



# 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 May 2017, 19:15

**Chair:** G. Hilditch

**Attendees:** J. Guthrie, E. Hayward, M. Walker, S. Fraser (minutes)

**Also Present:** Cllr L. Creswell, Cllr G. Alexander, Cllr A. McLean, G. McCartney (Forres Gazette), 2 members of public

**Apologies:** K. Shand, C. Rodger, Cllr C. Feaver

FCC - Forres Community Council    JCC – Joint Community Council    MC - Moray Council    FAF - Forres Area Forum

	Discussion	Action																								
1.	<b>Welcome:</b> G. Hilditch opened the meeting welcoming those present and congratulated the recently elected Moray Councillors.																									
2.	<p><b>Presentation:</b> Sandra MacLennan, Secretary of Forres in Bloom gave a presentation about the work of the organisation and the upcoming participation of Forres in Bloom in the Britain in Bloom competition. Key points delivered included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In 2016 Forres won a Gold Medal in the Beautiful Scotland Competition including winning the Medium Town Category. Forres has now been invited to participate in Britain in Bloom with judging taking place on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017</li> <li>- The Britain in Bloom theme for 2017 is <i>Green &amp; Grey Places for Biodiversity</i></li> <li>- For the competition, a portfolio will be written and submitted, a 15 minute presentation delivered, and a tour of Forres will take place around the town</li> <li>- Judging will be based on 3 pillars; Horticultural Achievement, Environmental Responsibility and Community Participation – Plants, Places and People</li> <li>- Through the presentation, praise and acknowledgement of support and good work was extended to; Jackie King, Grant Speed, Moray Council, Sanquhar Pond Working Group, Moray Waste Busters, Forres Community Clean Up, Brownies, Army Cadets, Forres Gazette, AJ Engineering, BAM Nuttall, Asher's, Tesco, Co-op and the local community</li> <li>- The public were kindly asked to show respect for the displays, flowers, pots, water feature and many other areas in town that volunteers spend time on maintaining</li> </ul> <p>G. Murdoch praised the work of Forres in Bloom and volunteers in making the town a lovely place</p>																									
3.	<p><b>Police &amp; Community Warden Report:</b> During the reporting period for the May 2017 Moray Community Safety Partnership Report, 15 incidents were investigated by the Community Warden in the Forres area (including Alves and Upper Speyside):</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="8">Community Safety Report – Breakdown of Reported Incidents</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Abandoned Vehicles</th> <th>Neighbours</th> <th>Dog Fouling</th> <th>Noise</th> <th>Fly Tipping/Littering</th> <th>Rowdy Behaviour</th> <th>Other</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>1</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> <td>3</td> <td>0</td> <td>25</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Police Report detailed the following incidents;</p> <p>1 Apr: 25 year old local man charged with possession of herbal cannabis on High Street</p> <p>3 Apr: purse and contents stolen from the Highland Hospice Shop, enquiry ongoing</p> <p>6 Apr: report of an attempt to break in to a shed at a property on Grant Road</p> <p>10 Apr: 19 year old male arrested for assaulting a female on Fleurs Crescent</p> <p>11 Apr: 54 year old male from the Moray area was charged with careless driving on the A96 Forres bypass following an overtaking manoeuvre</p> <p>14 Apr: 31 year old male was arrested within an address on Tytler Street following an incident where he was behaving in a threatening and abusive manner whilst in possession of a knife</p>	Community Safety Report – Breakdown of Reported Incidents								Abandoned Vehicles	Neighbours	Dog Fouling	Noise	Fly Tipping/Littering	Rowdy Behaviour	Other	Total	3	4	1	3	1	3	0	25	
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	<p>14 Apr: 31 year old local woman was arrested for assaulting two juveniles within an address at Mosset Court</p> <p>15 Apr: 35 year old local man was arrested for using a stone to smash the window of a parked car on Anderson Crescent</p> <p>16 Apr: 18 month old child struck by a hard boiled egg whilst within home garden at Califer Road by a male wearing a hooded top, enquiry ongoing</p> <p>23 Apr: 33 year old female arrested for drink driving at Drumine Road</p> <p>24 Apr: 44 year old male from the Nottingham area was charged with selling goods in the Forres area without a Pedlars Certificate.</p> <p>27 Apr: 21 year old local male was charged with riding a motorcycle other than on a road at Forres Flood Alleviation Works</p> <p>Concerns had been raised through the Joint Community Council regarding the slow release of Police Report information. It was confirmed that the information from the Police is included in the Community Safety Report and is circulated at the start of each month. The timing of individual Community Councils means the information may not presented until the end of the month. Disappointment was expressed from G. Hilditch regarding the reduced Police presence at meetings. It was agreed that Community Warden for the area David Haytack be invited to attend a FCC in the coming months. Garry McCartney raised concerns regarding the reporting of abandoned vehicles, Cllr L. Creswell will raise this with Willie Findlay at the next Community Safety Hub meeting.</p>	<p>E. Hayward</p> <p>Cllr L. Creswell</p>
4.	<p><b>Public Session:</b> Prior to the meeting, Terry Monaghan had asked to be considered for co-option to FCC. G. Hilditch confirmed that fourteen days' notice was required before a vote is undertaken by sitting Community Councillors. The vote for co-option of Terry Monaghan will take place at the June meeting.</p>	
5.	<p><b>Ratification of Minutes:</b> Following the circulation of the draft April minute, a minor spelling amendment was made and an inclusion under point 2 regarding to E. Hayward noting the dangers at the roundabout by Victoria Hotel was added. The minute from the FCC meeting held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May was proposed by E. Hayward, seconded by M. Walker and ratified by Chair G. Hilditch.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>Dallas Dhu Development:</b> G. Hilditch had contacted MC Planning Department regarding the allocation/designation of land for development. It was confirmed that once land had been designated for housing, it was not possible for this designation to be overturned. Cllr G. Alexander informed the meeting that the Ward 8 Moray Councillors were due to meet with Gary Templeton regarding the Dallas Dhu Masterplan and the development at Pilmuir West. E. Hayward asked if the Moray Councillors would be attending the meeting with Emma Gordon and Tulloch Homes, Cllr A. McLean confirmed that meeting was for planning officials only. E. Hayward suggested that FCC extend an invite to Tulloch Homes to attend a meeting to learn more about the Dallas Dhu development, it was agreed this invite would be sent in the future once plans had been submitted. Cllr G. Alexander raised concerns about the road infrastructure and building on the East side of the Dava Way. E. Hayward further raised concerns about the public transport provision to the area considering provisions were being cut elsewhere.</p> <p><b>A96 Crossing:</b> E. Hayward has again been in touch with Ken Aitken of Transport Scotland, and received news that the draft report following the review of the section of road which pedestrians must cross to get to the railway is still ongoing. S. Fraser updated the meeting that at the Forres 2020 Vision prioritisation event on May 17<sup>th</sup>, Ralph Newlands of BEAR Scotland had indicated haven heard about Transport Scotland discussing a pedestrian crossing across the A96 and highlighted that the nature of this discussion was yet still unknown. A notice of disruption to traffic on the A96 Forres bypass with traffic lights in</p>	

