



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 19th May 2016, 19:15

Chair: S. Noble

Attendees: E. Hayward, G. Murdoch, J. Guthrie, H. Shaw, K. Hardie, M. Walker, C. Rodger, S. Fraser (Minutes)

Also Present: Cllr L. Creswell, Cllr G. Alexander, G. McCartney (Forres Gazette), 1 member of the public

Apologies: S. Ferris, G. Hilditch, Cllr A. McLean, Cllr A. Skene

FCC - Forres Community Council TMC - The Moray Council FAF - Forres Area Forum

Topic	Discussion	Action
1.	Welcome: S. Noble welcomed those present, read the apologies and announced that after the close of the meeting the public would be asked to leave for a private session to be held. Dictaphone: Upon Jane Martin's (Community Council Liaison Officer) suggestion, S. Noble proposed a Dictaphone with a 2 sided speaker be purchased to record meetings, H. Shaw and J. Guthrie agreed to this suggestion. S. Fraser to source a suitable Dictaphone for purchase.	SF
2.	Police Report: Police report was read by J. Guthrie. During the period April 15 th to May 17 th , 21 crimes were detected in the area including - ASSAULT: Male 31, arrested and charged with assault; Male 52, charged with assault and kept in custody until court appearance the following day; Male 48, arrested and charged with assaulting Police Officers. POSSESSION: Male 20, found in possession of Cannabis. MULTIPLE OFFENCES: Male 30, arrested and charged with using threatening and abusive behaviour, resisting arrest and possession of Cannabis; Male 21, arrested and charged with vandalism, resisting arrest and using threatening and abusive behaviour. Operation Witton: During April a number of Drug Search Warrants were carried out throughout Moray, including 3 in Forres. In total, £12k of drugs was recovered in Moray resulting in charges brought against 18 individuals. Air Licensing Scotland Act: From July 1 st people will be able to apply for an air weapon licence; the requirement for all weapons to be certificated comes into effect on December 31 st 2016. A surrender campaign is running May 23 rd to June 12 th 08:00 to 21:00.	
3.	Public Session: Member of the public asked if the empty shops could have the windows cleaned and be smartened up before Piping at Forres and the Forres Highland Games. S. Noble asked if this could be brought up in The Forres Gazette. G. McCartney noted that following the change in personnel the police report submitted was much shorter than usual and asked if the Sergeant could be contacted requesting more detail be included in future reports, M. Walker echoed this request. S. Noble wondered if the police were still able to attend FCC meetings and wanted to find out what the public presence of the force was in town. E. Hayward is to write to the Sergeant asking for clarification on these three matters.	EH
4.	Ratification of Minutes of FCC Meeting March 17th: Amendments to March minutes were agreed to be made as follows; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Culture Week changed to Findhorn Bay Festival - findhornbay.com changed to findhornbayarts.com - Correction to spelling of Auchernack 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removal of statement in note 6: S. Fraser will be able to take up post from April 1st - Addition of statement in note 11: E. Hayward read a letter from the Depute Electoral Officer endorsing K. Hardie's co-option and stating that S. Fraser's co-option would take effect from April 1st 2016 and so S. Fraser was not a co-opted member during February and March <p>The minutes were proposed by K. Hardie, seconded by J. Guthrie and ratified by the Chair, S. Noble.</p>	
5.	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>1. Transport Scotland Accident Statistics. E. Hayward has contacted Transport Scotland to ensure that the RTAs which have recently occurred on the A96 bypass are logged in accident statistics. There has been no response yet, E. Hayward to report back again at next meeting.</p> <p>2. Traffic Lights at Health Centre. E. Hayward confirmed that this issue has been addressed and informed the group that a meeting has been arranged with Elaine Penny on Tuesday May 24th 10:45am outside Forres Town Hall concerning the traffic lights there. The meeting is in view of altering the timings of the lights for the benefit of the elderly. J. Guthrie and E. Hayward will attend this meeting.</p> <p>3. Hepworth Lane Derelict Building. G. Hilditch is addressing this issue and is to report back at the next meeting with any information and progress.</p> <p>4. Hanover Court. E. Hayward made contact with Hanover Housing and was informed that the building would be ready for occupants in July. Community Councillors and Moray Councillors will be invited to view the building before residents arrive. E. Hayward will inform FCC when a date for viewing is received.</p> <p>5. Accounts Returned by Moray Council. The accounts have been returned to S. Noble who has handed them back to H. Shaw.</p>	<p>EH</p> <p>GH</p> <p>EH</p>
6.	<p>Moray Councillors Reports:</p> <p>Cllr L. Creswell: Involved in further work with the Integrated Board on how communities can take responsibility in their area. Visited projects in Shetland to learn about the integration process. Cllr L. Creswell raised the matter of the planned housing on the old Tesco site extending towards Mosset Park/Bogton and wondered if the community were doing anything in response. Cllr L. Creswell also attended the Incredible Edible talk by Mary Clear reporting a good turnout which was inspiring and had potential to collaborate with Forres in Bloom.</p> <p>Cllr G. Alexander: Attending council meetings and has visited RAF Lossiemouth air traffic control tower to learn about the effects of wind turbines on radar. Street lights on Victoria Road and outside The Tolbooth have had a fault and so have been on during daylight hours. Cllr G. Alexander explained the tariff and procedure for fixing such faults and confirmed this had been addressed on May 19th. Two full bins on Caroline Street which had been reported have now been emptied.</p>	
7.	<p>Chair's Report:</p> <p>Planning Correspondence: An information pack about Community Councils and Planning was received detailing how Community Councils will be given more powers during the planning process; this correspondence was passed to E. Hayward for review.</p> <p>Town Hall WiFi: Letter received from member of the public asking why the Town Hall doesn't have internet/wifi access. S. Noble passed the letter to S. Fraser to respond and to investigate feasibility and prices. Join the Dots Conference: Attended this event on March 23rd hosted by tsiMoray which was an inspiring and forward thinking event. S. Noble suggested that any future emails from tsiMoray be forwarded from E. Hayward to K. Hardie. Joint Community Council: S. Noble and G. Murdoch attended. Diane Burgess from Scottish Water was present looking to engage with Community Councils to gather feedback about local water problems. Mark Palmer, Corporate Director highlighted that hard financial decisions are coming as finances tighten in Moray Council.</p>	<p>SF</p> <p>EH</p>

