



## 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 November 2016, 19:15

**Chair:** J. Guthrie

**Attendees:** E. Hayward, S. Moat, G. Murdoch (left 21:00), G. Hilditch (left 21:00), M. Walker, C. Rodger, S. Fraser (minutes)

**Also Present:** Cllr L. Creswell, Cllr A. Skene (later 7:30pm), G. McCartney (Forres Gazette), 4 members of the public

**Apologies:** Cllr A. McLean, Cllr G. Alexander, H. Shaw, K. Hardie, K. Shand

*FCC - Forres Community Council*

*JCC – Joint Community Council*

*TMC - The Moray Council*

*FAF - Forres Area Forum*

Topic	Discussion	Action
1.	<b>Welcome:</b> J. Guthrie opened the meeting and announced he would step in as Chair temporarily following the resignation of S. Noble. J. Guthrie apologised to the representatives of Forres Community Leisure for not being able to present at the October meeting.	
2.	<b>Police Report:</b> No written Police Report submitted. <b>Drone Update:</b> David Haytack Forres & Speyside Community Warden sent in information about the use of drones following a request for information and advice by M. Walker at the previous meeting. It was noted that the use of drones must comply with air navigation orders and that Police can take action against anyone using a drone without a licence.	
3.	<b>Public Session:</b> Member of the public had contacted Stewart Beveridge of MC Estates Department regarding to the possibility of rose beds being turned into parking on St Leonard's Road. Mr Beveridge confirmed that no planning application for this proposal had been received.	
4.	<b>Presentation:</b> Mosset Park Community Asset Transfer, Don Wright Chair of Forres Community Leisure Ltd. <b>Key Points Presented;</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In November 2011 Mosset Park Protection Company was established to protect Mosset Park from MC proposed plans to sell the land for commercial development</li> <li>- Company obtained a 'Community Right to Buy' for the piece of land. This right stands for 5 years and is likely to be renewed</li> <li>- The strategy for the organisation has changed as the risk from developers has diminished. The company is now in the process of submitting a CAT application to MC to acquire Mosset Park and some</li> </ul>	



	<p>FAF and the Sanquhar Pond clean-up group would be willing to get on board and support this work. E. Hayward is to write a letter to Diane Burgess of Scottish Water and Stephen Cooper of Moray Council to progress this subject.</p> <p><b>A96 Crossing Meeting:</b> Meeting was attended by Richard Lochhead MSP, Douglas Ross MSP, David Stewart MSP, David Mackenzie, Cllr G. Alexander, Stacey Lynch Network Rail and Ken Aitken Transport Scotland. J. Guthrie and E. Hayward attended on behalf of FCC. Ken Aitken agreed to liaise with Police Scotland and Transport Scotland to reassess the figures/statistics used to justify no crossing. The outcome of the investigation is due in January 2017. It was confirmed that that there is not enough land for a foot bridge to be built and an under tunnel is not viable due to the road foundations not being suitable for this type of engineering. In a letter received from Richard Lochhead following the meeting, it was suggested that a public petition could be started seeking for a safe crossing across the A96. It was echoed around the table that FCC will continue to work for a safe crossing.</p> <p><b>Bins at Sueno’s Stone:</b> It was confirmed that there is a dog fouling bin at Sueno’s Stone but not a litter bin. E. Hayward is to contact MC to request a litter bin be placed here.</p> <p><b>Common Good Letter to Roddy Burns:</b> S. Noble sent letter without making the amendments that were agreed at the October meeting. J. Guthrie felt that a letter to MC was not required and suggested that FCC ask the trustees of the fund (Moray Councillors) to take forward any matters; namely, to clarify the administration charges and ask if a representative can attend a FCC meeting - Cllr L. Creswell agreed to action. E. Hayward proposed that the letter sent to Mr Burns from S. Noble be rescinded, this was voted upon and unanimously agreed. E. Hayward proposed an apology be made to the previous FCC members due to the derogatory wording used in the letter sent to Mr Burns, this was agreed.</p>	<p>EH</p> <p>EH</p> <p>LC</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Moray Councillor Reports: Cllr L. Creswell key points of work and information;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cllr Creswell is no longer Chair of the Integrated Board, this is now being led by the NHS</li> <li>- Following the sudden passing of Forres Health Centre Manager Theresa Byrne, Alison Smart and George Maclean will cover management duties</li> <li>- The Auchernack Trust bids process is being reviewed and the next deadline for applications is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Trustees meet the week of December 9<sup>th</sup> to decide successful applications. G. Murdoch</li> </ul>	

inquired if vehicles to access Cluny Hill would be a possible funding option

- Cllr Creswell is part of a cross party transition group to help inspire people to stand for Council next year
- Will be attending a meeting about Community Asset Transfers
- Cllr Creswell asked FCC if they felt it was worthwhile for the Over 50s Directory produced by FACT to be updated and reprinted. It was echoed around the table that this was a worthwhile local resource

