

Forres Community Council

Thursday 20th June 2024 at 7.00 pm, Forres House Community Centre

Secretary: Peter White | **Email:** info@forrescc.co.uk

Attendees - FCC		Attendees - Other
CC Steve Ferris (SF)	Chair	Cllr Paul McBain
CC David Parker (DP)	Vice Chair	
CC Fiona Graham (FG)	Minute Secretary	Members of the Public (MOP) in attendance
CC Graham Murdoch (GM)		Colin Buchan
CC Kev Skivington (KSk)		Andrew Stepien (Stagecoach)
Peter White (PW)	Admin Secretary	Jp Smithson (TTF)
CC Ben Stewart (BS)		Kelly Warren
		Rita Gilles
		Andy Hall
Apologies		Ann Rossiter
Cllr Kathleen Robertson	Garry McCartney (GMc) (Press)	
Cllr Scott Lawrence	CC John Innes (JI)	
Cllr Draeyk Van Der Horn	CC Ken Shand (KS)	

Item	Discussion	Action
1.	<p>Welcome, and apologies:</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to this month's meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>Community Safety Report:</p> <p><u>Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and D</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. There have been five reports of Vandalism for May 2024. Lines of enquiry are being followed for all, utilizing CCTV and house to house enquiries. reported to the Procurator Fiscal. b. Eight reports were received of Assault in May, one person was issued with a Recorded Police Warning, three reports were sent to the Procurator Fiscal and enquires are still ongoing into four with positive lines into each. c. One report of small personal amount of controlled substance seizure where the person was issued a Recorded Police Warning by itself. (There are further in the Traffic section) d. There have been five Breach of Bails reported to the Procurator Fiscal. e. Two reports were received of persons being threatening and abusive towards their partners. One was released from custody to appear at court at a later date and enquiries are still ongoing into the other. 	

- f. One person was traced, arrested and charged, following a report of them acting in an aggressive manner and assaulting staff at a local store after being refused sale of alcohol. A report was sent to the Procurator Fiscal/
- g. Five reports received in May 2024 of threatening and abusive behaviour, one is being dealt with through education and another has been issued with a Recorded Police Warning, one still has enquiry still ongoing and two have been released to appear at court at a later date.

Acquisitive Crime:

- a. This month saw four reports of theft by shoplifting from local businesses. Enquires are still ongoing into two with some positive lines and potential identities for some suspects.
- b. One report of a theft of a JCB Mini Digger from outside a rural business premises, potential lines of enquire with CCTV, and forensic opportunities, enquires still ongoing.
- c. Report of Fraud where suspect attended store and claimed they had contacted head office who had preauthorized a refund on broken bottles of champagne they had bought, they had no receipt or bottles as proof, but were given a refund by staff and left. Positive lines of enquiry with CCTV and suspect have been named, enquiries are still ongoing.
- d. A report of Fraud where a person's email had been hacked and the suspect had tried to order a mobile telephone through the victims O2 account, however it was intercepted and there was no financial loss. There were no proportionate lines of enquiry to follow.

Road Safety & road crime:

- a. Two persons arrested and charged with Drink Driving Section 5 RTA 1988, both were released from custody to appear at court at a later date.
- b. One report of a fail to stop and report at the scene of an accident, positive lines of enquiry with CCTV and potential identification of suspect, enquires still ongoing.
- c. his month in Forres, three persons were charged and reported for driving without valid insurance, one person charged and reported for failing to wear a seatbelt, one charged and reported for driving whilst using a mobile telephone.
- d. Two persons reported to the Procurator Fiscal for driving whilst unfit.
- e. One was also subsequently found to be in possession of a controlled substance and charged with various other drug and bail offences, along with driving without insurance, driving without a licence and other vehicle defect offences.
- f. Whilst the passenger was charged with cause and permit to drive a vehicle and aid/abet/counsel and cause and permit no insurance. Both parties were reported to the Procurator Fiscal.
- g. There have been two reports for careless driving, whereby both drivers have made poor manoeuvres striking other vehicles. A report has been sent to the Procurator Fiscal for one and the other is away to be sent now positive enquiry is complete.
- h. One person was found to be speeding, driving at 91mph within a 60mph area.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Two persons were found and charged for driving on a provisional driving licence and carrying a pillion passenger. A report was submitted to the Procurator Fiscal. j. The second person was additionally charged and reported with no Insurance and take or attempt to take and drive away a vehicle. k. One person has been charged and reported for various vehicle defect offences, including exhaust, park brake and windscreen. A report was sent to the Procurator Fiscal. l. One person has been charged and reported for defective tyres and driving without a licence. A report was sent to the Procurator Fiscal. m. One person reported for driving in a dangerous manner, failing to stop for Police and being found in possession of a personal amount of controlled drugs. A report was sent to the Procurator Fiscal. 	
3.	<p>Public Session</p> <p><u>Stagecoach</u> – Andrew Stepianis the Operations Manager for Elgin and Macduff. returned to our meeting to give an update on the latest news with changes to bus routes and schedules. Andrew advised he has a visit from the C O and Board members of Stagecoach next week. He provided updates brought up to him from our last meeting. He advised that the miles lost due to breakdowns had seen a reduction.</p> <p><u>Transition Town Forres</u> – Jo Smithson, Kelly Warren, and Sue Gilles came to request our help with their planning application for a new polytunnel that TTF has acquired. We were told the reason for its purchase, which is, to grow and provide more food for the local community (e.g., The pop-up Pantry). The polytunnel, will not only increase the number of things that can be grown but also increase the growing season. The polytunnel measures 14ft x 50ft and would be placed between the current building and the hedge as this area provides the most wheelchair access. The plan will be submitted to the Council by FCC on behalf of TTF. SF asked if we were happy to agree to help with this and if SF introduced Andy there would be no cost or liability to FCC.</p> <p><u>Forres Twinning Association</u> - SF introduced Andy Hall to the meeting. Andy told the meeting about the Twinning Association between Forres and Mount Dora and Vienenburg. Andy gave a timeline of the Association's activities. He advised that he had been contacted by the Twinning Association equivalent in Mount Dora which is looking to re-establish the link between both towns and cover three areas which are education, business to business, and culturally. Andy stated that he needs assistance with the running of the organization not necessarily from FCC but from within the wider Community of Forres. He will maintain the educational link, To give more children of the Community a chance to come into contact with others of the same age the link will be a virtual one rather than a physical one that only a small number of children get to experience. The business-to-business is starting to get going and on the cultural aspect, Mount Dora has a pipe band. He would love to get names of people to help to re-energise the Twinning Association. SF advised that there is a plan called the Spirit of the Community which has a lot of what is being looked for. KSk advised there are the Pipe Band Championships, Highland Games, and The Gaff.</p>	

