

## The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7.00 pm via MS Teams

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

Attendees		Apologies	
CC Fiona Graham	Acting Chair	CC Kenny Shand (KS)	
CC Graham Murdoch (GM)	Treasurer	CC Alan Tissiman (tS)	
CC John Innes (JI)		CC Michael Walker (MW)	
CC David Parker (DP)		MC Cllr Claire Feaver	
CC Jo Lenihan (JL)	Secretary		
MC Cllr Lorna Creswell		CC Frank Byrne (FB)	
MC Cllr George Alexander		CC Lesley Edwards (LE)	
MC Cllr Aaron Mclean		CC Steve Ferris (SF)	
Insp Tony Mccullie			
Garry McCartney			
Members of the Public			

Item	Discussion	Action
1.	<b>Welcome and apologies:</b> The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were recorded. A special welcome to Laurie Piper. Visit Moray Speyside IVMS)	
2.	<p><b>Community Safety Report:</b></p> <p>Insp Mccullie – briefed on crime report for Forres in March 4 vandalisms – inquiries ongoing.</p> <p>Domestic – assault, threatening/abusive behaviour, threatening communications - all perpetrators traced and reported to Procurator Fiscal. Disturbance by one individual on number of offences. One reported assault/resisting arrest, one abusive behaviour. Solitary hate crime communication offence - 2 persons reported.</p> <p>Covid - 2 fixed penalties and 1 person reported to Procurator Fiscal for 2 breaches</p> <p>Fraud – 1 investment, 1 online, 1 attempted. 2 thefts of bike and money and 2 shoplifting offences.</p> <p>Road safety – 5 speeding, 1 MOT, 1 failing to stop after accident and 1 drink driver.</p> <p>Community concerns – youth annoyance at Broom of Moy where youths hanging about under bridge. Increase patrols to deter before issue in summer months.</p> <p>CSP Report – insert about fraud which is quite prevalent and on increase, especially online and telephone. Report contains general advice for people.</p> <p><b>Questions</b></p> <p>Cllr Creswell asked about police involvement with dogs out of control and if there's a dedicated resource for neighbour disputes. Findhorn offered thanks for support at fire. <i>Dogs out of control would be a police problem so should be reported.</i></p> <p><i>Neighbour disputes – would attend if reported and would give general advice but no dedicated team for mediation as not specifically a police issue. Would investigate if criminality suspected or refer to other agencies.</i></p> <p>GM –Youths have been on roof of shop building which is 25 feet up and roof at Andersons school. At Pilmuir youths smashed windows of digger and broke fencing. Is there a solution?</p>	

	<p><i>If criminality suspected youths would be taken to task. Youth justice management unit look to see if names keep cropping up and try and divert from areas of behaviour that could escalate further.</i></p> <p>Garry - Is it same youths all over Forres?  <i>Relatively low-level localised problems but no gang culture suspected.</i></p> <p>Fire at Findhorn – Garry asked what level of detail he could report in the press.  <i>Insp Mccullie will make contact after meeting and advised to speak to Corporate Comms</i></p> <p>FG – has there been increase in youth annoyance during lockdown.  <i>As new in post can't really comment so will monitor over next few months and come back but stress this is not a massive issue but keen to be kept in picture.</i></p> <p>Thanks to Tony for report.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Laurie Piper, Visit Moray Speyside (VMS)</b></p> <p>Tourism has grown from 100m in 2014 to record 135.5m in 2019. BID was based on growing visitor numbers from 135 to 200m by 2025. This fundamentally changed due to lockdown and work has focussed on supporting businesses, making sure Moray tourism voice is heard, providing accurate timely information, advice/guidance/signposting on funding. They work at very low level locally and high-level engagement with Visit Scotland, Moray Business Forum, Emergency Response Group in National Park, and Scottish Gov. Message - Moray's tourism industry is crucial, critical and increasing. 2021 have ambitious campaign on destination marketing, 12-week digital campaign, press trips, improvements to website. Awarded HIE recovery funding and involved in discussions with MC about campervan waste, additional waste points, grass cutting, parking and toilets.</p> <p>Toilets – Not a statutory provision for MC. Briefed JCC about toilets toolkit which will give information, signposting, advice, and access to funding to provide viable and sustainable model for toilets. Still work in progress and will require CC, Dev Trust Comm Trusts to back it. Template can be rolled out in any community with a view to toilets being owned or leased and run by community on sustainable basis and opened for good.</p> <p>Helping MC to understand implications of impending campervan wave which has already started and must be dealt with. MC addressing several hotspots, but timing means might have tricky period at end of month. Findhorn have amazing plans for addressing issue which could be used as model.</p> <p>Most businesses have received closure and re-opening grants from Gov. Pressing for continuing support for industry as not likely to be profitable this year as many bookings deferred from last year. HIE, SG, Visit Scotland recognise VMS have agency to act in best interest of tourism industry. Next 3 years need to emerge from Covid as cohesive area – hinged on distinct communities, towns, and areas but with single voice. Moray as a region is considerably stronger as collective. HIE funded £350K for comprehensive delivery plan for recovery. Staff recruited to deliver plan to welcome visitors better and make tourism more resilient and better equipped to deal with similar situation in future. Bookings and interest from international travel business is strong. We can get back to where we were in 2019.</p> <p><b>Questions</b></p> <p>DP – will campervans and Airbnb affect local B&amp;B business.  <i>Number of campervans has grown in recent years and tend to focus on certain places eg NC500. Last year people could not go anywhere so number of rented campervans increased. Gov view tourism as a whole and campervans not seen as a separate issue so last year took them by surprise.</i></p>	



