



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 21st May 2015

Chair: S. Noble

1. Attendees: E. Hayward, G. Murdoch, M. Walker, G. Hilditch, C Rodgers, J. Duncan, H. Shaw, J. Guthrie, S. Ferris

Also Present : Moray Cllrs: L Creswell, A. McLean, G. Alexander; G. McCartney (Forres Gazette); S. MacLennan (Minute Taker) & 4 Members of the Public (M.O.T.P.) Sylvia Jamieson and Gary Templeton.

Apologies: Apologies for absence came from Cllr Skene and Police Scotland.

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

Topic	Discussion	Action
2.	Police Scotland Update: The IT system is down at present and no report is available.	
3.	<p>Public Session:</p> <p>a) Police Reports: MOTP asked if certain crimes are omitted from the Police Reports, for example, domestic abuse. Reporting of incidents and the potential sentences would raise the profile in the community. M. Walker suggested asking at the next meeting.</p> <p>b) Play Park Equipment: MOTP asked about the removal of play equipment and was informed that it had been removed for Health and Safety reasons. The equipment will be replaced within budget constraints. Another MOTP has asked why equipment is not replaced as needed and said that communities should not be set one against the other in seeking funding. Cllr Mclean reported that a set of swings and a chute are available and a decision will be made at the next TMC committee meeting. E. Hayward asked if Moray Cllrs will consider provision for Pilmuir and Bogton from Forres Common Good Fund. C. Rodgers asked if an application could be made to the Berry Burn Community Fund. G. Hilditch, a Trustee of the fund replied that Dallas had applied and been successful. S. Noble asked who will take this forward. E. Hayward will contact concerned MsOTP and lead this group.</p> <p>c) Accident on A96 at Invererne Road junction: MOTP said that he had reported the danger years ago. S. Noble said that the previous Community Council had expressed concern. MOTP felt that white lines would make junction safer. S. Noble said that drivers are not legally allowed to stop in the central island. Cllr Mclean said that it had been suggested that there be no right turn at the junction. S. Noble will write Transport Scotland to repeat concerns. Garry Templeton said that this is a very serious issue which he will take back to TMC and continue to lobby Transport Scotland.</p> <p>d) Clovenside Road: MOTP asked about the possibility of imposing a</p>	<p>EH</p> <p>SN/GT</p>