	<p>place was given from Network Rail starting from Friday May 19<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><b>Community Council's Scheme Update:</b> It has been proposed by Moray Council that the boundaries for joining a Community Council be extended to allow for cross ward membership in Moray. FCC unanimously opposed this proposal.</p> <p><b>Community Asset Transfer of Forres Town Hall:</b> E. Hayward proposed that Debbie Herron from Forres Area Community Trust be invited to a FCC meeting to answer questions about the proposal of a community asset transfer of Forres Town Hall. It was agreed that this invite be extended in due course once Forres Area Community Trust had time to progress their plans.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Moray Councillor Reports</b></p> <p><b>Cllr A. McLean:</b> Cllr A. McLean informed the meeting that Councillors were engaged in ongoing talks progressing towards forming an administration. All Councillors have been taking part in two weeks of inductions to learn about roles and responsibilities. Work upcoming for the ward Councillors includes attending a briefing about the Dallas Dhu master plan and attending briefings about the main issues report for the new local plan. Cllr A. McLean is also currently working on several Community Asset Transfer proposals.</p> <p><b>Cllr L. Creswell:</b> Cllr L. Creswell recently attended the Foster Parent Awards and supported the Learning Disability Week. Upcoming work includes; attending the next meeting with the Mortuary for Moray group, Auchernack Trust application assessment meeting, attending the meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup> about the future of Health &amp; Social Care in Forres, visiting the new Burdshaugh housing complex, and fundraising for the Alzheimer's awareness day on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.</p> <p><b>Cllr G. Alexander:</b> Cllr G. Alexander expressed disappointment in the newly elected Moray Councillors currently not speaking to each other. The next full Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May when an administration must be formed. Cllr G. Alexander highlighted a key desire to have an artificial/4G pitch built at Forres Academy as Forres will soon be the only Secondary School in Moray to not have this facility. Cllr A. McLean confirmed that there is a growing pot of money from developer contributions that can be used towards the building of an artificial/4G pitch and that this pot is currently not substantial enough to cover the full costs.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Chair's Report:</b> G. Hilditch provided the following updates;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Accepted an invitation to the launch of the new LEADER Scheme on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May</li> <li>- Confirmed that leaflets would be made available to promote the forthcoming Community Council elections and suggested that promotional stands be set up in September to encourage new people to stand for the next Forres Community Council</li> <li>- E. Hayward is to approach Forres Academy to encourage Sixth Year representatives</li> </ul>	E. Hayward
10.	<p><b>Secretary's Report:</b> E. Hayward provided the following updates;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Encouraged as many people as possible to attend the June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting about the Future of Health and Social Care in Forres</li> <li>- Mount Dora exchange students will be attending the June FCC meeting</li> <li>- The FCC member representative for Friends of the Falconer Museum will be filled by E Hayward until September</li> <li>- Ross Laird from Network Rail requested a meeting with FCC. E. Hayward will confirm the date of attendance which is likely to be Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September</li> <li>- E. Hayward asked the Moray Councillors what the situation was regarding the proposed lights being installed on St Catherine's Road. Cllr G. Alexander confirmed there is not yet enough funds from developer contributions to cover the cost of this piece of work</li> <li>- E. Hayward encouraged FCC's to respond to the 20mph Members Bill. Following the Forres 2020 Vision Prioritisation event at which speeds limits was discussed, G. Murdoch proposed that Forres Community Council apply to Living Streets to pilot a 20mph speed limit in Forres Town Centre. This proposal was seconded by S. Fraser.</li> </ul>	E. Hayward

