Brodie Castle, Elgin Museum and Johnsons Mill, Elgin.</p> <p>b) Forres High Street: E. Hayward suggested that there be a 20 mph speed limit for Forres High Street. It was felt that through the day traffic is slow moving but it would restrict speed at night. Other communities have this restriction. In Nairn High Street traffic calming measures have been installed. G. Murdoch suggested that to discourage HGVs travelling along High Street a sign should be installed at the foot of Bridge Street reading: <i>No HGVs except for deliveries</i>. Cllr Skene suggested that a sign at the foot of Market Street directing HGVs travelling to the west to go around the roundabout and head towards Elgin may help the traffic flow and reduce congestion. S. Ferris asked E. Hayward to write to Kevin Price to enquire about regulations for speed limits, traffic calming and signage.</p> <p>c) H. Shaw drew attention to an item on Facebook which claimed that FCC has done nothing about the raised kerb at Cumming Street which has caused several accidents. E. Hayward said that TMC has responded to say that the kerb is at this height to prevent lorries from mounting the pavement. Cllr Skene offered to take this forward.</p> <p>d) MOTP reported that there is a cobbled area behind the Co-op next to the disabled parking spaces which is dangerous for those alighting from vehicles. S. Ferris asked if it is TMC or Co-op responsibility. E. Hayward will contact Kevin Price.</p> <p>e) Overhanging branches: G. Murdoch reported that several properties in Forres have overhanging branches which are restricting access. The hedge at Transition Town Forres (TTF) and Christie's Elite Nursery is growing further and further in to the roadway. S. Ferris told the meeting that TTF pays TMC to cut hedge.</p>	<p>EH</p> <p>Cllr Skene</p> <p>EH</p>
13.	<p>Forthcoming Events: E. Hayward is asked to invite Community Councillors from <i>Kinloss and Findhorn</i> and <i>Dyke and Landward</i> to the next FCC meeting and social gathering in December.</p>	EH
14.	<p>Date of next Meeting: Thursday 19th November 2015 in The Tolbooth at 7.15pm.</p>	

Meeting ended: 8.50pm