	<p>speed limit on Clovenside Road. E. Hayward responded that Kevin Price, TMC, had replied to her letter that the speed limit is 30mph and surveys had shown that most drivers' speeds are lower. There is no footpath because the road is too narrow. MOTP said that some of those attending a recent event at Moray Steiner School had parked along Clovenside Road instead of using the Cemetery Car Park and had caused a major traffic problem. S. Noble will write to the Head of Moray Steiner School prior to the event being held in May 2016. E. Hayward said that Kevin Price is happy to attend a future meeting to answer questions. G. Murdoch said that it is the narrowness of the road not speed which causes problems. A former Moray Cllr had proposed making the road one way. S.Noble queried if this would increase speeds.</p>	SN						
4.	<p>Presentation on Planning for Real (PFR) process by Sylvia Jamieson and Gary Templeton: PFR is a method of seeking people's views on what needs to be done to improve their community by working round a 3D model of the community. The process allows residents to register their views on a range of issues, to work together to identify priorities and to develop an action plan for change. The model is easily transportable and may be taken to various locations. Themed suggestions cards including categories such as Health, Environment, Community Facilities etc and are laid on the model to record participants' ideas. Sylvia will collate all the ideas. At a follow up session solutions and actions will be discussed and a Community Action plan formed. The next step is to form a working group which is representative of different groups. Gary Templeton spoke about an Open Spaces Strategy. TMC is preparing a policy which will safeguard open spaces, including allotments, address the quality and quantity of provision and connect green spaces. PFR could be used to help deliver an Open Spaces strategy for Forres and implement the Local Development Plan strategy. Discussion centred around the area of the town to be considered in PFR and if the consultation element of the Woodland Development Plan could be included. The Health and Safety issues for Cluny Woods need to be addressed and expert advice sought. It was agreed that E. Hayward send a letter to Ken Kennedy and invite him to a FCC meeting. G. Hilditch and S. Noble will meet to discuss the concerns. A working group will be set up to set the timetable and will meet before the end of June: C. Rodgers; G. Murdoch; E. Hayward and S. Maclennan.</p>	EH SN						
5.	<p>Ratification of Minutes of 17th April 2015 The Minutes were proposed by M.Walker, seconded by J. Guthrie and ratified by the Chair, S. Noble.</p>							
6.	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>3a</td> <td>Knockomie Meadows: The plans to build housing on a green space have been withdrawn. E. Hayward will write to thank the developer.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8b</td> <td>Vacancies: Community Councillors were reminded to bring forward names of possible candidates for co-option. S. Noble had presented the gift from FCC to James McDowell.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8c</td> <td>Review of CC Funding: In the original report it appeared that the allocation would remain unchanged. However, in an Appendix to the report it was stated that the present allocation would be 'topped up' to cover money spent. Other Community Councils keep two ledgers: one for administration and one for other business. Proposed by J. Guthrie, seconded by S. Ferris and all in agreement. S. Noble urged Community Councillors to claim for legitimate expenses, for example,</td> </tr> </table>	3a	Knockomie Meadows: The plans to build housing on a green space have been withdrawn. E. Hayward will write to thank the developer.	8b	Vacancies: Community Councillors were reminded to bring forward names of possible candidates for co-option. S. Noble had presented the gift from FCC to James McDowell.	8c	Review of CC Funding: In the original report it appeared that the allocation would remain unchanged. However, in an Appendix to the report it was stated that the present allocation would be 'topped up' to cover money spent. Other Community Councils keep two ledgers: one for administration and one for other business. Proposed by J. Guthrie, seconded by S. Ferris and all in agreement. S. Noble urged Community Councillors to claim for legitimate expenses, for example,	EH ALL
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	travel, stationery etc. This to be an item on the June Agenda.	SN / EH
8d	Creative Place Award letter of support: G.Hilditch asked that the application and the letter of support be circulated to Community Councillors.	
9a	Mundole Speed Restrictions and North Road: The request for speed restriction was turned down because the road does not meet the criteria. A speed survey will be carried out and E. Hayward will be contacted with the date for deployment. E. Hayward will ask if more signs could be placed at North Road. G. Hilditch said that it is virtually impossible for lorries to manoeuvre on North Street and some are reversing up a one way street.	EH
9b	Developers Contributions: Cllr Creswell reported back that the timescale for completion is ten years. Cllr Mclean replied to a question about the length of time being taken to install a roundabout at St. Catherine's Road is because there are certain triggers, for example, the number of houses completed, before payment is made and the work begun.	
13b	Bogton Road Waste Bin: The bin has not been placed. G. Murdoch has phoned to follow up. It was suggested that a letter be written.	GM
7.	<p>Moray Councillors' Reports:</p> <p>Cllr Alexander: There has been bedlam over the approval of a planning application to build Beach Huts at Findhorn. A proposal to create Dual Headships in Primary Schools has been brought forward. Placing Request Appeals: These will be considered over two days in June. No Forres schools are involved. Dualling of A96: Cllr Alexander urged residents to respond to the consultation over the options for the new road. Scottish Week: 13th to 20th June.</p> <p>Cllr Creswell: The Shadow Integrated Joint Board is now in operation.</p> <p>Osprey Bus: Volunteer drivers and garage space are needed. The Community Centre Cafe is now open. Cllr Creswell has attended a seminar about Guardianship and adult protection. Forres Golf Club: The CC representative is G. Hilditch and Findhorn and Kinloss CC is in agreement. Skatepark: Cllr Creswell will visit the Inverness facility. Business Association: An Open Meeting has been arranged by the Town Centre Working Group to consider the way forward.</p> <p>Cllr Mclean: Forres Station: Moray Councillors attended a presentation by Network Rail about the proposed new station which will be built in 2018.</p> <p>Promoted Teaching Post Interviews: Cllr McLean will take part in Interviews for Head Teacher, Pilmuir, and Depute Head Teacher, Kinloss. Sandy Adam, Springfield, has offered to fund a new Sports Centre for Moray to be built in Elgin.</p>	
8.	<p>Planning Issues:</p> <p>S. Noble raised the issue of plans for the area India 8 which were rejected by Forres and Findhorn/Kinloss CCs but were approved by the Reporter. He asked what is the point of seeking local opinion when this is later ignored. Gary Templeton responded that it is essential to comment at the appropriate stage in the planning process when the Main Issues Report is being prepared. He would hope in future to come to FCC and consult at an earlier stage. The next plan will be approved in July and the process starts again in two years time. M. Walker asked about the plans for the dualling of the A96. There was no mention of the Economic Impact. Gary Templeton responded that there has been a seminar for Moray Councillors and an opportunity to raise Economic concerns. The next Local Plan will include the impact of the</p>	

