



Draft

The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

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Meeting of the Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres held in the Tolbooth, Forres, on Thursday 17th July 2014

Topic	Discussion	Action
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies Chair: S. Noble Attendees: J. Duncan, S. Ferris, J. Guthrie, E. Hayward, G. Murdoch, C. Rodgers, M. Walker and C. Kleintges. Also Present : Cllr G. Alexander, Cllr L Creswell, S. Walker (Stagecoach), Sgt K. McPherson (Police Scotland), G. McCartney (Forres Gazette), S. Maclennan (Minute Taker) & 8 Members of the Public (M.O.T.P.) Apologies: Apologies for absence came from Cllr A McLean, Cllr A. Skene, J. McDowell, H. Shaw and Chris Hall (Moray Council Transport Manager) The Chair expressed good wishes to James McDowell and welcomed to the meeting Carl Kleintges (Community Council Youth Representative)</p>	
2.	<p>Ratification of Minutes: Amendments: J. Guthrie, G. Murdoch and C. Rodgers will attend the meeting to plan the Community Engagement Event. J. McDowell was not present at the meeting. The Minutes of 19.06.14 were proposed by S. Ferris, seconded by J. Guthrie and ratified by S. Noble.</p>	
3.	<p>Matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Councillors' Reports will be given after the public Session. b) Flood Alleviation Visit: Community Councillors will visit on 31st July at 4.00pm c) Audit Scotland: The reply received from Audit Scotland about Common Good Land explained that this is a legal issue not an accounting issue. A second letter requesting information about taking the matter forward has not had a reply. The Secretary will send a further letter and request a reply as soon as possible. d) Cycle Path: The petition has been returned to NG who will take the issue further with Transport Scotland. He has been advised that this is not a Moray Council matter. The Chair asked that he report back to the September Meeting of Forres Community Council. e) Sale of Common Good Land: Copies of the Register of Assets and The Common Good Accounts were circulated. A request from G. Murdoch about Appendices to a document on The Moray Council website had been relayed to the Chief Legal Officer. The Secretary (EH) advised that there is an accumulation of material which she intends to organise and file. B. Hellyer circulated a summary of previous council correspondence and information gathered. f) Health Centre: There will be a further delay in the handover of the building as a result of work being done by Scottish Water. g) Correspondence: The Chair reminded members that all 	<p>EH</p> <p>NG</p>

	<p>correspondence should be brought to the table. Changes are to be made to headed notepaper to reflect changes in Office Bearers.</p> <p>h) Standing Orders; The Interim Meeting took place as planned on 03.07.14. The outcomes will be discussed under AOCB</p> <p>i) Thanks have been expressed to Henrietta Grant-Peterkin and Cllr Creswell for the work done to refurbish the bus shelters before Piping Hot Forres.</p>	SN
4.	<p>Police Report: A full report is attached.</p> <p>Sgt Kevin McPherson presented the monthly report.</p> <p>There were no significant issues during Armed Forces Day, Piping Hot Forres and Forres Highland Games. A man was detained when he attempted to disrupt the Queen’s Baton Relay. A man was arrested following a robbery at a High St premises. Motoring Offences: 3 collisions; one no insurance and one using a phone while driving. Drink Driving: 1 man had 93 micrograms and 1 had 85 micrograms. Drug related Offences: 5 males in possession of cannabis and male and female arrested following search warrant. Traveller’s Encampment: Police checked details of vehicles and individuals. Moray Encampment Officer anticipates group will move on Fri 18th or Sat 19th July. Police Scotland will continue to check. Local Police Authority Audit for Moray: Decreases – Serious assaults, road traffic injuries and vandalism. Significant increase in detection rates for road traffic, speeding, mobile phone, seat belt and housebreaking offences. Housebreaking and theft from vehicles offences have increased. Sgt McPherson responded to questions from the public. Parking: There is ample free parking in Forres and tickets will be given for illegal parking. Disabled Parking: Police Scotland will enforce where there are legal signs. There are bays in Forres which are yet to be marked. The public is urged to report incidents to Police Scotland and areas mentioned will be monitored. G. Murdoch reported that a customer had been fined for parking on yellow lines on the High Street to collect an order from a shop. He asked who sets the parking regulations. Sgt McPherson advised that The Moray Council consults with Police Scotland when decisions are being made. G.M. reported that The Town Centre Regeneration Working Group is consulting the public about High Street Parking. There is a need to attract people to use local shops. Non use of pedestrian crossings: Road Safety and Community Police Officers give regular talks to schools. S.Ferris suggested that it is not only young people who do this. S.Ferris asked if the reduction in grass cutting had resulted in an increase in reports of children playing in the streets. Sgt McPherson said there had not been any reports.</p>	
5.	<p>Presentation by Steve Walker, Managing Director, Stagecoach North Scotland</p> <p>Mr Walker welcomed the opportunity to speak at the meeting. He is anxious to show that the company wishes to meet people’s needs. In response to a question why there had been no consultation meeting in Forres, when there had been in other towns, he responded that the changes to the Forres timetables are minimal. E. Hayward reported that the electronic sign board in Inverness was inaccurate. She also asked that proposed changes be publicised in the Forres Gazette and that a public meeting be held in Forres Town Hall. Mr Walker reported that there will be change to provide an hourly bus service to Forres starting on 18th August which will be monitored to identify use. In response to a question about Sunday buses he replied that there will not be a Sunday service. The Moray Council no longer provides a subsidy for certain services. The company has to subsidise the service and consider if, on balance, it is commercially viable. MOTP complained that buses are sometimes late leaving</p>	

