

<p>6.</p>	<p>Chair's Report</p> <p>Since the last meeting there have been quite a few meetings and events I have attended.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firstly, George McIntyre Deputy Lieutenant called a meeting on the 21st Feb between George Alexander as Forres Community Activities Association and Sandra MacLennan, Forres Area Forum to discuss Forres plans for the Platinum Jubilee and spur us on to get moving. As a consequence, we held a further co-ordination meeting on Wednesday 9th March to discuss what will happen. Brief outline will be a piping, choir, cornet and church bell event with the lighting up of the Tolbooth on Thursday 2nd June 9.30pm. Bells at 9.45 and lighting up of Tolbooth and Youth Choir to sing song for Commonwealth. Findhorn will have traditional style beacon FCAA will hold the Toun Mercat on Friday evening and shops will be encouraged to decorate their windows with a Royal Theme. Sunday will be an afternoon event in Grant Park comprising of a children's fancy dress pageant, gun run by the 39 Engineers, pipe band, sports event eg fun run or orienteering, ceremonial tree planting and a concert. • The Outdoor gym and youth project is progressing slowly. We now have a promised sum of £22,000 and are working to further the tender process now to allow grant applications to succeed. • On the 22nd Feb I attended a Spirit of the Community event which is progressing with the two events, the pop up showcase market stall in town hall on 2nd April. We need to discuss if we wish a stand. Also, the Spirit of the Community event to highlight previous success and explore gaps. • I also attended the Scottish Water meeting on the 24th Feb that Cllr Creswell organised regarding the various hotspots of surface water and sewage issues. It was a very interesting meeting. Communications regarding waste will be highlighted eg don't pour fats down sink wet wipes down toilets etc to ensuring we notify Scottish Water of any issues where sewage comes up from drains when we have sudden downpours. Bottom line no money to improve system but will be available to resolve issues as they occur. • I also attended the Learning estate review in the Forres Library on Tuesday 1st March. • The trees have arrived and are now being looked after by Mike and Nick from Forres Friends of Woods and Fields. • Finally, I volunteered at two coffee mornings with FAF and FACT as there was a call for volunteers. <p>Cllr Alexander raised an issue with the colour of the lighting of the Tolbooth as it's not possible to use red, white, or blue so it will be lit in purple.</p> <p>It was confirmed that tree planting in Grant Park for Jubilee is 2 trees to be planted by the Lord Lieutenant and Douglas Ross. The trees for school planting are being healed in and will be planted in the Autumn.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Planning Licences</p> <p>SF noted that planning applications that fall in Forres ward on the weekly ward lists covers more than the FCC area. There was nothing untoward in the latest lists. It was noted that the conversion of upstairs offices into flats in the old Clydesdale Bank would not affect the frontage.</p>	

8.	<p>Correspondence Relaunch of Moray Transport Forum. Meeting 19th March 10-12. Fisherman’s Hall Buckie Request from Gary Simpson about SSEN funding for youth activities Moray Council Draft Active Travel Strategy</p>	
9.	<p>Treasurer’s Report £1263.25 in bank. £300 SSEN money transferred to MFCU. Discussion took place again on the money paid to JCC for election leaflets which was in excess of £600 and which were never delivered. It is still felt FCC should have a refund especially as it was one of the few CC who contributed the full amount asked for. Debra Duke will follow this up.</p>	
10.	<p>Community Councillor Group and Representatives Reports GM – consultation for High Street Plan meetings with Emma Gordon. Considerable time spent discussing signs for Grant Park and Cluny Hill. Some of the ideas included in the draft were to stimulate discussion. New ideas include creating an outdoor performance area outside the museum and Tolbooth. It was also noted that the High St still has same parking restrictions in place that were there before the bypass. Still too many heavy vehicles use the High Street despite alternative routes being available. Highland Hospice want to place a 4 ft Perspex highland coo in towns where they have a shop. It was confirmed as temporary this doesn’t need planning permission. The spot chosen is near the wishing well in sunken garden Tree felling licencing still ongoing. Learning Estate Review – seems improvements are still probably 10 years down the line. Better planning is needed. Mountain Bike (MB) meeting - Agreement formed between MBs and sports hub who will be overarching group. Insurance would be with MC. MB would need insurance for their own members to work. MC and MBs have agreed the ground and suggested that a Moray-wide bike group could be formed. Approaching Moray4Money to apply for money for tools. Work to start later in year after nesting season.</p> <p>Ben – Ben outlined the purpose of his report which had been circulated and summarised the conclusions. Senior years do not like the removal of staggered lunch times due to increased numbers in town, shops, and mixing with younger pupils. He had also noticed more litter and more crowding at nearby shops now that all were back together. However, the removal of mask wearing has not been met with similar reticence. Ben has attended meetings of Findhorn/Kinloss CC, FAF, Jubilee planning. He’d had a visit to MC Chambers and met CE Roddy Burns. All a positive experience. Garry asked about the litter. Ben confirmed there appeared to be more litter generally between 1.10-2pm from school to McColls. The Chair asked if Ben had any plans to extend the report. Suggested an approach to FBA to see if he can do further research by seeking opinion of the shops. BH commented that some people stay away from high street at lunchtime due to increase in queues.</p> <p>Jl – Resilience planning with KS and SF. After Scot Water/MC meeting he’d followed up with neighbours who seem quite happy with way things are going. South Street drain blocked near dentist – sewage bubbling up. It had been reported to MC who are getting sub-contractor to look at it.</p> <p>KS – FACT is looking at doing up the lane next to Town Hall but can’t find out who owns it. Working on resilience plan with SF/Jl. In response to ASB by youths a parental support group set up with Sian Finlayson/Dorothy Ross (teachers). Have been working with parents the kids will then join in time.</p> <p>BH – Asked if accounts had been received. Still no answer</p>	

