

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 AbilityNet 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 15 th October 2020: The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted as a true record. Proposed: John Innes Seconded: 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

	<p>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. JI 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.</p> <p>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?</p>	
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 £1962.39 – expenditure of £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.	<p>AOCB:</p> <p>a) Merket Cross will be completed before end of FY</p> <p>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.</p>	JL
18.	Date of next meeting: Thursday 17 th December 2020 at 7.00 pm via MS Teams	