



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 15th September 2015

Chair: S. Noble

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

Also Present : Cllr Alexander, Cllr Creswell, Cllr McLean, T.McLaren (Forres Gazette); S. MacLennan (Minute Taker), Police Scotland & 7 Members of the Public (M.O.T.P.)

Apologies: Apologies for absence came from S. Ferris, C. Rodgers, J.Duncan

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

Topic	Discussion	Action
2.	<p>Police Scotland Update: J. Guthrie read out the report submitted by Sgt. Scott Brander. Assault: Male,22, charged for pushing another male against a moving vehicle; Male,15, charged for striking another male with a bottle. Motoring: Male,30, charged with drink driving on Bogton Road. Theft: Two males charged for theft from a motor vehicle on Cumming Street. Male, 23, charged for using threatening and aggressive behaviour and vandalism. Feedback: Police are aware of ongoing issues at Logie Park when youths are intruding in the evenings and causing annoyance. Specific Crime Patrols will be carried out. Response to Local Priorities: Operation Cedar – Patrols will continue to focus on poor driving standards by means of education and enforcement to increase road safety. Force wide Activities: Operation Avon – Officers will undertake focussed foot patrols to reduce vandalism specifically in relation to Pilmuir Primary School and area. E. Hayward raised the issue of dangerous parking at Fast Food outlets on the High Street. Kevin Price has referred this to Police Scotland. Residents in Anderson Crescent and Macdonald Drive are concerned that some vehicles are being driven at excessive speeds and endangering youngsters playing in the area. There has been a request for traffic calming measures to be provided. E. Hayward will write to Inspector McCrudden. Officers present will also report back and seek to monitor the speeds.</p>	EH
3.	<p>Public Session:</p> <p>a) MOTP asked about progress with the issue of the infestation of flies in the vicinity of Castlehill Church. E. Hayward contacted Historic Scotland and spoke to a colleague of Simon Montgomery who confirmed that it is a complex issue to address the problem of listed buildings in poor repair. The onus is on The Moray Council. Cllr Alexander reported that TMC has given the owner until 20th September to organise cleaning of the building. There will be Health and Safety issues for any tradesmen working on the site. S. Noble asked about pest control but the state of the building will prohibit access. He visited the site and there is a stench from an air vent at the base of the wall. The long term solution is the responsibility of</p>	

