



## The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

20 Tolbooth Street, Forres, Moray. IV36 1PB

Tel: 01309 672244 email: [Forrescc@gmail.com](mailto:Forrescc@gmail.com)

### Meeting of the Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres held in the Tolbooth, Forres, on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Chair: S. Noble

**1. Attendees:** E. Hayward, G. Murdoch, J. Guthrie, H. Shaw, M. Walker, G. Hilditch, S.Ferris. C. Rodger attended for part of the meeting.

**Also Present :** Cllr L. Creswell, Cllr G. Alexander; R. Grant, K Shand, M. Hamilton – Springfield Properties; Sgt S. Brander, Police Scotland; S. Maclennan (Minute Taker); Garry McCartney (Forres Gazette); S. Fraser and K. Hardie,

Members of the Public (M.O.T.P.) – 5

**Apologies:** Cllrs A. Skene and A. McLean.

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

Topic	Discussion	Action
2.	<p><b>Police Scotland Update:</b> A new Police Inspector has been appointed to the Forres Area, Inspector Grant McCutcheon, who will take up duty in the last week of February. During the period 18<sup>th</sup> January to 13<sup>th</sup> February there have been 24 detected crimes within the FCC area. <b>Motoring:</b> Male,32, and male,25, charged with being over the prescribed limit for alcohol. <b>Theft:</b> Male, 28, charged with three shoplifting offences. <b>Anti social Behaviour:</b> Male,18, charged and reported to the Fiscal, for vandalising a car on Grant Drive; Female, 29, Charged and appeared at court for threatening behaviour and possession of a knife; Male, 25, charged with using threatening and abusive behaviour following a disturbance on Castlehill Road. <b>Drugs:</b> Male, 51, found in possession of Cannabis at Hainings North.</p> <p><b>Motability Scooters:</b> Sgt Brander advised that scooters should be on the pavement but if there is an issue about due consideration for pedestrians, this should be reported and advice will be given. M. Walker asked about using scooter whilst under the influence of alcohol and was told that any breaches of the law will be addressed. J. Guthrie reported that a scooter without lights and the hood up had been seen near the by pass. Sgt Brander asked that this type of incident be reported. <b>Speed of Traffic on High Street in the evenings:</b> G. Hilditch had reported a driver jumping the lights. J. Guthrie pointed out that when a pedestrian presses the button the lights immediately change giving inadequate warning to drivers. Sgt Brander will find out about about having the timing adjusted. Police Scotland has a high visibility presence at week ends. There is a focus on drivers at Tesco. A warning is given and if there is any repetition the vehicle may be taken away and there is a cost incurred by the driver for recovery.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Public Session:</b> A request was submitted by Forres in Bloom to make a presentation to FCC about the work of the group.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Presentation</b> by Robert Grant, Kenny Shand and Mark Hamilton of Springfield Properties about Forres R3 Ferrylea Phase 2 housing development. There will</p>	

