



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 18TH November 2014

Chair: S. Noble

Attendees: S. Ferris, E. Hayward, J McDowell, G. Murdoch, C. Rodger, J. Guthrie, H. Shaw, G. McRobbie

Also Present : Moray Cllrs G Alexander, L Creswell, A. Mclean, G. McCartney (Forres Gazette), Insp.J.McCruden (Police Scotland), S. Maclennan (Minute Taker) & 6 Members of the Public (M.O.T.P.)

Apologies: Apologies for absence came from J.Duncan, M. Walker, Cllr A. Mclean, Cllr Anne Skene, D Haytack (Community Warden). Not Present: C. Kleintges

(FCC – Forres Community Council : TMC - The Moray Council)

Topic	Discussion	Action
2.	<p>Police Scotland Update:</p> <p>a) Damage to toilets in Grant Park: A 17 year old male has been charged. Theft: Male, 44, reported for shoplifting from supermarket. Antisocial Fixed Penalty issued to male, 28, as a result of a noisy party. Four males, 20s, charged for misuse of an air rifle. Motoring: male, 34, and male, 21, driving over legal limit released from custody on undertaking to attend Elgin Sheriff Court. Male, 48, using a mobile phone while driving. Female, 30s, driving at excessive speed and not having valid MOT. 2 drivers charged with tacograph offences. Drugs: Male, 26, found under the influence and in possession of drugs and a pocket knife; male 35, in possession of cannabis.</p> <p>b) Insp. McCruden reminded those present that on 5th December the Drink Drive Limit will reduce to 22 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath from 5th December 2014. He advised the public to be aware of safety issues over the festive period: Take care of belongings when shopping; storing and transporting of valuables; security at cash machines; lights etc on dark nights and keeping safe on nights out. H.Shaw asked if the hotline is open over 24 hrs. Insp McCruden advised if there are problems to phone 101. Police Scotland may have identified the person who is riding a dirt bike through the town at unsocial hours. G. Murdoch asked about changes in regulations for air guns. There will be a public awareness campaign and a certificate will be required for any type of rifle.</p>	
3.	<p>Public Session:</p> <p>a) The consultation about the proposals for dualling of the A96 closes on December 10th. MOTP had asked at a presentation why the road will not have a cycle path from Inverness to Aberdeen. The representative replied that there would be no demand to cycle the route. MOTP suggested that if all communities commented it would strengthen the case. S. Noble asked that the link be forwarded to him and he will pass on to communities.</p>	SN

	A96dualling@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk																																					
4.	Ratification of Minutes of 16th October 2014 a) The Minutes were proposed by E. Hayward, seconded by J.McDowell and ratified by the Chair, S. Noble.																																					
5.	Matters Arising: <table border="1"> <tr> <td>2c</td> <td>S. Noble attended the meeting of Kinloss and Findhorn Community Council. It is planned that the two chairs will work in partnership for the greater benefit of the two councils.</td> <td>SN</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2d</td> <td>Parking: The Town Centre Working Group has not received the letter. C. Rodgers will deliver it by hand.</td> <td>CR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2g</td> <td>Flood Alleviation: Steve Truluck reported to Forres Angling Association AGM that 150 tons of shingle has been extracted. 8 tons came down during the monitoring period. If clearing is done every 2 years this should suffice.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4a</td> <td>Traffic: Mark Hindley and G Murdoch met Kevin Price to look at traffic issues. Permission has been given for TCWG to plant three small Christmas trees on the Victoria Roundabout. A draft of the questionnaires to shops and the public has been prepared and final version will be issued soon. Kevin Price is preparing a plan to show areas where parking will never be allowed in Forres. E. Hayward has received a reply from Elaine Penny about plans for installation of Traffic lights on Grantown Road which are to be funded by three developers. Should this take longer than six months bigger and brighter signs will be put in for the patroller. She provided a copy of plans for cycle paths submitted to Sustrans to support a request for funding.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6b</td> <td>Communication: S.Noble and E. Hayward meet every Wednesday to review developments. The Minute taker will pass draft to them for distribution. After one week the draft will be displayed with any amendments. Community Councillors asked that copies of the Police and Community Warden Reports be sent in advance of the monthly meetings,</td> <td>SN /EH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6c</td> <td>Review of JCC: G.Murdoch and S. Noble completed and returned the questionnaire. G. 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	<p>and 18th December in Forres Town Hall from 1.30pm to 5.00 pm. C. Rodgers will circulate posters and prepare a report to be circulated at the January FCC meeting.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Moray Councillors' Reports: Cllr McLean: Leisure Facilities - A new membership scheme will be proposed at the next Policy and Resources Meeting. Fees may be paid annually or monthly. It is hoped this will increase usage and bring regular revenue to TMC. Cllr Alexander: Education – The main focus will be to consider zoning areas for Elgin Schools to address accommodation pressures. Western Link Road- There are potential problems with construction of the new Elgin High School because there is restricted access for construction vehicles. Penalties will be imposed on TMC if there is slippage with the contract. TMC Administration: It is to be hoped that recent changes will be settled by Christmas. Forres Health Centre: Cllr Alexander urged residents to complete forms which are available at reception to make any complaints or comments. The <i>Do Not Appear</i> numbers have increased since the new centre opened. Reasons for this are not clear although distance has been suggested. The address for complaints is Summerfield House, Aberdeen. Cllr Alexander reported that Dial a Bus use has increased: Sept – 9journeys and 4 return; Oct – 29 and 37 return. TMC applied for more funding and the 31 service has been doubled to provide one per hour. S. Noble asked about Leancoil proposals. A visit is to be made by Scottish Office representatives next week. Scottish Housing Regulator's Report: Moray is the cheapest council area in Scotland. Satisfaction with repairs was lower than the Scottish average. Cllr Creswell: Consultation about the Integration Plan for Health and Social Care has been published and 12 weeks are available for response. Police Scotland wish to be involved. Auchernack Trust: Applications have been received by the end of November. Spirit of Community: the collated responses should be ready by the end of the year. Young People's Working Group: The group continues to progress their plans. Film Forres meets on Friday 21st November.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Chair's Report: a) Review of Meeting Venue: Following discussion it was agreed to meet in the Ground Floor meeting room in the Tolbooth. Should a large attendance be anticipated then Forres Academy will be booked instead. b) Office Rental: At present FCC pays The Hub for office facilities and support. It was agreed to pay £100 for this service. Proposed by S. Noble and seconded by S.Ferris. For 4. Against 4. Chair used casting vote. c) Co options: Graham Hilditch presented a personal profile and intimated that he is willing to serve as a Community Councillor. Co option was proposed by G. Murdoch and seconded by H.Shaw. Vote: For 7. Against 0. (2 Co opted Councillors not allowed to vote on this matter) E.Hayward will access Councillor's Handbook. S. Noble welcomed Mr Hilditch to the Council. d) Areas of Responsibility: <i>Culture and Events:</i> G. Hilditch – proposed by J.Guthrie. Seconded by J. McDowell. <i>Education:</i> J. McRobbie – proposed by C. Rodgers. Seconded by E. Hayward. <i>Social Enterprise:</i> C. Rodgers. Proposed by S. Ferris. Seconded by J. McDowell.</p>	<p>EH</p>

