

The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

19th November 2020 VIA MS TEAMS MEETING

Secretary: Community Councillor Jo Lenihan | Email: info@forrescc.co.uk

Attendees		Apologies	
CC Shaun Moat (SM)	Chair	CC Lesley Edwards (LE)	
CC Graham Murdoch (GM)	Treasurer	CC Kenny Shand (KS)	
CC Frank Byrne (FB)		CC Michael Walker (MW)	
CC Steve Ferris (SF)			
CC Fiona Graham (FG)			
CC John Innes (JI)			
CC David Parker (DP)			
CC Alan Tissiman (AT)			
CC Jo Lenihan (JL)	Secretary		
MC Cllr George Alexander			
MC Cllr Lorna Creswell			
MC Cllr Claire Feaver			
Sgt Steven Carmichael	Police Scotland		
Garry McCartney	Forres Gazette		
Members of Public			

Item	Discussion	Action
1.	Welcome and apologies: The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were recorded.	
2.	Community Safety Report : CSP 43 was circulated. Sgt Carmichael outlined the main incidents. General crime had gone down in pandemic but fraud particularly targeting vulnerable and elderly had increased. Police Scotland had been working with AbilityNet who assist with educating people with a disability or are elderly about technology. More information and contact details on the <u>AbilityNet</u> website. Due to introduction of new drug detecting wipes more people being charged with drug driving. Community engagement – patrols directed to hotspots. Crime levels are now returning to normal following reduction during Covid. Officers had patrolled at Sanquhar where it was reported teenagers were gathering but none seen. Discussion took place on logging of statements and how reliable the system was. It was noted that it was very rare for statements to go missing but not impossible. Less likely with the new digital notepads now carried by officers. SM thanked Sgt Carmichael for update.	
3	Ratification of Minutes 15th October 2020: The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewedand accepted as a true record.Proposed: John InnesSeconded: Graham Murdoch	
4.	 Matters arising/updates: a) Grant Park road signs. SM had emailed Bear Scotland but no response to date. Will speak to Nicola Moss (TMC) for better contact. b) Town Centre speed restrictions. Still no update. SF commented that a survey for a previous attempt for Lees road showed speed wasn't high enough to warrant change. 	SM SM

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	 c) Speed signs - FB had submitted quote which should still be valid, now need to find funding. SM/FB to meet to discuss funding. Missed last round of Berry Burn funding but could prepare application for next round. Insp Rigg will assist in best locations. d) Town Centre Christmas Shopping - Meeting held but nobody has any real idea how to handle as total unknown - most doing own thing. Suggestion of street entertainment but conflict of getting people on to High Street and maintaining social distancing. e) Book share – SM had emailed other CC but no interest f) High Street health check. happens every 2 years. A count of number of people on High Street at 2 points and number of shops open/closed. Little point currently due to situation. 	SM/FB
_	g) Sanquhar Park – no update	
5.	Community Council Review Scheme . The Chair outlined the scheme. Review every 4 years and focus this time on boundaries, co-options, and grant. Some CCs get bigger pot than others and no clear guidance on how to divide grant – currently done on population. Co-options currently remain for 12 months; the WG have agreed to reduce this to 6 months. All amendments need to go to elected members to approve. In terms of Council Boundaries, it has been proposed that FCC consider Dyke and Landward amalgamating with Forres as they are currently struggling for membership. Discussion took place on this and whilst FCC wanted to support DL there was concern that the difference in area type might mean DL's issues might not get attention they should. It was also noted that CCs often go through phases of ups and downs and it was likely the current issues	
	would improve. Any change would also be permanent. Any comments to be forwarded to the Sec	
	by end of Friday 20 th November who will send a consolidated reply to the Review scheme.	ALL
6. 7	Festive Lights: Forres has an organisation to manage this. Community Councillor Group and Representatives Report:	
	 a) SM- planning application for old Tesco site on Caroline Street available online. Forres Gazette had run an article today. Any questions for the developer to Jo to collate. why has it taken 20 years and why changed name? how to access site? Cllr Feaver advised looking at plans for communal bins, roof height in comparison to surrounding area. Talk to MC planners for advice if necessary. b) JL - look at Learning Estate Strategy and if possible, attend one of virtual meetings. Cllr Creswell and Alexander had attended first one and it focussed on setting principles and priorities. c) FG - Flu clinics continue at Legion. One case of Covid at Academy but swiftly dealt with on no onward transmission. Will feed back positive comments relating to flu clinics. d) SF - face to face GP appointments are happening as family member recently had one following telephone consultation. e) JI - Commented on positive of derelict land being developed and asked if any news on Leanchoil. GM advised that Trust is back in touch with Erskine. NHS Grampian are very keen to move forward with the CAT and Trust recently advertised for Development Officer. f) KS - JL updated meeting with issues about dropped kerbs. Grantown road at the swing park and the entrance to Grant place near the health centre – MC work orders put in for these. One up the street across from the Lucky Star can't be altered due to the driveway access. Finally, one across from the fire station will come under the new traffic calming scheme in that area probably mid-2021. SM thanked KS for work being done in background and sent best wishes from FCC. g) AT - contact with Roy Dennis from FBNR who would be happy to give a talk to FCC. SM 	JL
	will identify a suitable date and book.	SM
11.	Public session: No members of public present.	
12.	 Moray Councillor's Reports a) Cllr Creswell – Attended Criminal Justice Partnership online – stats interesting on progress since last year. Difficulty in getting people doing unpaid work to locations. Need to look at what learning can come out of this. 	