4.	<p>Ratification of Minutes 16th May 2024</p> <p>The minutes were agreed to be a true record of the previous month's meeting.</p> <p>Proposer – Ben Stewart Seconded – David Parker</p>	
5.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>All matters arising have been picked up.</p>	
6.	<p>Planning/Licences <u>Planning</u></p> <p>There were 2 planning applications of interest were changes to shop frontages on the High Street. Sue's news is being changed into a gallery by Cllr Van Der Horn. The other one was for the old Ladbrokes betting shop, someone was working on the internal of the shop, but he did not know who was taking it over. This is good news as it will bring people into the town, and we wish them well.</p>	
7.f.	<p>Action Plan Updates</p> <p>a. <u>Resilience</u> – SF apologized and advised that we will not have the six radios in time, to be trialed at the Forres Highland Games. SF and CB reviewed all the specifics of some radios, one that they had looked at was from a Motorola dealer but their device could not cover the town's varied layout. The cost in total for the radios, chargers, and Ofcom Licence will be around £1,470.00 including VAT. The Ofcom Licence costs £75 and the Company bills it for £00 and it lasts for 5 years. SF would like someone else to have a look at all the specifications before we go ahead with the purchase.</p> <p>b. <u>Forres Culture and Heritage Scheme</u> - A funder visit was had and this included people were from 2 groups one of which one was the Lottery Heritage. They came to make sure that the process that the scheme is going through to develop and tender for the £3.4 million us going ahead and is good and likely to pass. The visit was successful and the mentors were impressed with the work that has already been done.</p> <p>c. <u>Local Place Plan</u> – SF attended a meeting with Laura Cameron on the Local Place Plan which feeds into the Local Development Plan. The plan used to be a 5 year plan which detailed what land is available for development (housing, industrial, green spaces), what remains a green space, etc but with the Local Place Plan the Council is now doing a 10-year Local Development Plan which will run from 2027-2037. FCC is the named body on the Local Place Plan with support from FACT, Active Travel, Green Spaces, etc). The first draft needs to be completed for submission at the end of September. We were told that if there are things community groups would like to do they need to be included in the Local Place Plan, and it could help with funding applications, which will give them more credibility due it going through a statutory process to get it in the plan.</p>	<p>SF</p> <p>SF</p> <p>ALL</p>

8.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>No correspondence was received this month.</p>	
9.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>There was no change this month in the bank.</p>	
10.	<p>Moray councillor reports</p> <p>Cllr Paul McBain – Advised that work has been a bit quieter due to the ongoing general election. Of the committee's PM sits on, one of them is Licensing which covers taxis, dog licenses short-term lets, etc. It was thought they would deal with 600 short-term lets a year and as of to date there have been 724 applicants of which 274 licences have been issued. It is a slow process but, but it is hope of have the list cleared by the year. There was also the Education Committee, Full Council meeting, and also the Housing Committee which it could discuss the Council's housing estate, as well as business units. The Council takes recess from mid-July.</p>	
11.	<p>Forthcoming Events</p> <p>06/07 – Forres Highland Games</p> <p>Film Club taking a break until the schools are back</p>	
12.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>David Parker advised that he saw an interview with some family members who have lost their children to suicide and they were asking the Scottish First Minister to add Mental Health Awareness to the School Curriculum.</p> <p>Kevin Skivington the Gaff is still on during the holidays. After the Highland Games, there will be he Grant Park 100. The skate park is still ongoing and waiting to see what happens with the new school. FACT is looking for new Directors as they are running short.</p> <p>Peter White advised he had attended the B urges Ceremony and there were 9 new Burgesses.</p>	
14.	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting will be on Thursday 15th August at 7.00 pm in the Garden Room in Forres Jouse Community Centre.</p>	