8.	<p>Secretary's Report:</p> <p>a) Co opted members: Tracey Rae has advised that co opted members may not vote to co opt other co opted members until 12 months service has elapsed.</p> <p>b) Audit Scotland: A reply has been received from Kirsty White apologising for the delay in responding. Procedures are under review and lessons for improvement will be fed in to the review. She gave options as follows: Contact The Moray Council and if not satisfied with any response complain under the formal complaints process; make a freedom of information request or seek legal advice to resolve the issue of common good definitions. It was proposed that the Community Empowerment Bill may resolve some of the issues and so much time has elapsed that another few months delay will not affect the outcome.</p> <p>c) Cluny Hill Trees: The Secretary will write to Ken Kennedy to arrange a meeting.</p>	EH
9.	<p>Treasurer's Report:</p> <p>a) The balance stands at £897.76. There are 2 payments to be made £20.36 and £25 for corporate membership of The Friends of Falconer Museum which will leave a balance of £852.46.</p> <p>b) A question was asked about transferring the account to Forres Credit Union. S. Ferris advised that it is necessary to keep a current account in a bank account.</p>	
10	<p>Group and Representatives' Reports:</p> <p>a) Heritage: H. Shaw will attend the next Friends of Falconer Museum meeting on 2nd December</p> <p>b) Youth: S. Ferris reported that there are 2 new youth groups: Boys Brigade and Pipe Band marching group. J.Guthrie reported that the BB group had their first church parade at St John's on Sunday 16th November. The Forres Highland Games will be on Saturday 4th July 2015. S. Ferris is now Chair of the TTF Garden Group.</p> <p>c) J. Guthrie reported that the 2 Forres Academy pupils who made the Mt Dora exchange trip had enjoyed their visit.</p> <p>d) Health: J. McDowell attended the Health and Social Care Partnership meeting. A new alarm system was demonstrated which linked the alarm to a mobile phone if the client not at home. The cost is £10 per month.</p> <p>e) Environment: C. Rodger intimated that Transition Town Forres is having an EGM on Saturday 29th November in an attempt to enlist new Board Members. Volunteers had a further work session to continue clearing overgrowth at Sanquhar Pond. G. Hilditch had also organised a work group.</p> <p>f) Planning: MOTP commented on new sign at the Co op which is bolted to the balustrade and he feels is not in keeping with the building, part of which is listed. A photograph has been sent to Grant Wilson. Comment was also made about the new sign painted on the wall of The Red Lion.</p>	HS
11	<p>Any other Competent Business:</p> <p>a) Lochyhill Development Hearing: E. Hayward is unable to attend and S. Ferris will substitute. S. Ferris explained that he will be able to speak to the objections raised in 2010, namely: Density of housing;</p>	SF

	<p>the height of a 3 storey building proposed for the front of the site on the A96 and access to the site through Drumduan and Forbeshill creating a volume of traffic.</p> <p>b) Blocked Drains: MOTP has raised a query about a blocked drain in the lane between the Town Hall and St Leonard's Church. He Contacted Paul Barron and was informed that it is not the responsibility of TMC as lanes off the High Street are private property. E.Hayward offered to write to The Church of Scotland to ascertain ownership. Cllr Alexander advised holding fire for a week. MOTP had contacted Paul Barron about a missing drain cover outside the Carlton Hotel. A cone has been placed at the site meantime.</p> <p>c) Moray Transport Seminar: E. Hayward asked that members inform her if they intended to attend so that she could register and arrange to share transport.</p> <p>d) MOTP has raised a complaint about Common Good Funds</p> <p>e) New Forres Event: G. Murdoch has been researching the possibility of organising a Forest Light Display in Cluny Woods similar to that held at Faskally. It would draw visitors from a wide area, possibly 4 to 6 thousand and could generate £250 000. HIE has expressed an interest in giving support. It was agreed by all to set up a Research Group to take the idea forward. S. Noble, G. Murdoch, C.Rodgers and G. Hilditch volunteered</p>	<p>EH</p> <p>EH</p> <p>SN/GM/ CR/GH</p>
12	<p>Date of next Meeting: Thursday 18th December in The Tolbooth (Ground Floor Meeting Room) at 7.00pm. Please note earlier Start Time.</p>	

DRAFT