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	 b) Cllr Alexander – Constant meetings online very wearing and no time for consolidation. Public not very happy about conflicting messages about safe distancing and attending community events eg being able to attend showies but Remembrance Day parades discouraged. Concerns about speeding at end of St Leonards road which is dangerous - pavement and road both narrow at this point. Need to consider traffic calming measures. Number of lorries from quarries has now reduced as work at Ben Romach concluded. Maybe narrowing the street to force people to slow down might help. II commented that he had seen a police presence there and maybe a good site for one of the speed limit signs. Highlight issues to police. c) Cllr Feaver – Had already asked question of MC relating to St Leonards Road. Would be interested to see police report on speeding and monitoring. Positive news from Forres Academy despite case of Covid and 7 teachers and 30 students self-isolating there was no onward transmission. Also, good to see that teachers are delivering lessons to those at home unlike first lockdown. MC has now developed an attainment strategy as result of Best Value Report. Note that the teachers are working extremely hard. Attended UHI foundation meeting. Difficulties with students from all over and keeping engaged when working from home. Working via MS Teams has created extra work. HE numbers are as expected but FE numbers have dropped – a lot of practical courses so difficult to manage this. Key thing is that we need to upskill people as jobs lost as result of Covid might not be recreated so people may need to retrain. UHI working with businesses to upskill via short, locally relevant modules. Regarding Town Centre and getting people in for Christmas – residents in a town in the boarders are going to have a different window display each day of advent. Could this be adopted here? 	
13.	Chair's report : JCC meetings reverting to every 3 months. SM laid wreath on Remembrance Sunday for FCC. SM/GM met associate members re A96 – keeping this on radar and writing to Transport Scotland	
14.	Treasurer's report : Current balance $\pounds 1962.39 - expenditure of \pounds 36 on wreath for Remembrance Sunday. Still have JCC SSEN grant of £1000 to disperse – agreed to keep to next year as could be needs arising.$	
15.	Secretary's report: FACT AGM 26 th November at 5.30 pm via Zoom	
16.	Events: 8 th December – Credit Union AGM 18.30 pm. Contact office for invite. Christmas lights on 22 nd November and tree up on 29 th November. Pop up shop in Tolbooth from Monday 23 rd November for 4 weeks.	
17.	 AOCB: a) Merket Cross will be completed before end of FY b) SF – Nimrod memorial returned and back in place. A big thank you to all involved. DP had sent some photos which would be forwarded. 	JL
18.	Date of next meeting: Thursday 17th December 2020 at 7.00 pm via MS Teams	