

The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

Thursday 21st January 2021 at 7.00 pm via MS Teams

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

Attendees		Apologies	
CC Shaun Moat (SM)	Chair	CC Frank Byrne (FB)	
CC Graham Murdoch (GM)	Treasurer	CC John Innes (JI)	
CC Lesley Edwards (LE)		CC Kenny Shand (KS)	
CC Steve Ferris (SF)		CC Michael Walker (MW)	
CC Fiona Graham (FG)			
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			
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: No CSR available. No police in attendance.	
3..	Ratification of Minutes 17 th December 2020: The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted as a true record. Proposed: David Parker Seconded: Fiona Graham	
4.	Matters arising/updates: GM confirmed that the funding for the development officer and admin support for Leancoil Trust came from Earnhill Trust. Roy Dennis unable to make the meeting so will reschedule this for later in the year. AT to re-arrange. SSEN Funding. Discussion took place on whether FCC content to support individuals, level of awards and ensuring compliance with GDPR. It was felt that decision made at last meeting that awards would be made to individuals in need rather than organisations supporting Covid as they were already receiving funding from other sources. JL to check with Quarriers and Jane Martin on GDPR procedures.. Vote on setting amount to £100 – agreed Vote to agree 2 further donations of £100 to families identified – agreed It was agreed SM would arrange with MFCU to allocate £300 for distribution JL to email FACT to progress Cllr Creswell raised issue of difficulty of sharing information to help people.	JL SM SM JL

5.	<p>Chair’s report Email complaint from Mr Taylor, Rafford. In outline he’s unhappy that FCC retains 2 associate members associated with the A96 dualling and this is still on agenda. The email also states the minutes are not detailed enough. Discussion took place on the matter. Chair stated that FCC look after community of Forres which doesn’t cover Rafford, and under FCC rules section 9. Additional Membership: associate members can be appointed by FCC where individuals have a particular skill or knowledge that may be needed. GM and SM had met with associate members for an update regarding where Transport Scotland are with A96 dualling and whether it would be worth FCC writing to them so FCC still in picture. Biggest concerns raised with FCC is impact on town of traffic linking to A96, but no letters have been written to Transport Scotland. FCC committee agreed to keep on agenda and retain associate membership until A96 dualling progresses further. SM to draft response to Mr Taylor.</p>	SM
6.	<p>Treasurer’s report £2406.42 including deduction of £200 pounds for grant.</p>	
7.	<p>Secretary’s report Health Centre Forms from Fiona. There had been a problem with downloading forms from Health Centre website, but this seemed to be working now. Energising Moray Group (EMG). SF raised concerns about letter from EMG that appeared to suggest that group would take all money from windfarm community funds and distribute throughout Moray for green initiatives. Discussion took place on this. SM had attended and thought it related to Clash Gour and not all windfarms, but letter referred directly to Berry Burn. Current Berry Burn fund will continue as at present. Berry Burn 2 will be administered differently. Cllr Feaver stated that people are concerned about remit of EMG and JCC and how these fit together. She has concerns about EMG and there needs to be clarification on difference between community benefit and investment. Need to understand community ownership of turbines. 2 types of community benefit – buying in to turbines and community benefit. Query about governance of JCC and CC’s. Who is responsible to whom? SM confirmed FCC not held to account by JCC – JCC brings CC’s. Any concerns raised to Cllr Feaver will be directed to SM for action. SM to raise at next JCC as letter signed off by Chair of JCC.</p>	Cllr Feaver SM
8.	<p>Community Councillor Group/Representatives Reports SM - Osprey bus – not much happening at moment. Skate Park – applied to Berry Burn and Awards for All for funding. Alan James Associates appointed to prepare a business plan for skate park. GM – KS advised that waiting for date for drop kerbs to be installed. Green Spaces - email from Sylvia (MC) to get meetings up and running - GM attends green spaces meetings. Mosset Burn survey - will get back to Bob to move forward. SF - question about provision of schooling in Forres and if this is something to raise with MC Education Department. Are families happy with education their children are getting? Concern also about Moray’s position of 31 out of 32 in Scotland for achievement. Discussion took place on home-schooling and provision of resources and teaching. Is this a remit of CC’s – if there is a problem then should we be raising with MC? Elected members commented that all are aware of situation. There appears to be variance across year groups and schools. Survey being carried out of all parents on their experience of home-schooling and how they and children are coping. Cllr Feaver has written to Director of Education on issues raised with her and is awaiting a response. All acknowledged that teaching staff are working extremely hard, that some teachers are parents so having to school own children and system is not perfect but lot of work going on to keep improving situation. Complaints taken to FCC should be passed to elected member to take to MC Officers for action. LE – anyone in need of help can get in touch with FACT via email or phone. FG –Flu vaccine was organised by NHS Grampian and Covid-19 programme will be same. FG trying to get numbers and update on programme. <i>Note: Cllr Creswell has said Cllrs receive weekly stats which can be passed on if required.</i> DP – some due to get vaccination this weekend. Men’s shed closed. AT – Speakers for Feb/March so invite Roy for May meeting.</p>	GM FG AT

9.	<p>Moray Councillor's Reports</p> <p>a) Cllr Creswell. Budget discussions started. Most queries received relate to H&SC. Directory created before Christmas still being used. Few businesses slipped through net so contacted Business Gateway and council about this – info on discretionary awards this week. ARI appointments at 8 am not acceptable for people of Forres so trying to contact about this. Complicated pathway for people on benefits/grants. Window Wanderland in February. RBL adapted planning application for extending building. Approached by Staatcraft for article for their magazine.</p> <p>b) Cllr Alexander – Question – what FCC's views on present waste collection service as adapted for Covid. Would additional recycling waste still be collected if too much for bins? Would be good for public to have reassurance on this. Is there any evidence of bin sharing in built up areas? Some but not a lot. There is evidence that fly tipping has increased. RBL planning permission on Council's website Ref 20/01748/App</p> <p>c) Cllr Feaver – question to Fiona – who is getting flu vaccine? Over 65's and those with certain conditions. All organised NHS Flu planning department. Fiona chasing this up.</p> <p>d) Cllr Maclean – meet with Head of Education and Depute Chief Exec every Tuesday and passes on any issues at these meetings. Money through participatory budget for new park at Mannachie park.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>SM – when is appointment system at recycling centre due to be reviewed/removed? Cllr Alexander responded that IT booking system was purchased for a year so unlikely to be lifted soon.</p> <p>FG – if resident disabled and large bulky items uplifted, and no one allowed in house for Covid-19 restrictions how do they go about this? Cllr Maclean advised that taking relevant Covid-19 precautions taken it shouldn't be a problem for workers to enter house but write to Cllr for definitive answer.</p>	
10.	<p>Public Session No public present.</p>	
11.	<p>Forthcoming Events</p> <p>Guests February: Richard Lochhead MSP March: Douglas Ross MP April: Laurie Piper, CE Moray Speyside Tourism May: TBC but possibly Roy Dennis</p>	
12.	<p>AOCB:</p> <p>Cllr Creswell – had received some objection to vaccines being carried out at RBL in terms of parking, access, and social distancing. Waiting for answer to this from HSCM. Receives information on variety of things such as business insolvency. DP - space project email. JL to send round. GM – JCC discussed resilience planning. Ask FB if interested in looking at this.</p>	
13.	<p>Date of next meeting: Thursday 18th February at 7.00 pm via MS Teams</p>	