	<p>the owner.</p> <p>b) Planning Application: G. Murdoch and G. Hilditch took seats in the public area because they have an interest in the application. The application is to extend the factory at Murdoch Brothers Butchers involving the purchase of part of the playground at Anderson's Primary School. MOTP 1 listed his concerns emphasising that he has no objections to business expansion: No public notice of sale of ground; No change of use from playground to commercial site; Reduction in size of play area; Over development in Conservation Area; No landscaping included; Contrary to Local Plan; Increase in traffic flow; Impact on parking and service area at rear of businesses and flats and Questions about construction in a land locked area which will necessitate use of school playground. MOTP 2 purchased the former Learning Centre and was not informed of the planning application prior to purchase and is concerned about TMC Planning procedures. His other concerns are: The development is manufacturing and there may be noise, dust and disruption to an office environment; the development may affect the structure of his building as it will be one metre away; the development is for 2 storeys which will block out light; the value of his property will be reduced; TMC has offered the land without advertising or offering to the highest bidder and Parking for employees will be compromised. The Chair of Anderson's Parent Council reported that the Council, although aware of the plans, had not been consulted by TMC which is their statutory right. The objections are: Lack of consultation; Health and Safety during building works in playground; Noise disruption to the learning process and access through the playground. The plans include the installation of an all weather pitch on land between the Car Park and the Museum Store.</p> <p>The applicant responded to the concerns: The development will create more jobs; There will be no increase in present service traffic; No problems with noise are envisaged; Detailed discussions have taken place with TMC to address construction, access and the new play area; TMC will be recompensed for use of parking areas; The line of the building will be no higher than the school; TMC, Policy and Resources, the school and the Education Department are all aware of the plans. He is confident that all will comply with present standards.</p> <p>There are 30 objections registered to date. The closing date is 19th September. It was decided that FCC would ask for an extension to give time to respond and will organise a site visit if the request is granted.</p>	EH				
5.	<p>Ratification of Minutes of 25th June 2015</p> <p>The Minutes were proposed by E.Hayward, seconded by G.Hilditch and ratified by the Chair, S. Noble.</p>					
6.	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="368 1899 1382 2130"> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1899 459 2018"></td> <td data-bbox="459 1899 1382 2018"> <p>Public Toilets: S. Noble reported that the Leys Road toilets will be locked by Co op staff at 8pm until the end of September. There is no information about Grant Park Toilets.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 2018 459 2130"></td> <td data-bbox="459 2018 1382 2130"> <p>Victoria Wine Shop: The property agent has reported that negotiations for lease are at an advanced stage. The lessee has premises in Forres at present.</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>Public Toilets: S. Noble reported that the Leys Road toilets will be locked by Co op staff at 8pm until the end of September. There is no information about Grant Park Toilets.</p>		<p>Victoria Wine Shop: The property agent has reported that negotiations for lease are at an advanced stage. The lessee has premises in Forres at present.</p>	
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	Playpark Equipment: Ken Kennedy has responded that the assessor is ill at present. When he returns he will advise if Randolph Lane equipment has to be replaced. Other developments will proceed as planned.	EH
	Lochyhill Water Issues: E. Hayward will continue to press for a reply. Item for October Agenda.	EH/SN
	Mannachie Tall Trees: G. Hilditch has tried to contact Altyre Estate without success. He will continue to make contact. Item for October Agenda.	GH EH/SN
	Forres Groups Contacts: Samantha Fraser is collating groups in FCC area outwith Forres Burgh. Cllr Creswell suggested that it will be helpful to have a brief descriptor of the group e.g Aims, activities etc.	
	Forres 2020 Vision (PFR - Planning for Real): The maps have been printed and materials procured. A venue for mounting and painting the maps and storage of materials is being organised. Bob Kenny has joined the group. Samantha Fraser and Ewan Watson are preparing a press release and social media publicity.	
	Drumduan Upper School: E. Hayward has obtained plans from TMC and passed to S. Ferris. He will report at October Meeting.	SF
	FCC Promotion: Tracey Rae is delighted with the Power Point. S. Noble will send to all. S. Ferris is adding the finishing touches.	SN/SF
	Moray Council Web Update: Tracey Rae has left her post. At present there is no information about a replacement.	
	FCC Vacancies: M. Walker reported that someone has expressed an interest. Cllr Creswell suggested that a young person be sought.	
	Market Street Junction: E. Hayward contacted Police Scotland about Waterford and Invererne junctions. It may take some time for Freedom of Information answers to be provided.	
	Forres Area Forum: S. Noble will attend the October meeting on Wednesday 7 th October.	
	Joint Meeting of Local CCs: There does not appear to be the interest to have regular joint meetings. Minutes of meetings are on TMC website. If there are any matters of mutual concern delegates may attend each others' meetings. It was suggested that other CC members be invited to a Christmas social meeting. E. Hayward to put in diary.	EH
7.	<p>Moray Councillors' Reports:</p> <p>Cllr Alexander received a query from MOTP about trees overhanging a garden. He advised that a resident has the right to cut overhanging branches and throw them back over the boundary. TMC has rejected the planning application for wind turbines on the Brown Muir. Forres Gazette will run an article about Cluny Woods. S. Noble replied that the Forres 20/20 Vision will give the public an opportunity to bring forward proposals for use of green spaces. TMC schools have been permitted to include supply staff in the annual census and have met appropriate staffing levels.</p> <p>Cllr Creswell: The shadow Health and Social Care Joint Board has organised meetings for the public to hear about plans. The Forres meeting is on Wednesday 23rd September. A meeting has been held to discuss issues about the refugee crisis and how these may be addressed.</p> <p>On Culture Day there will be a Young People's Showcase in the Community Centre which will involve local groups displaying what they have</p>	

