

## Forres Community Council

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.00 pm via MS Teams and Zoom

**Secretary:** Community Councillor Jo Lenihan | **Email:** info@forrescc.co.uk

Attendees - FCC		Attendees - Other
CC Kathleen Robertson	Chair	MC Cllr George Alexander
CC Graham Murdoch (GM)	Treasurer	MC Cllr Lorna Creswell
CC Steve Ferris (SF)		
CC Bob Hellyer (BH)		Insp Tony McCullie (TM) Police Scotland
CC David Parker (DP)		
CC Jo Lenihan (JL)	Secretary	
Apologies		Members of the Public (MOP) in attendance
CC Kenny Shand (KS)		Sandra MacLennan – Forres in Bloom
CC Colin Lipscomb (CL)		Kev Skivington
CC John Innes (JI)		
CC Fiona Graham (FG)	Vice Chair	Martin Robertson – Community Support Officer (CSO)
MC Cllr Aaron Maclean		Bob James – Forres Heritage Trust (FHT)

Item	Discussion	Action
1.	<p><b>Welcome and apologies:</b> Chair welcomed everyone. Apologies were recorded as above, and the Chair welcomed the members of the public. She also welcomed Martin Robertson (MC) as the new CSO for Forres.</p> <p>The Chair noted the sad news of Lesley Edward's passing who had been a fantastic contributor to FCC. Also, John Channon, of Forres Pipe Band. A minute's silence was observed to remember both.</p> <p>Lesley's funeral will be at Clovenside Cemetery on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 11.15. David gave his reflections on Lesley who he had known over 10 years and who had just started her second term as a community councillor. She was involved with the Town Hall, pensioners club, St Leonards Church Hall, and a director of FACT. She was well known throughout the town and did a lot for the people of Forres and will be greatly missed. George added that in terms of Forres Heritage Trust Lesley had been a stalwart volunteer from the very beginning and would always volunteer if someone dropped out. She will be hugely missed.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Community Safety Report:</b> Insp McCullie summarised CSP 57</p> <p>Violence &amp; Disorder. Several assaults had occurred in town, but none were serious. One male racially abused a person which is still outstanding. 4 domestic assaults - all detected and reported to Procurator Fiscal.</p> <p>Acquisitive crime. A break in at Kinloss Golf Club. Bike stolen from town centre. A decorative Santa stolen from a garden, but he was found and returned.</p> <p>Road safety – Patrols caught 3 people caught speeding who were stopped and educated. No one with excess alcohol or drugs. One accident in town centre - enquiries ongoing.</p>	

	<p>Community engagement – extra patrols but quiet in Town Centre due to covid. There was a noticeable downturn of people out and about and most were well behaved.</p> <p>Youth annoyance – several calls had been received and monitored but no significant increase noted. Pilmuir – extra patrols and engagement with residents that have been targeted to give comfort they're being taken seriously.</p> <p><u>Questions</u>  GM – a car has been abandoned on Leaske Road. It has a police aware sticker. GM to send details to Insp McCullie who will liaise with council to remove if in a council car park.  LC – reported another car with a sign which is blocking a driveway. This was reported to council before Xmas. LC to send details to Insp McCullie for action.  DP – A red car parked at the entrance to Lidl which has been there for few day. Insp McCullie had notice this and will investigate it.</p>	LC
3.	<p><b>Public Session</b>  The Chair welcomed Bob James, FHT. Bob outlined a planning application to be submitted to Moray Council to light up Nelson's Tower, the Tolbooth and Merkle Cross. He requested the application be submitted by FCC to lend weight to the application and shows FCC involvement with strategies as well as costing half the price. Copies of planning permission had been sent to GM who will forward to JL.</p> <p>Discussion took place on the proposal. It was decided all members should have the opportunity to view the application before deciding. JL will distribute planning app and CC's are to respond by COP Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January.</p> <p>Discussion took place on including the War Memorial but to do so would lead to a time delay which might result in missing fund deadlines. LC will speak to Tim Finnegan about this for the future.</p> <p>Bob confirmed that the lights will be LED beams which are less than 2 amps so a good environmental option.</p>	GM  ALL  LC
4.	<p><b>Ratification of Minutes 16th December 2021</b>  JL noted that the date at the top was incorrect. Cllr Creswell's name is spelt incorrectly. Subject to changes the minutes were approved:</p> <p>Proposed: Steve Ferris      Seconded: David Parker</p>	JL
5.	<p><b>Matters Arising</b>  Resilience information - SF had not received anything. Martin Robertson will pass Jim Patterson's details to SF so a meeting can be arranged.</p>	MR/SF
6.	<p><b>Chair's Report</b>  Since the last meeting due to the Festive Break, things have been a little less busy although starting to pick up again now.</p> <p>It was a shame to have to cancel the Hogmanay gathering but was the right thing to do and good to seize the initiative 24 hrs before Scottish Government did on the cancellation of the Edinburgh event. There was a little negative feedback on Facebook, but it was more a lack of understanding about the need for the FCC to be able to cancel a perceived public event. I'm grateful to George Alexander for furnishing a fuller response to the comment than I could muster.</p> <p>The Outdoor gym project is progressing slowly. Ann Rossiter and I met up with Moray Council Officers on the 17<sup>th</sup> December to discuss how to navigate the Procurement Framework. There are 22 steps to this, and we are required to try and progress before July as the Framework is changing. Fortunately, a few steps have already been completed but</p>	