	<p>Elgin. On one occasion drivers were present in time and appeared to be in conversation. Mr Walker reported that there is a complaints procedure and asked the public to raise any issues. MOTP asked if there will be a service provided to the new Health Centre. Cllr Alexander replied that, at the moment, The Moray Council has no plans for this provision. The Chair thanked Mr Walker for his presentation and helpful information.</p> <p>Public Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) MOTP reported that there is a fallen tree beside The Mosset Burn and that the grass is overgrown along the edges of the water. Cllr Alexander will take this forward. b) MOTP reported that a bicycle is chained to the cycle racks advertising a local business. Cllr Alexander has spoken to the owner and it has been removed. If left there the cycle would be removed after 29 days because it would be considered to have been abandoned. c) MOTP asked if the report about the proposed Redco Milne development will be made public and questioned the impartiality of the consultants. Cllr Alexander confirmed that the report will be debated at a public meeting. Cllrs are looking to the benefit for the whole of Forres. The report will be presented to all Moray Councillors. If they decide to go forward then there will be consultation with those resident within the Royal Burgh. S.Noble said that the Chief Executive, Roddie Burns, gave an assurance that there will be public consultation. Forres Community Council will also be consulted about the wording of the voting paper. MOTP asked if every resident on the Voters Roll will receive a voting paper. Cllr Alexander replied that this is the law when decisions are being made about Common Good Land. d) MOTP reported that there have been complaints from residents about the increase in the number of seagulls and the noise they make both day and night. 	
6.	<p>Moray Councillors' Reports:</p> <p>Councillor Alexander:</p> <p>There will be an opportunity for residents to visit the new Health Centre in September. Details will be advertised in the local press.</p> <p>Hanover House has been demolished and building of the replacement will start in August.</p> <p>The Moray Council will decide at the end of August if trees will be cut on Cluny Hill. If it is decided to continue a licence will be sought and the work completed before the nesting season in February. Any tree felled will be replaced.</p> <p>Councillor Creswell:</p> <p>The launch of the Findhorn Bay Arts Festival at Brodie Castle was very successful and information is available from the festival office in Bank Lane.</p> <p>The Osprey Trust has ordered a new bus for community use.</p> <p>The Health and Social Care Plan continues to move forward.</p> <p>Cllr Creswell invited C. Kleintges to take part in the planning for the Community Engagement Event to be held in October.</p> <p>(Cllr Alexander left at 21.10)</p>	CK
7.	<p>Chair's Report:</p> <p>Presentation to Retiring Chair:</p> <p>E.Hayward presented John Bremner with a gift from Forres Community Councillors to mark his retirement from the council and thanked him for his work as Chair and his service to the community for 14 years. His local knowledge has</p>	

