



The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

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Minutes of the Forres Community Council held in The Tolbooth, Forres on Thursday 16 November 2017

FCC - Forres Community Council JCC – Joint Community Council TMC - The Moray Council FAF - Forres

Area Forum

Topic	Discussion	Action
1.	<p>Attendees : Chair : Graham Hilditch, Lesley Edwards, David Parker, Chas Rodger, Gordon Thornton, Michael Walker, Alan Tissiman, Graham Murdoch, Cllr George Alexander, Cllr Claire Feaver, Cllr Lorna Cresswell</p> <p>Apologies : Eleanor Hayward, Kenny Shand, Cllr Aaron McLean</p>	
2.	<p>Welcome and all were advised all present of JCC requirement for data protection purposes that minutes are noted and recorded digitally.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Community Warden Report: Forres, Alves & Upper Speyside : David Haytack</u></p> <p>a. Community Safety Team staff participated in a Planning for Real event at Findhorn on Saturday 21 October.</p> <p>b. It became apparent that there was an under reporting of dog fouling within the village (none received in 18 months) against what was actually happening. I will pick up on that and take steps to raise awareness of the issue amongst the dog owning community who visit Findhorn village and its beaches.</p> <p>c. Chief Inspector Maggie Miller attended the JCC Inaugural Meeting and spoke about local policing. She was made aware of concerns regarding lack of detail in the monthly Police Reports. MW said more information on what the police are doing for communities. GH supported MW to be more actively involved about policing. Cllr Cresswell will address this. GH felt the Chief inspector was positive re support from FCC. Garry (Gazette) asked if any other community councils have similar concerns. Quite a few.</p> <p><u>Police Report : Forres, Speyside and Glenlivet Area Policing Team -</u></p> <p>On 7 October, a local man was caught driving his car on Victoria Road in Forres at speeds in excess of the 30 mph speed limit. It was subsequently discovered that his insurance had expired and so not only was dealt with for the speeding offence, but his car was also seized for his failure to have valid insurance in place. We will continue to target speeding and other motoring offences as part of our commitment to maintaining road safety, and it is worth reminding readers that the power to seize uninsured vehicles exists, and will be used.</p> <p>Between 6 and 10 October, 2 Nordan wooden pre-finished doors were stolen from a pallet at the Springfield building site at Falconer Avenue. The doors are valued at over a thousand pounds, and our Enquiry into the theft is ongoing.</p> <p>On 16 October we received a call reporting a local youth, apparently heavily intoxicated and unconscious in the garden of a house. Local officers attended and, concerned for his welfare, contacted the ambulance service. The young male subsequently became abusive and violent towards police and ambulance staff, and it became necessary to arrest him. When searched after his arrest, he was found to be in</p>	

	<p>possession of a small amount of a controlled drug.</p> <p>On 21 October two householders in Castlehill Road and Cumming Street suffered vandalisms when house windows were broken by stone throwing. Enquiry is ongoing.</p> <p>Also on 21 October, at licenced premises on Forres High Street, a 42 year old local woman assaulted a member of staff. She had entered the premises smoking a cigarette and took exception to being told that she couldn't smoke in the premises. The woman, who was heavily intoxicated, was ejected by staff and patrons. Outside, she was arrested, and was abusive and violent towards police officers.</p> <p>During the early hours of 26 October, a car parked on Bynack Place was reported to be on fire. Fire fighters attended and extinguished the fire, which we are treating as wilful. Enquiry is ongoing.</p> <p>Between 2 and 3 October, tractors and other farm machinery at a farm premises near Craigellachie were vandalised and otherwise contaminated when a substance, thought to be weed killer, was sprayed in their cabs. Enquiry is ongoing.</p> <p>On 18 October during the early hours of the morning, a resident of York Street, Dufftown became aware of a car being driven slowly in the street. He later found that his living room windows had been smashed by stone throwing. He suspects that the slow moving vehicle and the damage to his windows are connected. Enquiry is continuing.</p> <p>On 14 October, 2 local men assaulted another local man outside licensed premises in Dufftown. All were intoxicated. The assailants have been reported to the procurator fiscal.</p>	
4.	<p>Public Report :</p> <p>Sandra McLellan asked if we could assist with the bookings for coffee mornings at the Town Hall on 3 January 2018. There is always a queue at Auchernack House and the system of booking is antiquated. The possibility of a Community Asset Transfer of the Hall will take some time and current bookings rest with a Moray Council receptionist. Unsatisfactory booking in advance for 2019. Would an electronic system of booking not be more suitable?</p>	Graham Hilditch
5.	<p>Ratification of Minutes: The minute from the FCC meeting held on September 2017 was proposed by Michael Walker and seconded by Chas Rodger.</p>	
6.	<p>Matters Arising :</p> <p>The Mosset Burn – Silt removal at the location of the Mosset Tavern. Garry (Gazette) got in touch with Graham Murdoch and sourced Moray Council Consultation with SEPA. There are wildlife considerations. Burn is a bit mucky. Council advised any damage would be repaired to original standard. Garry said that there were eels in the mud hence the reason that it was being left.</p> <p>Survey of Burn is dragging on however Bob Laughton Bailiff advised that alternative funding may be available and hopeful to obtain £2000. He was confident this would take place.</p> <p>Health Meeting in Town Hall on 29 November with focus on Mental Health. All encouraged to attend Planning for Real is taking place on the same date and time in Town Hall Lesser Hall.</p> <p>Community Councillor Roles : Stewart Noble implemented this with everyone having an area of responsibility. The Chair feels this is something he would be keen to reinstate. It would be beneficial for the Community Councillors but necessarily for public. No personal details would be appended although photos would be required and</p>	