	<p>we are still some considerable ways of securing a facility. One of the issues identified is public liability and insurance. Moray Council are reluctant to take on anything that will require long-term maintenance without a plan. The Community Council is allowed to hold assets and as such is covered by the insurance policy, we are extended by Moray Council. This may mean that at some point the FCSH and FCC may need to develop a fund for crowdfunding or fundraising to maintain any significant repair or replacement although Moray Council have suggested they would take on the regular maintenance.</p> <p>On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> KR was invited to a meeting of FAF, FACT, Rotary, and other CCs to discuss a keenness to set up a market stall event to encourage participation of volunteers for different Forres groups. The second point of the meeting was to explore the setting up of a further piece of consultative work akin to Spirit of Forres 2014 and Forres Real to explore what Forres needs are now. It was also discussed that there should be an opportunity to showcase what had already been done and was about to be achieved because of these previous consultations.</p> <p>I met with Jerry Kessell and a Moray Council Roads Department Officer, Elaine Penny. It was a very constructive site visit on St Leonard's Road exploring the difficulties and solutions to the problems encountered ranging from Conservation area to pedestrian safety and tree maintenance.</p> <p>I met with Sandra Maclennan, Forres in Bloom and Forres Area Forum and discussed a greater need for collaboration and to ensure groups know what everyone is doing to prevent doubling up of efforts. We both thought the Greenspaces group was a great representation of how this works in practice and other similar groups should be encouraged.</p> <p>Notification received today that we have been awarded £10,000 from developer fund and applications submitted to Berry Burn Community Fund, Money for Moray.</p> <p>Green Canopy project – contacted James Hunter re ground for tree planting. Possible sites identified include a strip above flood alleviation and some on Cluny Hill and on council land on St Leonard's Road.</p> <p>GM – commented that he'd not heard anything about the 11<sup>th</sup> January meeting. Discussion took place on this, and Cllr Creswell outlined how it had come about. It was confirmed it had been called by FACT. Sandra Maclennan confirmed the meeting had decided to run a showcase event in April. A further meeting is being held on 31 January to consider updating the consultation.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Email from a resident regarding Springfield change to planning application. There was some confusion regarding which development it referred to and SF will forward email back to JL to confirm with Garry. The resident had submitted an objection to MC. It was decided that this should be monitored but that planning should be responsibility of more than one person. SF and JL will do this.</li> <li>2. Email re Forres Town Plan consultation – all encouraged to complete</li> <li>3. Forres Friends of Woods and Fields (FFWF) had requested a letter of support for a funding application for a polytunnel on land near Chapelton Place. Further information was requested, and KR would request this. CCs asked to support on consideration of additional information.</li> <li>4. Email re consultation on Travel Plan – all encourage to complete</li> </ol>	<p>SF/JL ALL</p> <p>ALL ALL</p>
8.	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <p>GM had received an email from Debra Duke asking if the grant money has been received which it hasn't. Still to follow up with JCC on election leafleting.</p>	

9.	<p><b>Community Councillor Group and Representatives Reports</b></p> <p>GM – notification received of several funds opening and unsure whether the mountain bike group could apply to them (SSEN/Aviva). Martin to investigate and forward information if relevant.</p> <p>DP – St Leonards Church Thursday lunch club closed for covid but may restart. Landowner at Mundole junction is doing clearing work. Friday Forres Film club showing a children’s film.</p> <p>BH – On behalf of CL wondered if there was any documentation on high street changes. It was confirmed this was circulated as part of Town Plans consultation.</p> <p>GMc – commented that FCC could set up an event on Facebook and this can then be posted on Gazette site.</p>	MR
10.	<p><b>Moray Councillors’ Reports</b></p> <p>Cllr Creswell – Attended meetings about budget, charges for green spaces. Working on sheltered housing and adult protection. She wants to hear what people would like Councillors to do more of. There’s a shortage of care staff and has been dealing with several sudden deaths. Craig Wilson (MC) has moved to different post (planning and conservation). Business donations and generosity of people over Christmas were very humbling and still receiving donations. Flood meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February.</p> <p>Cllr Alexander – Flood meeting is with Scottish Water, Cllr Alexander, Cllr Creswell LC and affected residents. Schools, education, and social care – there’s a huge problem trying to keep services going due to isolation. Council house tenants survey – this has been done by phone and made quite a difference as questions can be explained. The outcome of developer obligation meeting should now be public knowledge. Email received from James Hunter regarding complaints about number of memorials appearing on Califer Hill. Notice given that any added in future will be removed. Council meeting decided to install gull proof bins in coastal towns.</p> <p>DP – letter in gazette about crossing on Grant Road and the damaged lights. These should be fixed by next week.</p>	
11.	<p><b>Forthcoming Events</b></p> <p>Flooding meeting 24<sup>th</sup> February</p> <p>Film Forres – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January</p> <p>JCC and Forres Green Spaces - 10<sup>th</sup> February</p> <p>Town Hall coffee mornings starting again on 29<sup>th</sup> January.</p>	
12.	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>Discussion took place on status of TTF CAT. It was confirmed this had been paused while further supporting information is gathered. People will be able to comment when it reopens. Cllr Creswell will let FCC know when this is if within her term of office.</p> <p>KR asked for consideration of Kev Skivington being co-opted as member of FCC. Kev will have full voting rights and in 12 months will become a full member. Unanimously approved.</p> <p>Cllr Alexander asked if Mundole fell under FCC and if there is any rep from there. Garry confirmed they have their own residents’ association who could be approached.</p>	LC
13.	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022 7.00pm Venue: Rent Room, Tolbooth</p>	