10.	<b>Treasurer's report</b> £1906.42 following grants money being taken out. Credit Union fund of £164.93.	
11.	<b>Secretary's report</b> Feedback from JCC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation on Elgin city Centre Masterplan</li> <li>• OU offer of free training for CCs – email circulated. All training free and certified.</li> <li>• New member Emily from Lennox highlighted mental health for young and wait for support which can be 12 months which is no use as needed now. See this as a huge problem coming to fore now.</li> </ul>	
12.	<b>Community Councillor Group/Representatives Reports</b> DP – Town Hall running MH for men - advertised on FB. Will Cluny Hill zoom meeting on Saturday be cancelled due to DofE funeral? JL to check on this? Shed still closed but hoping to open soon.  JI – Noticed quite an increase in number of youths hanging around Applegrove school and RBL since last summer. Police advised of pockets around town and were dealing with this.  GM – Forres Area Business Association trying to get up and running as CIC and to work with VMS. Consultation for Cluny Hill plan –jumps being made over paths crossing those that people walk on and affecting work done to maintain paths. Contractor on site finishing work on paths. Concern that James Hunter doesn't want cuttings to be carried out in woodlands etc going into summer. However, sides of paths need to be cut back and if not allowed volunteers won't have anything to do. Need clarification on how much cutting back can be done.  FG – emailed schools about masks and social distancing in Nursery Lane. Re Health Centre complaint about 3 weeks wait for appointment – Practice Manager responded that is very unusual unless waiting for specific Doctor. Patients to go pharmacist, then GP or Econnect – get response by telephone or email next working day. Many positive experiences where issues sorted by end of the day. Garry – running big story about this and dog waste in Forres Gazette.	JL
13.	<b>Moray Councillor's Reports</b> a) Cllr Alexander – Routine of zoom meetings. b) Cllr Creswell – Still at CU. Opening in Buckie/Elgin sometime in May. Survey of councillors on PB and views on benefits/issues. Continue to get calls about housing and services for restricted mobility. Developer contributions - consultation in August. Hope to visit Foundation tomorrow - many local and global calls offering help. Sincere thanks again to Emergency Services. Too many consultations on the go which is a lot for community and has fed this back to MC. GM asked if FCC will be asked to comment on transition town consultation? Unsure if building and plots being looked at together or separated - this is basis for feasibility study. c) Cllr McLean – Caught up with consultations. Issue of drainage in Nursery Lane raised. Inside school at Applegrove must wear facemask. Things quieter in pre-election period.	
14.	<b>Public Session</b> No public present.	
15.	<b>Forthcoming Events</b> None notified.	
16.	<b>AOCB:</b>	
17.	Date of next meeting: Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.00 pm via MS Teams	