	<p>also what each FCC was responsible for. There would be two versions – one for the FCC and one for the public GH Sport; EH Planning and Transport with GT and all correspondence to EH. GM Business and Treasurer; MW Police Liaison, Youth matters and Vice Chair of FCC. CR Promotion and Publicity. KS Health, Veterans and Disability. Lesley would like to assist KS with this. AT Environmental issues. As yet no roles for DP and GT. Involvement of senior pupils in attending the FCC. Arrange to meet with Deputy Head of Forres Academy to take this forward. DP possibly Churches and Social Clubs but as of yet GT to be consulted on his role. JCC Inaugural Meeting 9 November 2017 – 60 CCs attended. Reappointing of JCC Cttee No representation from Funderne.</p> <p>A96 crossing at new rail station. Email from MSP Doug MacKenzie was very positive and helpful. He has raised the issue on two occasions at Parliament and knocked back on both occasions. A further question will be presented at a future meeting. Copy of Press Release also sent to FCC highlighting excessive traffic lights in Nairn yet nothing for access to Forres Rail Station. EH in contact with a CC at JCC Inaugural Meeting who offered to assist in setting up a Petition for raising at Government level and will help with the guidelines on how to take this forward. The Chair would wish this to settle for a couple of months until Network Rail work is completed There is a very dangerous junction causing confusion with crossing from station to Market Street. Why has nothing been done about this route? AT said it had not been planned cleverly and was repellent to pedestrians and cyclists with function only for cars and concerns with speed limits. DP suggested a mini roundabout for turn into Market Street. AT thought at a later date a bridge could be constructed but Garry (Gazette) advised ground was too sandy to support a bridge. The Chair commented on modern rail service but poor crossing. Cllr G Alexander advised road layout has not changed with layout exactly the same as in 1987. Waterford Road remains the same GH suggested we wait until the New Year to till Network Rail works are finalised.</p> <p>Living Streets: Response from Barbara Allan. We were knocked back previously as no funding was available. Possibly another round of funding and requested if we could still proceed and our correspondence be kept on file should funding become available.</p>	
7.	<p>Councillors Reports –</p> <p>Cllr Feaver advised time is taken up looking at balancing the budget which was very onerous and alarming. Few people are looking at it very seriously; St Leonard’s Rd – strips speed on traffic. Volume of traffic, lorries etc strips in October at Edgehill Road where there were fewer cars in in 2009 than in 2017. Special software to see if HGVs are going faster. . Ongoing work with wildfowling. Police have been in attendance and guns have been confiscated.</p> <p>Cllr Lorna Creswell – Whole community involvement and great communication with Planning for Real and Health and Social Care. Planning for Real met last week monitoring of progress to fall to FCC as they started it. Fireworks on Wednesday was a special event. Alzheimers Awards, Boogie in the Bar Joanna’s Nightclub in November. Working in background around Universal Credits. David Haytack Warden will be off work for six weeks. Fly tippers and litterers have been fined. Lady set up charity clothing bank in Forres and has the highest requests. Film Club is going well. Varis Court : Positive reviews and is doing well. Travelling sites on positive stance and Council should provide. FACT Town Hall consultations held this week. Transport issues with bus shelters at the Health Centre. Mortuary options open to consultation with public. Auckernack applications closing in November. Garry</p>	