	<p>E. Hayward will progress this matter with Living Streets</p> <p>- The Chair of the Joint Community Council expressed concerns about falling attendance and the future of the meeting is being considered</p>	E. Hayward
11.	<p><b>Treasurer's Report:</b> No report was presented. G. Hilditch and G. Murdoch are to progress the change over of bank signatures. It was unanimously agreed that a Petty Cash system be put in place.</p>	G. Hilditch & G. Murdoch
12.	<p><b>Community Council Members Reports</b></p> <p><b>E. Hayward:</b> 3 wind monitors are being installed by Force 9 Energy to collect wind data at the Hill of Clash Gour.</p> <p><b>J. Guthrie:</b> J. Guthrie is part of the group assessing access to buildings in Forres Town Centre as part of Euan's Guide and praised the initiative and good progress being made highlighting accessibility in Forres. J. Guthrie also praised the Thinking Back Looking Forwards event organised by Living Golf.</p> <p><b>S. Fraser:</b> S. Fraser updated the meeting about the progress of WiFi for Forres Town Hall. S. Fraser is waiting to receive letters of support from Moray Council prior to a funding application being submitted.</p> <p><b>G. Murdoch:</b> G. Murdoch attended the last Forres Business Association meeting, a TEDx talk. G. Murdoch noted the lack of shop keepers in attendance at Forres Business Association meetings. The next meeting will take place at Mackenzie &amp; Cruickshank Garden Centre.</p>	
13.	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p><b>Forres 2020 Vision:</b> G. Murdoch and S. Fraser provided an update from the Prioritisation Sessions and noted key discussion points which included; reducing the speed limit on Forres High Street, a caravan site, visitor accommodation, student accommodation, toilet conform scheme, A96 pedestrian crossing and a coming together of groups to work on aspects of managing green and open spaces. The prioritisations events were praised for generating positive discussion and attendance from various local groups, businesses and members of the public.</p> <p><b>Mosset Burn:</b> G. Hilditch proposed that FCC instigate the steps to engage a consultant to conduct a feasibility study of the Mosset Burn to find out what action could be taken in the future. This proposal was seconded by G. Murdoch.</p> <p><b>Forres Gazette Adverts:</b> S. Fraser confirmed that the advert series in the Forres Gazette was booked and up and running with the first advert appearing in the May 17<sup>th</sup> edition.</p> <p><b>Cluny Hill Dig:</b> G. Murdoch updated the meeting that a dig to investigate a possible Bronze Age Hill Fort on Cluny Hill would be taking place in June following a GeoPhysics study of the hill.</p> <p><b>A96 Roundabouts:</b> Member of the public raised concerns about the roundabouts not being maintained and asked if anything could be done.</p> <p><b>Noticeboards:</b> Moving forwards, G. Hilditch will update the FCC noticeboards.</p>	
14.	<p><b>Upcoming Events:</b></p> <p>Indian Adventure, Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May, Falconer Museum &amp; Grant Park</p> <p>Forres Rotary Club Silent Art Auction, Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May from 6:30pm, Moray Art Centre</p> <p>Alzheimer's Awareness Day, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, Forres</p> <p>Future of Health and Social Care in Forres, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 7-9pm, Forres Academy</p> <p>The Big Lunch, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June 1-4pm, Transition Town Forres</p> <p>Moray Walking Festival, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June, around Forres and Moray</p> <p>Piping at Forres, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, Forres Grant Park</p>	
15.	<p><b>Date of next Meeting:</b> Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 7:15pm</p>	

Meeting ended: 21:10