

Forres Community Council

Thursday 20th October 2022 at 7.00 pm Tolbooth

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

Attendees - FCC		Attendees - Other
CC David Parker (DP)	Chair	Cllr Paul Mcbain
CC Graham Murdoch (GM)	Treasurer	Garry McCartney (Forres Gazette)(GMc)
Kev Skivington (KSk)	Co-opted Member	
Ben Stewart (BS)	Co-opted Member	
CC Jo Lenihan (JL)	Secretary	Martin Allen TTF
Apologies		Members of the Public (MOP) in attendance
CC Fiona Graham (FG)	Vice Chair	Graeme Reid
CC Steve Ferris (SF)		Henrietta Grant-Peterkin
CC John Innes (JI)		
CC Kenny Shand (KSh)		
Cllr Kathleen Robertson		
Cllr Scott Lawrence		
Cllr Draeyk Van Der Horn		
Inspector Andy Meikleham		

Item	Discussion	Action
1.	Welcome and apologies: Apologies recorded as above.	
2.	Community Safety Report: The CSP for September had been circulated. KSk went through this for the meeting. Of note were Community Engagement sessions run by Aaron White on using child car seats.	
3.	Public Session Martin Allen, Green Shoots Education project. Martin briefed the meeting on the project which started in spring 2022 with funding from the National Lottery to run sessions in schools on growing food and to run an afterschool club for children. To enable more services to be offered they have received funding to erect a polytunnel at TTF. This requires planning permission and Martin asked if FCC would be agreeable for the planning application to go through FCC which gives a 50% discount on planning fees. The polytunnel will enable more out of season work and for Green Shoots to be able to offer more courses. They would be able to grow crops additional crops and with potting tables could run propagating workshops. They have run a lot of pilot sessions and there is increasing demand for their work. After discussion it was proposed that FCC support the application, and this was unanimously approved. Martin will liaise with JL on submitting the application.	JL
4.	Ratification of Minutes 21 July 2022 Minutes were accepted as a true record Proposed: Graham Murdoch	Seconded: Ben Stewart

5.	<p>Matters Arising: JL to follow up Clash Gour and diversity of representation on CC</p>	
6.	<p>Planning/Licences A planning application for land near to Murdoch Butchers has been submitted but GM feels that the area marked on the plan is incorrect and asked if SF could check this.</p> <p>Some concern had been raised about planning for the Castle and Mount. Garry had written an article about derelict land in Forres. Cllr McBain confirmed that a planning application had been submitted for 48 properties to be built on the old Tesco car park. The land is for sale with planning permission approved. He will ask the question in MC about brown field sites being built on and what local areas can do about this to ascertain if any action can be taken. It was suggested a list of properties could be drawn up although this is thought to have already been done. Further discussion took place on this. It is possible that a loophole in the system allows people to avoid paying tax on derelict land.</p> <p>Graeme Reid suggested that local MPs should be contacted so there is a top-down as well as a bottom-up approach.</p> <p>It was noted that the Veterans Cottages are empty and the reason for this to be raised with Moray Council (MC).</p>	SF
7.	<p>Action Plan JL introduced the draft action plan which has been drafted a working document to guide the work of FCC. It is still in early stages and would be worked on in coming months to refine priorities and identify further issues as they appear.</p> <p>Flooding – Discussion took place on the upcoming meeting being organised by MC, Scottish Water, SEPA. KSk, JI and SF are meeting on Monday 24th October to discuss an approach. The intent is to contact people who attended the previous meeting and present a consolidated report to the meeting. KSk will get in touch if any help needed with notices, etc, following their meeting.</p>	
8.	<p>Correspondence Email: Will Burnish re Forres Flooding engagement event 3rd November 2pm-6pm in Forres Town Hall.</p>	
9.	<p>Treasurer's Report Balance of account is £6483.49. Income: SSEN Resilience grant - £5249.00 Expenditure: £600 honorarium for secretary. £41.20 for Remembrance Day wreath</p>	
10.	<p>Moray councillor reports Cllr McBain reported that the Council is currently on 2 weeks recess. Local councillors are connecting with all community councils in the ward and picking up different things at each. He was interested to note the 12 heads of the Falconer Museum which represented professors over time. All local councillors are working to get the Falconer re-opened. It was noted that the Falconer also acted as a Visit Scotland information point.</p> <p>Councillors also get invited to all schools so are working their way round each and aim to have at least one attending each school.</p> <p>He is Chair of licensing committee and advised about the new system of licensing for short term lets and Airbnb. All councils must have a system for recording short term lets in place by March 2024. The cost of a licence is £495 none of which goes to MC. He is working with one person to see how the new system is working. Existing providers can continue but new premises can't open until they have a licence.</p>	

	Cllr Mcbain will find out what money is coming to Forres and for what through the Town Centre Regeneration Fund.	
11.	<p>Forthcoming Events 3rd November – Flood meeting in Town Hall 2-6.30pm 18th November. Friends of Falconer event in Town Hall. Book launch Film Club Friday/Saturday 21/22 October. tsiMORAY Funding Roadshow at Forres House Community Centre on 1st November 3pm-8pm</p>	
12.	<p>AOCB GM - Update on Greenspaces – hoping to get signs for Cluny Hill and Grant Park and contacting Kirsti Conti (MC) for information on funding for this. Highland Hospice – fibreglass cow and plinth removed but the turf hasn't been replaced which is disappointing but they have said this will be done. Kenny Shand – although not at the meeting he's making progress on kerbs. Honorary – claim to be submitted at the end of year and secretary will decide whether to claim for both secretary and minute taker duties. Rent for use of Tolbooth – currently don't pay rent but once donation runs out, we will have to start paying. Money from JCC election postage still not repaid. GM will follow up. Bank account needs 2 signatories. JL has been added as 2nd signatory.</p> <p>A question was asked if annual fireworks are going ahead, but no-one had heard anything.</p> <p>KSk – Cllr Robertson had asked if FCC had been approached for Hogmanay road closure as this needs to be applied for but no one had been. KSk will notify the Police that nothing has been raised.</p> <p>Osprey Bus – KSk will be offering trips to out and about for visits and shopping for older residents. Keen to get the bus out and seen around town so more people use it.</p> <p>Remembrance Wreath. DP will lay the wreath on behalf of FCC</p> <p>BS - Spirit of Community youth consultation. MC and FACT have been unable to complete this yet but will do so as soon as access to the Academy can be arranged. The meeting congratulated Ben on being awarded the Community Shield</p> <p>Henrietta Grant-Peterkin Raised the issue of the repair of the bus shelter outside St Leonards which has been broken and Garry has highlighted several times but no action to date. Academy – some large concrete blocks have been left by contractors by a lamppost near the academy which will be dangerous when grass grows over. KSk said this should all be cleared when the Contractors are finished and clear the site.</p> <p>KSk to raise the issue of rubbish in the burn with the Academy.</p>	<p>GM</p> <p>KSk</p> <p>DP</p>
14.	Date of next meeting: Thursday 17th November 2022 7.00pm. Venue: Tolbooth	