	<p>(Gazette) enquired why is demand so high in Forres? Can it be based elsewhere.</p> <p>Cllr George Alexander – BAM Nuttall approaching end of work. Unfortunately not go to continue to work out of Forres. BAM Nuttall has fulfilled amazing work. It will be a sad day when they leave. Convention of Highland & Islands, Moray, Argyll and Bute – John Swinney involved and discussion was closing the poverty induced gap</p> <p>Was pleased to see house at the old Health Centre. Geese Shooting : evidence of unacceptable behaviour and guidelines not set in stone. You cannot have people shooting geese during hours considered antisocial. Findhorn Bay shooting will not be allowed to continue the way it is currently. The behaviour of the shooters in the Cllr Feaver said there was the issue of disturbance and litter and shooters not tidying up after themselves. Women training of home carers. Older ladies approaching retirement age only 18 hours per week. Many do overtime and there is a debt of gratitude to many Council workers. The Chair GH said it was hard to get home care. GT enquired about the old Health Centre and who owned it. Was there a deal between the NHS and the Council? Where will the money generated from this property go? To Council homes? New Hanover Court – Nicola Sturgeon opened this complex. Has it been declassified? It is still for dementia patients?</p>	
8.	<p>Chair’s Report: Forres Golf Course Board and that the Golf Course and Golf Club are different. Golf is not as popular as it used to be. Memberships are in decline The Forres turnover this year only made a small profit. An Accounts Marketing Team set up the membership fees to £405. Country membership is £295 if you reside in Inverness. The country member fee is reducing to £240. Clash Goodwin Farm near to Berryburn provides up to 63 turbines. This would give a potential annual community fund of £1.3 million. JCC Meeting : FACT presentation around a community asset transfer – Eleanor will invite Debbie Herron to the January FCC meeting to give a presentation on this matter. Interesting facts : Forecast of £1.9 m to upgrade standards, running costs around £50,000, income £24,000, Council pays £25,000 plus for caretaker. MW – Community Asset Transfer of Town Hall would make it eligible for windfarm cash.</p>	
9.	<p>Secretary’s Report : Ainslie James – Scotland year of young people 2018 – Recognises young people. Young people will be a focus at Piping@forres.how. Can your Group be involved ? Wednesday 22 November 2017 at 7 00 pm.</p>	
10.	<p>Group & Representatives’ Reports: MW commented that the speeches given at the opening of Forres Rail Station were good . Also went to FACT Open Day. DP also attended both events.</p>	
11.	<p>Planning : Land at St Leonard’s Road (Common Good). Extension of seven days for FCC comments – if any. Will income go to Common Good Fund ?</p>	
12.	<p>Treasurer’s Report : Change of signatories has been a nightmare. National Provincial Press invoice was referred to a debit collector. It was explained it was banking issues. All bills have now been paid. Signatories are now in place and bank has compensated the FCC with £500.</p>	
13..	<p>AOCB: Community Tourism Award “Colours of Cluny 2016”. GM said support from the community exceeded last year. Forres in Bloom won five awards this year. The</p>	Cllr Cresswell

	<p>Most Beautiful High Street Awards – results next week. EH raised issue of the RBS mobile bank twice per week . Older people objecting to parking at War Memorial Cottages on Orchard Road. It was not the most central part of the town. It would appear that they are not allowed to use car park in Leys Road. Cllr Cresswell to follow up. Museum bus stop ? This is more central to the High Street. The Councillors will investigate. FCC Christmas gather at The Red Beastie after December FCC meeting. This was proposed by GH and seconded b MW. FCCs asked to pay a contribution of £5 per person and all were happy to do so.</p>	
<p>14.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting : Thursday 18 January 2018 at 7 15 pm</p>	