	to offer. The Learning Disability Forum heard about Dementia and Autism at their recent meeting. The Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) planning group will meet in October. S. Noble asked when the consultant's report about Bogton will be brought to the public. It is due to be considered at Policy and Resources Meeting on 17 th October and by the full council on 11 th November. Concern was expressed at the continued delay. TMC has decided the full report must be submitted by 30 th September and a decision will be made without the report if it has not been received by that time.	
8.	Planning Issues: Burdshaugh: The Road Traffic order for Burdshaugh has been received. Work is due to start on 2 nd October. It is proposed that there be no left turn and no waiting.	
9.	Chair's Report: a) Moray Community Awards: FCC will nominate Joe Pirnie for an award for his diligence in organising regular Litter Picks throughout the town.	SN
10.	Secretary's Report: a) A letter has been received from Robert Grant of Springfield Housing advising that plans for R3 Grantown Road will be displayed at a public meeting in January. b) Town Centre Communities Fund; Information has been made available about the opportunity to apply for funding. Marc Hindley and the Business Association are aware of the scheme. c) Mediation: The 3 rd training session for FCC will be on Tuesday 29 th September. d) Common Good Fund: There is very little left from this year's allocation. A question was asked about the grant of £3 000 to Forres Mechanics FC. Cllr Alexander explained that this is a rent rebate. The full cost of hiring the ground is £4 500 per annum. The club pays £1 500. There was some discussion about seeking information from TMC. It was pointed out that at a previous meeting it was agreed that the 4 ward Councillors are the trustees of the Common Good Fund and FCC will accept their decisions. Every query made is charged and appears under administration costs. S. Noble reminded those present that Chief Executive, Roddie Burns, has offered to meet FCC on an annual basis.	
11.	Treasurer's Report: a) The account stands at £ 1549.36. It was confirmed that the Financial Year runs from September to August. It was suggested that refreshments for Forres 20/ 20 Vision meetings be funded by FCC if there is any difficulty in meeting costs. S. Noble reminded councillors to claim for admin and travelling costs.	ALL
12.	Group and Representatives' Reports: a) E. Hayward met with Teresa Byrne of Forres Health Centre. The practice is in the process of preparing its own Patients Charter which will include information about DNAs (Did not attend) b) G. Hilditch the new film about Macbeth will have spin offs for the area. He has met with Brian Macdonald of FACT to discuss the work at Sanquhar Pond . It is difficult to get funding for the project because those involved are not a constituted body. c) G. Murdoch reported that Berry Burn Community Trust has disbursed the latest grants. Forres Business Association met at	

	<p>Logie Steading.</p> <p>d) J. Guthrie is keeping in touch with groups. He asked where the flag presented by Mount Dora students is housed and was informed that it is being held in the Museum.</p> <p>e) H Shaw reported that the recent Photo Display in the Tolbooth had attracted 340 visitors. Forres Heritage Trust was one of 87 entries in the Angels of Scottish Heritage and has been selected as one of 13 finalists. The Award ceremony is in The Lyceum in Edinburgh on Monday 28th September.</p>	
13.	<p>Any other Competent Business:</p> <p>a) S. Noble replied in answer to a query that the Peace Pole request will be considered as part of Forres 20/20 Vision.</p>	
14.	<p>Forthcoming Events</p> <p>a) Film Forres AGM</p> <p>a) Findhorn Bay Arts Culture Day: 26th September</p>	
15.	<p>Date of next Meeting: Thursday 15TH October 2015 in The Tolbooth at 7.15pm.</p>	

Meeting ended: 9.30 pm