	<p>been an asset over the years and has been much appreciated. C.Rodgers proposed that he be made a Forres Burgess and was seconded by E.Hayward. The Forres Community Activities Association makes this decision and nomination forms are available nearer the time.</p> <p>a) The Chair welcomed Carl Kleintges and asked C.Rodgers to be his mentor. He was also invited to bring another Youth Representative to future meetings.</p> <p>b) Election of Office Bearers Chair: S.Noble was proposed by E.Hayward and seconded by C. Rodgers. S.Noble was elected by a unanimous vote. Vice Chair : Deferred until next meeting.</p>	<p>CK/CR</p> <p>SN / EH</p>
8.	<p>Secretary's Report:</p> <p>a) The Secretary is sending out a large volume of correspondence at the moment. The Chair and Secretary will organise a tracking system for correspondence.</p> <p>b) Any letters received by members should be passed to the Secretary through the Chair.</p> <p>c) Correspondence is not to be sent to the Minute Taker to circulate.</p> <p>d) The Chair advised members that when MOTP brings an issue the Councillors Handbook should be used to identify the appropriate person to contact. If MOTP receives no response then the member should contact the appropriate person. If there is still no response the issue should be brought to the table.</p> <p>e) Common Good Land: It was decided to invite a speaker from The Moray Council. Cllr Creswell offered to make contact. This will be an Agenda item at a future meeting.</p>	<p>SN/HE</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>LC SN/HE</p>
9.	<p>Treasurer's Report:</p> <p>a) The treasurer proposed transferring the balance of £9.85 in the Special Projects Fund to the main account. He was seconded by M.Walker. The present balance is £597.76 which has to last until April. Expected expenditure is £200 to The Hub for administration support; £240 to Forres Heritage Trust for hire of venue and £100 to Forres in Bloom for plaques to promote the Forres Community Council.</p> <p>b) He suggested that thought be given to having a Coffee Morning or other fund raising event.</p> <p>c) The signatories on the account will be changed.</p>	<p>SF</p>
10.	<p>Group and Representative's Reports:</p> <p>a) Groups attended by Chair: The Osprey Trust, The Auchernack Trust and Forres Angling Club are the remit of the Chair. S.Noble will find out if these may be devolved.</p> <p>b) Mount Dora: The presentation had been successful and the students have returned to America. Forres students will visit in September.</p> <p>c) Forres in Bloom: All is progressing well. E.Hayward suggested organising a Scarecrow Festival in 2015.</p> <p>d) Forres Area Forum: C.Rodgers is willing to represent the council at these meetings. John Guthrie proposed and was seconded by E.Hayward. Agreed unanimously.</p> <p>e) Community Warden's Report: A full report is attached. Local interest information: One neighbour dispute; noisy dog issues at Thornhill and two Operation Avon patrols. A youth who was attempting to light a fire in the grounds of Pilmuir School was referred to Police Scotland for further investigation. Dog Fouling: hotspot areas continue to be patrolled. Many complaints were received about length of grass at</p>	<p>CR</p>

	<p>Mannachie Park now resolved by The Moray Council cutting the grass. All Community Wardens have attended Bikeability Training.</p>	
	<p>AOCB</p> <p>a) Time of Meetings: J. Duncan proposed that meetings start at 7pm and was seconded by M. Walker. Agreed unanimously. The change of time will be advertised in the Forres Gazette.</p> <p>b) S. Noble, J. Duncan and G. Murdoch will attend a meeting of Kinloss and Findhorn Community Council.</p> <p>c) G. Murdoch, C. Rodgers and J. Guthrie will attend the next Joint Community Council Meeting on Thurs 14th August when Richard Lochhead will be in attendance.</p>	<p>SN</p> <p>SN/JD/ GM</p> <p>GM/CR/ JG</p>
	<p>Date of Next Meeting The next meeting will be on Thursday 21st August at 7pm in The Tolbooth. Please note earlier starting time.</p> <p>There will be an Interim Meeting on Wednesday 30th July at 7pm in the Tolbooth to discuss Standing Orders and other issues.</p>	<p>ALL</p>