



The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

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Minutes of the meeting of the Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres held in the Tolbooth, Forres, on Thursday 16th May 2013.

Present :

Community Cllrs J S Bremner, R Duncan, S Ferris, Mrs E Hayward, R J Hellyer, S Kennedy, C Lipscomb, J F Mackenzie.

Also Present :-

Moray Cllr L Creswell, G McCartney (Forres Gazette) & 3 MOP's.

1. Apologies:-

Apologies for absence came from Moray Cllr G Alexander, A Skene, A McLean, Comm Cllrs J McDowell, D Maclean, Mrs C Pitstra and David Haytack (Community Warden)

2. Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 18th April 2013

The minutes of the above meeting were proposed, seconded & ratified.

3. Public Session:

The Chair welcomed Police Constable Mae asking her to update the members with the latest Police Report. During the last month there had been a female dealt with for shoplifting and another for Police assault. A male was dealt with for dangerous driving on the A96 Bypass, causing a disturbance, assault and damage to property, following a dispute with another male. Five other motorists were dealt with for speeding, one for using a mobile phone and another for driving with no insurance. A male was arrested for failing to produce details when requested, following an incident and fixed penalty fines were issued to two individuals for street disorder. Two persons were found in possession of cannabis in the street and two more were reported for breaching bail conditions. Local Officers discovered a cannabis cultivation and a male was reported for drugs supply charges. Officers dealt with a male for causing a disturbance at Forres Health Centre when a worker was assaulted, and a man was reported for damaging his council house by setting fire. The Chair thanked PC Mae for her report

- The Secretary notified the meeting of apologies from The Community Warden, Dave Haytack, and told the meeting that he had submitted a report of his actions during the last month. He said that there had been 5 noise complaints on barking dogs, all of which have been dealt with, three cases of dog fouling and two persons have been advised about not having dogs on leads. A few cases of littering by school children continues, and four young people have been reported to their head teacher with a fifth, over 16, was issued with a £50 Fixed Penalty Notice. A junior warden scheme is being trialled in the Keith area to teach P7 children about anti social behaviour, and a quiz for primary schools in Forres on dog fouling is designed for child/ parent interaction to educate them on the effects it has on people and their communities.
- A member of the public, Mr Jeronim, said that a letter, from Cllr Alexander, was factually incorrect as agricultural vehicles use the back road, but he hadn't had the opportunity to discuss his response. He said that the petition of support for the cycle way to be reinstated continued to gather pace and signatures of support were flooding in. At a time when fitness and a healthy lifestyle was being actively encouraged by government agencies cycle paths would be a priority.

- Mrs Hayward told members that she noted Cllr Alexander's Facebook page, and his request for input from the public referring to the Redco Milne application for Bogton.

4. Secretary's Report:-

- The Secretary said that he had received mail from the Post Office notifying of changes to the branch in Forres High Street, and therefore of its closure between 8th June at 12.30 until 14th June at 10.00, at which time it will be open from 0800 until 1800, Mon to Sat.
- A further letter, from Moray Council Legal & Democratic Services, notified us of the Special Meeting of the Planning & Regulatory Services Committee to carry out the public hearing of the Redco Milne application for a supermarket and ancillary buildings at Bogton

5. Chair's Report:-

- The Chair had nothing to report.

6. External Groups Report:-

- Cllr Mackenzie said that the Heritage Trust were going to open each weekend with a photo exhibition and that the volunteers opening Nelsons Tower were prepared for summer visitors again.
- Cllr Duncan said that he had nothing to report on the Mount Dora Twinning
- Cllr Hayward said there had been an application to demolish the old mart in Tytler Street. Planning and Heritage Scotland had been notified that this was a listed building and therefore demolition was not an option. She also noted the concern over the Castlehill Church.
- Moray Cllr Creswell stated that it had been a busy month which encompassed the following:
 - Attended different establishments which catered for older people or those with disabilities
 - Monday attended a Dementia Group at the old Railway Station
 - Learning visits to pools at both Forres and Keith
 - 2 day trip to Oban to look at social enterprise centring around Atlantis leisure centre – run as a social enterprise for 20 years, uses ideas such as light to rid impurities in the swimming pool saving up to £50,000 per year in chemical costs. Empty cinema taken over and in use, now looking to install a second screen, a children's nursery group use a yurt and outdoor composting at the top of a cliff. A youth café costing £9,000 per year run by 3 young people who use Atlantis twice a week and open it up for young people.
 - Visited a producer/farmers gardens, stayed at a Youth Hostel and visited a heritage museum
 - Audit and Performance Meeting (Scrutiny Committee) 2 days training – more training and support required to be a councillor
 - 7th May Credit Union training for members – learning to use new computer installation at FACU

7. Treasurer's Report:-

- The Treasurer confirmed that the account remained at £1839.37 This was broken down into CC Operating Account £451.92 and Special Projects £1387.45

8. A.O.C.B:-

- Cllr Kennedy said that after 12 years serving on the Community Council, with no interest shown in its service by public, Moray Council or its elected Cllrs he had decided to cease wasting his time & resign.
- Cllr Hellyer also said that he too was dispirited with asking questions and finding them either ignored, not answered or incorrect answers given by Moray Council.

9. Date of Next Meeting:-

- Thursday 20th June 2013 at 7 30 pm

Colin T Lipscomb
Secretary.

Ratified by
Comm. Council 20/6/13

John S Bremner
Chair.