**Cllr A. Skene key points of work and information;**

- Cllr Skene is also part of the transition group. The purpose of the group is to ease transition to the next council. Cllr Skene pointed out that there will be a large turnover of Councillors at the next election so a corporate plan is being put in place to help new Councillors 'hit the ground running'
- The next Council budget will be announced in December and it will be for one year only
- The Leisure Project Board (covering swimming pools, pitches, town halls, community centres, libraries and all sports facilities) is reviewing the estates that are no longer sustainable and 4 options about the estate management will be put to Council in the near future. S. Moat asked if CATs of facilities would be possible, Cllr Skene confirmed this was an option
- Attending Convention of Scottish Local Authority meetings to address the Scottish Government agenda on closing the attainment gap in education. It is proposed that neighbouring regions carry out Regional Collaboration to share resources and skills. Moray is already part of such a collaboration called the Northern Alliance
- The early learning and child care hours is to increase from 600 hours to 1140 hours by 2020. This will mean that Moray needs to recruit 250 more staff and provide facilities to accommodate the day care. The funding to achieve this in Moray is uncertain
- Cllr Skene continues to be part of Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher interviews and stressed that there is still a recruitment challenge for teaching staff in Moray

**8.** **Election of Chair:** J. Guthrie asked for nominations for Chair, there were none received from the Community Councillors present. G. Hilditch proposed that due to limited attendance at the meeting, the election of the Chair would take place at the January meeting; this was seconded by C. Rodger and M. Walker. J. Guthrie will act as Chair until a new Chair is elected in January.

**9.** **Chair's Report:** J. Guthrie attended the joint meeting of Community

	Councils about the dualling of the A96. No new information was presented and it will be some time before a route is decided upon. The next meeting to hear from the planners about the A96 upgrade will be in the Summer of 2017.	
10.	<p><b>Secretary's Report: Correspondence:</b> E. Hayward updated the meeting about various correspondence received and circulated. <b>Ship to Ship Oil Transfer:</b> This issue will be discussed at the January meeting. C. Rodger will circulate information about a meeting taking place in Nairn about this subject. <b>CCTV:</b> E. Hayward contacted Willie Findlay about a CCTV on Forres High Street pointing skywards. MC and Police will resolve. <b>Gmail:</b> E. Hayward raised concerns about the Gmail system used for FCC communications and asked C. Rodger for assistance to look at the system. E. Hayward also happy to meet FCC members at The Hub so that they can access the FCC laptop and emails if they so wish. <b>Emails:</b> E. Hayward and J. Guthrie had discussed the possibility of all FCC members being circulated the email password and this could be considered in future. <b>ForWords:</b> Forwards local writing group will hold a Christmas do in the British Legion. Anyone wishing to attend please let E. Hayward know. <b>Hanover Housing:</b> Robin Patterson has expressed an interest in presenting to FCC about care facilities such as Hanover House. This will be arranged to take place in 2017. <b>FCC December meeting:</b> The meeting in December will be shorter than usual and will be followed with a gathering at The Red Lion.</p>	<p>CR</p> <p>EH/CR</p> <p>EH</p>
11.	<p><b>Treasurer's Report:</b> J. Guthrie presented the financial report in the absence of H. Shaw. The FCC bank balance stands at £1,879.27. There was a payment received from Moray Council for £624.75. Cheques for £75.00 and £270.00 have been cashed. The balance of the Credit Union account remains at £294.39. New signatories will be decided at the January meeting. E. Hayward is due £10.00 repayment for the purchase of a Remembrance Wreath.</p>	
12.	<p><b>Group and Representatives Reports:</b></p> <p><b>S. Moat:</b> Made contact with schools. Forres Area Soccer 7s will be visiting Twin town Vienenburg. The group need to raise £8,000 to cover the costs of the trip. Cllr Skene suggested that funding could be sought from Moray &amp; Nairn Educational Trust. <b>M. Walker:</b> Will look into the removal of the FCC noticeboard from Tesco. <b>S. Fraser:</b> Volunteered with Colours of Cluny and at the Forres Bonfire &amp; Fireworks night reporting great success at both events. S. Fraser informed the meeting that Piping at Forres has purchased road cones that can be used by other groups during events. Attended Moray Chamber of Commerce Awards lunch at which Findhorn Bay Arts received the Community Tourism award. Continues to sit on the Forres 2020 Vision working group. <b>K. Hardie:</b></p>	MW

	Submitted a written report which praised Colours of Cluny. K. Hardie is having an induction to drive for the Osprey Trust. Praise was given to Friends of Falconer Museum for salvaging memorabilia from the Old Mart on Tytler Street. K. Hardie proposed that FCC lay a wreath at the Operational Training Unit Memorial, this proposal will be carried forward to the January meeting.	
<b>13.</b>	<p><b>Forthcoming Events:</b></p> <p>Forres in Bloom Coffee Morning – St Leonards Church Hall, Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November</p> <p>Forres 2020 Vision – Forres Town Hall, Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 5-8pm</p> <p>Christmas Lights – Forres High Street, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November</p> <p>Forres in Bloom Coffee Morning – St Leonard’s Church Hall, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November</p> <p>RAF Presentation – Elgin Town Hall, Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 6pm</p> <p>Town Hall 2018 Bookings Open – Auchernack House, Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November</p> <p>Forres Mechanics &amp; Forres Area Soccer 7s Fun Day - Mosset Park, Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</p>	
<b>14.</b>	<b>AOCB:</b> No further business was discussed	
<b>15.</b>	<b>Date of next Meeting:</b> Thursday December 15 <sup>th</sup> , 7:15pm	

**Meeting ended: 21:20**