	<p>be a public consultation in the Community Centre on March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2pm to 8pm. The development will include affordable housing. S.Ferris asked if there would be a visual impact from the houses at the top of the ridge and was assured that these will be on flatter ground and will not impinge. M. Walker asked about Developer's Contribution. A process is being developed with TMC to allow provision for Education, Community and Facilities. In Phase 1 the Dental Surgery and Retail units are provided. M. Walker expressed concern that Forres may become a dormitory town and that facilities will be required for an increased population. G. Hilditch asked if Mannachie Road will be widened and is concerned that the road will become a rat run from the Dallas Dhu area. Road improvements will be made. E. Hayward asked when Traffic Lights will be installed at the St Catherine's Road junction and was assured that this is a key issue. MOTP asked if TMC has received the required funding and was informed that funding has been given. J. Guthrie asked when will Affordable Housing be available and was informed that it is included in Stage 1. G. Murdoch asked about drainage from the site. E. Hayward said that there is a document on TMC website and an answer to Scottish Water is awaited from TMC. The developer is working with Scottish water and there will be SUDS provision on the site. MOTP asked about the lack of a pavement on part of Grantown Road between the two roundabouts. Cllr Alexander said that the developer will complete the pavement provision.</p>											
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Co-option of Councillors:</b> Samantha Fraser was proposed by J. Guthrie and seconded by S. Ferris. E Hayward abstained. Keir Hardie was proposed by E. Hayward and seconded by M.Walker. E. Hayward will provide the appropriate documents. Co-opted members of FCC are not permitted to vote for 12 months. One vacancy remains.</p>											
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>Ratification of Minutes of 21st January 2016</b> The Minutes were proposed by G. Hilditch, seconded by J.Guthrie and ratified by the Chair, S. Noble.</p>											
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Matters Arising:</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="368 1279 1385 2132"> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1279 448 1357"></td> <td data-bbox="448 1279 1385 1357"> <p><b>Resignation Form:</b> E. Hayward has submitted the resignation form for J. Duncan</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1357 448 1476"></td> <td data-bbox="448 1357 1385 1476"> <p><b>Civic Trust Nominations:</b> H. Shaw has completed the nomination forms. G.Alexander will be the contact. Judges will visit Tolbooth and Nelson Tower on 1<sup>st</sup> March.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1476 448 1711"></td> <td data-bbox="448 1476 1385 1711"> <p><b>Forres Area Forum Social Event:</b> S. Noble, Chair, attended the event. Presentations were made by Ian Todd, Community Development Officer, S.Noble - FCC, Debbie Herron – FACT, Tina Coffey – FAF. There was an opportunity for those attending to discuss ways of working together and helpful connections were established.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1711 448 1865"></td> <td data-bbox="448 1711 1385 1865"> <p><b>Croft Road Signage:</b> Kevin Price visited the location and reported that the request cannot be upheld. A colleague will make contact with the resident who raised the issue. E. Hayward has thanked Mr Price for his support.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="368 1865 448 2132"></td> <td data-bbox="448 1865 1385 2132"> <p><b>Traffic Lights at Health Centre:</b> A fault had been reported on 19<sup>th</sup> January. The red push button was found to be frozen. A repair was made by 4.30pm on the same day. H. Shaw said that there is hardly enough time to exit from Mannachie and motorists are jumping the lights. There are also long tailbacks at busy times. M. Walker said that the sensor does not appear to be working and motorists are having to wait at quiet times when there is no other traffic on the</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p><b>Resignation Form:</b> E. Hayward has submitted the resignation form for J. Duncan</p>		<p><b>Civic Trust Nominations:</b> H. Shaw has completed the nomination forms. G.Alexander will be the contact. Judges will visit Tolbooth and Nelson Tower on 1<sup>st</sup> March.</p>		<p><b>Forres Area Forum Social Event:</b> S. Noble, Chair, attended the event. Presentations were made by Ian Todd, Community Development Officer, S.Noble - FCC, Debbie Herron – FACT, Tina Coffey – FAF. There was an opportunity for those attending to discuss ways of working together and helpful connections were established.</p>		<p><b>Croft Road Signage:</b> Kevin Price visited the location and reported that the request cannot be upheld. A colleague will make contact with the resident who raised the issue. E. Hayward has thanked Mr Price for his support.</p>		<p><b>Traffic Lights at Health Centre:</b> A fault had been reported on 19<sup>th</sup> January. The red push button was found to be frozen. A repair was made by 4.30pm on the same day. H. Shaw said that there is hardly enough time to exit from Mannachie and motorists are jumping the lights. There are also long tailbacks at busy times. M. Walker said that the sensor does not appear to be working and motorists are having to wait at quiet times when there is no other traffic on the</p>	
	<p><b>Resignation Form:</b> E. Hayward has submitted the resignation form for J. Duncan</p>											
	<p><b>Civic Trust Nominations:</b> H. Shaw has completed the nomination forms. G.Alexander will be the contact. Judges will visit Tolbooth and Nelson Tower on 1<sup>st</sup> March.</p>											
	<p><b>Forres Area Forum Social Event:</b> S. Noble, Chair, attended the event. Presentations were made by Ian Todd, Community Development Officer, S.Noble - FCC, Debbie Herron – FACT, Tina Coffey – FAF. There was an opportunity for those attending to discuss ways of working together and helpful connections were established.</p>											
	<p><b>Croft Road Signage:</b> Kevin Price visited the location and reported that the request cannot be upheld. A colleague will make contact with the resident who raised the issue. E. Hayward has thanked Mr Price for his support.</p>											
	<p><b>Traffic Lights at Health Centre:</b> A fault had been reported on 19<sup>th</sup> January. The red push button was found to be frozen. A repair was made by 4.30pm on the same day. H. Shaw said that there is hardly enough time to exit from Mannachie and motorists are jumping the lights. There are also long tailbacks at busy times. M. Walker said that the sensor does not appear to be working and motorists are having to wait at quiet times when there is no other traffic on the</p>											