	<p>It's Your Moray Get Involved: Information pack received by S. Noble including a questionnaire which is going to be used for local consultation. FAF secretary is to help facilitate a joint event where questionnaires will be available. Questionnaires will also be accessible online, at libraries and promoted through social media in due course. Consultation to close by end of October. Forres 2020 Vision: Over 300 hours of voluntary work has been carried out and the map is all but finished. The project facilitator Sylvia Jamieson has had a work reschedule and so the consultation phase has been delayed. S. Noble to keep in contact with Sylvia to arrange a working group meeting and start planning for consultation in the Autumn. Auchernack Trust: The May portion of funding is available to apply for and applications for projects that will benefit older people are encouraged.</p>	SN
8.	<p>Secretary's Report: Housing Plans: E. Hayward showed plans of the site where it is proposed that 80 affordable houses will be built on the old Tesco site extending towards Mosset Park/Bogton. The detailed plans will be released at a public consultation at the end of May/start of June in Forres. Forres Youth & Families Outreach Project: Judith Watts would like the opportunity to present the project to FCC. It was agreed to invite Judith to the June 16th meeting. E. Hayward to confirm the arrangement with Judith.</p>	EH
9.	<p>Treasurer's Report: H. Shaw reported that there was £1,137.64 in the account. Credit Union Account: S. Noble and H. Shaw confirmed that a Credit Union Account will be opened at a cost of £10 as a community account. H. Shaw stated that the money held with the Credit Union is secured under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. In future, donations will be paid into this account. H. Shaw will open the account and require some paperwork to be signed. Expenses: G. Murdoch's expenses have been approved and waiting on a cheque to be signed by S. Noble. H. Shaw confirmed that Community Councillors expenses can be claimed if details of the expenditure are in the minutes.</p>	HS / SN SN
10.	<p>Representative Roles: S. Noble distributed an updated contact and representative roles sheet. C. Rodger was willing to take on the Promotion and Publicity role; this was proposed by H. Shaw, seconded by M. Walker. One position remains vacant. S. Fraser to distribute updated sheets on FCC bulletin boards.</p>	SF
11.	<p>FCC Promotion and Publicity: S. Noble unveiled the new promotion banners to be used at public events to promote FCC. H. Shaw to ask Forres Heritage Trust if banners can be stored in The Tolbooth. C. Rodger to identify events that FCC could attend for promotion purposes.</p>	HS CR
12.	<p>Group and Representatives Reports: Planning and Transport: Document and disk received from Kevin Price about upgrading disabled parking spaces in Moray, including Forres. Councillors are welcome to take this information away for review. Letter received from Springfield Properties asking if FCC would like to submit comments on the R3 Ferrylea development. Comments to be sent to E. Hayward by June 2nd who will feedback to the developer. Heritage: H. Shaw informed the meeting that the Forres Heritage Trust Whisky Museum is to close following the ill health of John Mackintosh. Nelson Tower is open for the season with over 400 visitors already recorded since April 1st. The Tolbooth is open 14:00-16:00 Friday to Sunday each week during summer months. Forres Heritage Trust was unsuccessful in winning the My Place Award. Churches and Social Groups: J. Guthrie has found a Peace Pole in the grounds of Drumduan School drawing a close to that subject. OTHER: Attended AGM of Forres Mechanics Football Club and highlighted that Forres does not yet have a 3G Pitch although it was promised to be built by 2012. J. Guthrie and M. Walker to investigate what can be done about this. Business: G. Murdoch reported that the last Forres Business Association meeting was</p>	ALL / EH JG / MW