	new road. MOTP said that TMC has not asked for a Cycle Path to be included in plans for the new road. Gary replied that this will happen soon.	
8.	<p>Chair's Report:</p> <p>a) Scottish Community Councillors: The chair urged Community Councillors to view this page on Facebook. FCC needs its own page.</p> <p>b) Promotion: The Power Point presentation is almost complete. Tracey Rae, CC Support, will be asked to help with information about CCs.</p> <p>c) James McDowell: James has thanked FCC for his gift and good wishes. He hopes the good work of FCC will continue and says he will be watching.</p>	SN
9.	<p>Secretary's Report:</p> <p>a) Burdshaugh Traffic Calming Measures: Springfield will hold a presentation and consultation event in the Community Centre on 28th July from 2pm to 9pm.</p> <p>b) Lochyills Development: Graham Newman apologised for the delay in responding to E. Hayward's letter. Scottish Water is responsible and should be contacted directly. There are new conditions: there must be SUDS provision and provision for attenuation of flows. G. Murdoch reminded the meeting that the consultant engineer said capacity issues with the treatment works are not suitable. The ditch fills at present if there is heavy rain and may not cope with additional volume. G. Murdoch and E. Hayward will compose a letter to be sent to Scottish Water.</p>	EH/GM
10	<p>Treasurer's Report:</p> <p>a) The account stands at £ 1298.92. The Hub and Forres Heritage Trust will be asked to send an invoice every six months. The Bank of Scotland continues to send statements to the wrong address. S. Ferris will contact the bank.</p>	SF
11	<p>Group and Representatives' Reports:</p> <p>a) S. Ferris: Forres Highland Games : Saturday 4th July 2015.</p> <p>b) G. Murdoch: 13 responses have been received about Parking on Forres High Street. Joint CC: Other councils are having difficulty attracting members. FCC is doing well. JCC calendar: £ 7 000 has been donated by sponsors. Wildlife Tours needs a line from BT Openreach. The installation has been cancelled several times and is now planned for 27th May. Cllr Alexander suggested contacting Trading Standards.</p> <p>c) J.Guthrie has received an invitation to represent FCC at 39 Engineers Cocktail Party.</p> <p>d) J. Duncan: A new flagpole, donated by a benefactor, has been erected at the Tolbooth and different flags will be flown for different occasions. S.Ferris asked why a flag is only flown at Auchernack during Scottish Week and for Armed Forces Day.</p> <p>e) C. Rodgers: The entrance to TTF should be made safer in the next few months.</p> <p>f) M. Walker is continuing to follow plans for the 3G pitch and the Skatepark.</p> <p>g) H.Shaw: A very successful week end had been organised with the Camera Obscura. Information is available on Falconer Museum Website and FHT Facebook. FHT will host a performance by a renowned group of Clarsach players on 26th May in the Tolbooth.</p>	
12	<p>Any other Competent Business:</p> <p>a) Visiting Speakers: World Orienteering Championships: M Walker</p>	

	<p>said that this event will bring economic value to the area. J. Duncan feels that FCC business is being rushed because there is a speaker at every meeting. He proposed that there should not be a speaker at every meeting. G. Murdoch suggested having an additional night for speakers to give adequate time for questions and discussion. E. Hayward suggested advertising these meetings to attract a bigger attendance. S. Noble feels that there are issues which are important for the town but perhaps there should not be questions. Next month requests have been received from Orienteering, FACT and Network Rail.</p>	
13	<p>Forthcoming Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Community Councillors Training b) FACT 15th June c) 13.06 to 20.06: Scottish Week 	
14	<p>Date of next Meeting: Thursday 18th June 2015 in The Tolbooth at 7.15pm.</p>	

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