		road. E. Hayward will report that the sensor is not working.	
8.	<p><b>Moray Councillors' Reports:</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Alexander:</b> The report on the <b>Sustainability of Forres Schools</b> is completed but will not be made public. <b>TMC Budget:</b>The money allocated to Moray Towns Partnership will not be affected; School Meals will be increased by 5%; Instrumental Instruction will be increased by 20%. <b>Tenants Forum:</b> Forres residents reported that they are happy with their homes. <b>Fire Service:</b> Thirty people attended an Open Night at Forres Fire Station. Recruits are needed to maintain the service and some of those attending had expressed interest. <b>Asset Management Briefing:</b> The 10 year Capital Plan is oversubscribed. The School Estate requires major maintenance. The Future Schools decision means there will be no closures Cllr Alexander feels that it would be better to abandon and amalgamate to avoid huge expenditure.</p> <p><b>Car Parking:</b> J. Guthrie mentioned that there are 2 spaces reserved for Car Share use but cars are parked badly and causing a nuisance. <b>Cllr Creswell:</b></p> <p><b>Health and Social Care – the Integrated Joint Board</b> will be launched on 1<sup>st</sup> April. Forres and Fochabers will be designated <b>Dementia Friendly Towns</b>. Network Rail Information evening – the event was well attended. Requests for additional parking are being considered. <b>High Street Shops:</b> Concerns were expressed about the number of empty shops on High Street and what could be done to attract businesses. Cllr Creswell offered to send information about Business Rates relief to E. Hayward to be circulated.</p>		
9.	<p><b>Planning Issues:</b></p> <p><b>Former garage on Victoria Road:</b> Change of use to Jet Wash – E. Hayward will circulate planning application.</p> <p><b>Hanover Court:</b> Construction appears to be ahead of schedule. G.Hilditch asked if there are plans for the <b>derelict building</b> on Hepworth Lane. E. Hayward will make enquiries.</p>		
10.	<p><b>Chair's Report:</b></p> <p>S. Noble reported that he had shown the FCC promotional power point to the Rotary Club of Forres and that it had been well received. The Power Point is available for all FCC members to use with local groups. S.Ferris commented that there is still some fine tuning to do.</p>		
11.	<p><b>Secretary's Report:</b></p> <p>a) The new play equipment should be in place by mid March. E. Hayward will thank Ken Kennedy for his support.</p>		<b>EH</b>
12.	<p><b>Treasurer's Report:</b></p> <p>a) The present balance is £1 970.20. Expenditure: £100.00 - Forres Groups Action for admin support; £210.00 – Forres Heritage Trust for hire of premises; £29.00 to Royal British Legion for Poppy Wreath and £12.48 for presentation.</p>		
13.	<p><b>Group and Representatives' Reports:</b></p> <p>a) S. Ferris: <b>Forres Highland Games</b> now has Charity Status. <b>Forres Community Garden:</b> there are 2 plots available at a cost of £50 per annum. Space in the poly tunnel costs £10.00 per annum. Enquiries to S. Ferris.</p> <p>b) J. Guthrie attended a presentation about Alzheimers which was very</p>		

	<p>informative. He also attended the network Rail meeting.</p> <p>c) G. Murdoch reported that <b>Forres Features</b> which will oversee the Cluny Woods Lights project is now a Community Interest Company. A Committee has been formed: G. Alexander; J. Duncan; G Hilditch; S. Maclver; E. Tomkinson; J.King; M. Drummond; B and L Budge. E. Hayward had received questions about noise. G. Murdoch replied that the event will comply with regulations. <b>JCC meeting:</b> A.Kennedy proposed that a Complaints Procedure be added to the CC Handbook. Jane Martin will prepare a draft for consideration.</p> <p>d) C. Rodger asked if FCC is willing to <b>sponsor a meeting</b> about the possibility of growing vegetables in a High Street location with a speaker from Todmorden Incredible Edibles. The meeting will be in the Town Hall on 18<sup>th</sup> May. S. Noble replied that FCC is not in a position to do so and suggested that an approach be made to FAF.</p> <p>e) G. Hilditch: The <b>Berry Burn Trust</b> will meet to decide disbursements to local groups. Information is available on the website.</p> <p>f) M. Walker: The <b>Sports Hub</b> has a new development worker and is seeking Charity Status.</p> <p>g) S. Ferris will be away from Forres for the next 3 months. He does not have the same connection with Scouting and asked that his remit be changed. S. Noble asked that a review of roles be an Agenda Item for the March meeting.</p>	
<b>14.</b>	<b>Health Centre Concerns:</b> S. Noble had received a complaint from a MOTP that he had tried to get an appointment, had phoned 15 times within 7 minutes and the cost of the calls was £5.52. Cllr Alexander advised that it is better to leave time between calls. It is also possible to go in to the centre and be seen without an appointment.	
<b>15.</b>	<b>FCC promotion and Publicity:</b> Suggestions were put forward: Posters advertising items of interest to Community; Facebook Pages – a pilot site to be established; Pop Up shop for a week in town; Mobile presence at events such as Theme Day; Piping @Forres; Highland Games; T Shirts; Display the Representatives Remits sheet in a wide range of locations.	
<b>16.</b>	<b>Any other Competent Business:</b> <p>a) Gritting: Residents are concerned that areas were not gritted early enough during the recent frosty spell.</p> <p>b) E.Hayward asked if whoever has the copy of the deeds for Leancoil and Grant Park return them to her.</p>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>13.</b>	<b>Forthcoming Events:</b> <p>a) tsi Moray – Join the Dots: 23<sup>rd</sup> March.</p> <p>b) FCC March meeting: Kresanna Aigner : Culture Week.</p> <p>c) Youth Concert: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March in Forres Town Hall.</p>	
<b>14.</b>	<b>Date of next Meeting:</b> Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	

**Meeting ended: 9.35pm**