	<p>DP – St Leonards – Soup and Sandwich and quizzes. Friday Film Club – Children’s film. St Johns – coffee mornings. Men’s Shed going well.</p> <p>SF - TTF AGM – will report back on what’s happening with CAT before next meeting. Garden – effectively lost one of the growing areas due to high water level and pooling water. Regular monthly workdays being held to build own soaks for this. If any further Scot Water meetings would like to know what might be causing this.</p> <p>First meeting of resilience plan. Speaking to Jim Patterson and to contact Rhona McNicoll MC so that Forres plan fits to MC’s plan. Money from SSEN available but will hold off applying until we know what’s needed. One thing identified is lack of sand bags in Forres.</p>	
11.	<p>Moray Councillors’ Reports</p> <p>Cllr Mclean – appears to be lots happening for kids so will hopefully have things to do over next couple of years. Not standing as Cllr again. Starting a new job in Nairn and plan on getting involved in local matters for kids once finished as Cllr. There’s lots of pressure in schools with rising covid cases in staff and pupils. Now in pre-election period so not much will be coming out of MC. Raised the Anglophile story but doesn’t see this as systemic. Scott Lawrence will be standing for SNP and might come along to next FCC meeting to introduce himself. It had been a pleasure working with George and Lorna over the years.</p> <p>Cllr Alexander – Forres will have 4 new councillors as current 4 are all standing down which appears to be true for many wards and it will be interesting to see how administration forms after the count. Confirmed that no planning permission needed for the Highland Coo. Noted that the Town planning could provide an opportunity to get the benefit of bypass and make the High Street nicer by banning heavy traffic.</p> <p>Education – grateful that conversation taking place on schools’ estate. Some schools in Moray only have 30% occupancy but difficult decisions haven’t been taken to close them. Capital expenditure in last 10 years on Forres Academy is £5.7million. Exasperated by the Anglophobia comments as Moray is one of the most cosmopolitan populations in Scotland.</p> <p>Cllr Creswell – Tying up things with groups and people working with. Still waiting on the outcome of motion about the pipe bands/musical instruments. Report to next council meeting. Has sat on the Criminal justice partnership – interesting and recommends sitting on this if opportunity arises. A new prison is being built to be finished in 2024. Attended Dyke CC and Finnerne. All local Cllrs wanted to change education and it’s been challenging. Pleasure working with Ben and great opportunity to understand what’s going with young people and where their voice being heard which can be difficult. Introduced Ben to Gary Simpson (youth worker) and KS. He has ideas about outdoor area at school, but it’s difficult to get decisions. Ukraine to be discussed on 6 April in MC although there’s already been huge communication with offers for help. Best Value Audit Report is now available.</p> <p>Garry asked if it’s possible for a picture for Spirit of Community. Ken MacLennan of Rotary is heading this so best to contact him.</p>	
12.	<p>Forthcoming Events</p> <p>Volunteer Showcase event 2nd April. Forres Town Hall</p> <p>Spirit of Community consultation event – 27th April</p> <p>Money Matters course. Forres Comm Centre 21st March 12.30-2.30pm</p> <p>Our Leancoil Memory Teas – 23rd/24th/30th/31st March in the Rent Room. Details on Leancoil’s website and Facebook page</p>	
13.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>None</p>	
14.	<p>Date of next meeting: Thursday 21st April 2022 7.00pm Venue: Tolbooth</p>	