	<p>well attended and attracted new members. CLUNY HILL LIGHTS: Progress going very well and a positive meeting held with Moray Council, a Safety Advisory Group is going to be formed to ensure the safety of the event. Event is due to take place in November with the name to be released in due course.</p> <p>Social Enterprise & Environment: K. Hardie distributed two documents to those in attendance noting engagement with members of the public about Forres and the Community Council, made suggestions about what could be done in Forres, and offered thanks to many community groups for recent work. K. Hardie is keen for the old slaughter house at the end of Caroline Street to be cleaned up and made safe or demolished, and is to contact Moray Council to see if any action can be taken. K. Hardie will also follow up with Moray Council regarding to the reporting process and maintenance procedures for faulty Street Lights.</p> <p>Sports: Nothing to report regarding sports. OTHER: M. Walker had been contacted by a local company that would like to advertise along the A96 bypass. M. Walker is to respond to the enquiry letting the company know that they could contact BEAR Scotland for road side signs or proceed to erect signs on ground that is Common Good.</p> <p>Publicity & Promotion: Nothing to report regarding publicity and promotion. OTHER: C. Rodger provided an update from The Hub and informed the group that Varis Players and Film Forres are now Hub members. C. Rodger also reminded councillors that FCC is a Hub member as so can use the facilities such as printing when needed.</p> <p>Culture and Events: S. Fraser attended May Fair, helped with the Admin for Forres Theme Day, and volunteered at the five day event at The Tolbooth for the Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival which attracted 266 visitors to the Whisky Museum. S. Fraser informed the group that the Findhorn Bay Festival highlights and programme will be released during June/ July. OTHER: Member of public contacted S. Fraser about posters being displayed in Forres House Community Centre. Cllr L. Creswell noted that posters should be handed to reception and if there are any problems, public should speak with Douglas Cowie. S. Fraser will respond to the enquiry. S. Fraser had been approached by a member of the public from Tytler Street concerned about the two derelict buildings, fly tipping and lack of maintenance of trees and paths. K. Hardie to follow up about the area where fly tipping is happening and residents are encouraged to attend the next FCC meeting regarding these concerns. S. Fraser to respond to the enquiry.</p>	<p>KH</p> <p>KH</p> <p>MW</p> <p>SF</p> <p>KH</p> <p>SF</p>
13.	<p>Forthcoming Events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AGM of Mosset Park Protection Company including a decision about the separate ownership of Mosset Park from the football ground. Monday May 23rd 19:30 - Moray Connected, FACT Office Tuesday May 24th 19:00 - 28th May and 26th June Participatory Budgeting - Forres Business Association meeting on Tuesday May 31st - Old Photograph Exhibition at The Tolbooth Thursday July 13th to Saturday July 16th 	
14.	<p>AOCB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members of FCC will attend the funeral of the late Jim McDowell, a previous FCC member, at St Margaret's Church on Wednesday 25th May at 11:00 - Concerns were raised by a Councillor about unsociable behaviour regarding drug taking in a housing area within Forres. The Councillor thanked the local Police effort against such behaviour and urged members of the public to take action and report incidences - Name cards and posters to be updated by S. Noble for the next meeting 	SN
15.	<p>Date of next Meeting: Thursday June 16th 2016</p>	

Meeting ended: 20:35