

Forres Community Council

Thursday 15th August 2024 at 7.00 pm, Forres House Community Centre

Secretary: Peter White | **Email:** info@forrescc.co.uk

Attendees - FCC		Attendees - Other
CC Steve Ferris (SF)	Chair	Cllr Scott Lawrence
CC David Parker (DP)	Vice Chair	Cllr Kathleen Robertson
CC Graham Murdoch (GM)	Treasurer	
CC Fiona Graham (FG)	Minute Secretary	Garry McCartney (GMc) (Press)
CC Kev Skivington (KSk)		
CC John Innes (JI)		Colin Buchan
		Members of the Public (MOP) in attendance
		Ann Rossiter (Forres Community Spirit)
		Sandra Maclennan (FAF, FIB)
		Yvonne McKinley (MoP)
		Sheila Johnston (MoP)
		George Alexander (FHT, FMFC, FVNH)
Apologies		
CC Ken Shand (KS)		
Cllr Draeyk Van Der Horn		

Item	Discussion	Action
1.	<p>Welcome, and apologies:</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to this month's meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>Community Safety Report:</p> <p><u>June CSP</u></p> <p><u>Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. One person was charged and issued a Fixed Penalty Notice regarding a breach of the peace and consuming alcohol in a public place. b. Six reports were received of Assault in June, four persons have been arrested, charged, and released to appear in court on a later date. Positive lines of enquiry are ongoing for the remaining two incidents. c. There have been three Breach of Bail reported to the Procurator Fiscal. d. Five reports were received of threatening and abusive behaviour, two persons have been arrested and released to appear at court on a later date, one has been issued with a Recorded Police Warning, and inquiries remain ongoing about the others. e. One person has been charged and issued a Recorded Police Warning regarding Wasting Police Time. f. One person was charged after being found in possession of a controlled drug. A report has been sent to the Procurator Fiscal. <p><u>Acquisitive Crime:</u></p>	

- a. Eight reports of Theft have been made in the Forres Area in June. One person has been charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal, one youth has been charged and reported to the Scottish Children's Reporter and positive lines of enquiry are ongoing into the remaining incidents.
- b. Two reports of Theft by shoplifting from local businesses. Enquiries are ongoing.
- c. Twelve reports of Vandalism have been made this month. One person has been charged and a report sent to the Procurator Fiscal. Enquiries for the remainder are ongoing utilising CCTV and house to house opportunities.

Road Safety & road crime:

- a.** One person was arrested and kept in custody to appear at court, regarding the theft of a vehicle, driving unsupervised with a provisional license and driving without insurance.
- b.** Two persons were arrested and charged with Drink Driving Section 5 RTA 1988, both were released from custody to appear at court later.
- c.** One person was reported to the Procurator Fiscal for driving whilst unfit.
- d.** Positive lines of enquiry are ongoing regarding a report of Dangerous Driving in the Forres area.
- e.** Four reports were made of persons failing to stop after an accident. Enquiries have resulted in two persons being charged and reports being sent to the Procurator Fiscal. Enquiries are ongoing into the remaining incidents.

July CSP

Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder:

- a. One youth has been charged for Threatening and Abusive behaviour and referred to the Youth Justic Management Unit (YJMU).
- b. Seven further reports were received of Threatening and Abusive behaviour. Four persons have been charged and will appear at court on a later date. One person has been issued a Recorded Police Warning. Positive lines of enquiry are ongoing for the remaining two incidents.
- c. Two persons were traced and kept in custody following reports of a Breach of Bail.
- d. There have been eight reports of Assault this month. Five people have been charged in connection with these incidents. Positive lines of enquiry are ongoing for the remaining.
- e. One person has been charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal following an Assault on Police Officers.
- f. Four persons have been charged after being found in possession of a controlled substance. A report has been sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

Acquisitive Crime:

- a.** Four reports of Theft have been made this month. Positive lines of enquiry are ongoing in connection with these incidents.
- b.** There were five reports of vandalism in July. Inquiries remain ongoing utilizing CCTV and house-to-house opportunities.

Road Safety & road crime:

- a.** One person has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal for driving without insurance.

	<p>b. A report was received of a person suspected of driving while unfit. The vehicle was quickly traced, and one person was arrested, charged, and released to appear in court later.</p> <p>c. A report was made of a person failing to stop after an accident. Enquiries are ongoing.</p> <p>SF advised that he pushed for attendance at either FC or JCC meetings.</p>	
3.	<p>Public Session</p> <p><u>Common Good Fund</u> – SF read out the financial report on the financial statement of Forres Common Good Fund, which was brought to his attention by a member of the public. SF discussed the area that he has an interest in which has to do with TTF rent and the rent rebate. George Alexander brought to the attention of FCC and Moray Councillors that several local groups who usually apply for funding grants from the Common Good Fund are no longer able to apply due to no funds being available as all the Moray Councillors had agreed to use the funds towards the upkeep of common good land. Some of the local groups affected are Forres Rotary, Forres Christmas Lights, Forres Mechanics, and Forres Heritage Trust. A letter will be sent to our Councillors for a full breakdown of what has been spent and where.</p> <p><u>Glasgow School of Art</u> - SF introduced Wei Ton from GSA who is trying to help local groups to show what they are doing and how they can be helped to improve their visibility. SF advised more information will be provided at the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Tourist Maps</u> – Sandra McClennan brought up that the Tourist Notice Board looking onto the Leys Road Cap Park has been damaged and the Perspex was broken and causing a safety risk. It is unknown who owns this notice board and the others around the town. It was agreed that JI and KSk would go and remove the Perspex to make it safe, while the Council would be contacted to find out who owns them. It was suggested that the FCC could take them on and have up-to-date maps the FCC minutes, and other local information.</p>	
4.	<p>Ratification of Minutes 20th June 2024.</p> <p>The minutes were agreed to be a true record of the previous month's meeting.</p> <p>Proposer – John Innes Seconded – David Parker</p>	
5.	<p>Matters Arising</p>	
6.	<p>Planning/Licences</p> <p><u>Planning</u> –</p> <p>1. An application has been submitted for the housing development at Dallas Dhu Distillery which includes eighty student flats for the Glasgow School of Art..</p>	

	<p><u>2.</u> Application submitted for change of use from garage to a premier convenience store.</p> <p><u>3.</u> SF queried the Councillors if they knew what the change of use land from amenity land to a garden.</p>	
7.f.	<p>Action Plan Updates</p> <p>a. <u>Resilience</u> – JI bought in some radios to show SF. They will be evaluated at the Grant Park 100 festivities. SF asked for one person to be in the Scout hut to enable a good test of the kit.</p> <p>b. <u>Forres Culture and Heritage Scheme</u> – SF advised that an email had been received to advise the development phase is now complete and was submitted to the full Council where it was approved. All the paperwork will now be sent to the funders (Heritage Lottery and Heritage Scotland) for £3.3million and a response should be received just before Christmas.</p> <p>c. <u>Forres Local Place Plan</u> – All the paperwork from the FCHS has been included in the Local Place Plan and there was a large volume of paperwork from consultations to be added. A thank you to Ann and Tina for their hard work and the assistance from Spirit of the Community</p>	ALL
8.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>There were no emails received that were untoward.</p>	
9.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>GM advised that the balance in the account has not changed since the las previous meeting. The admin grant has been received but there are still honorarium costs to be claimed. Also, FCC received the £50 from PW which was owed from Stagecoach due to PW needing to take a taxi home as the scheduled bus had not turned up. GM advised that there is a sub-group meeting to discuss how the admin grants are distributed to all Community Councils in the Moray area and to see if there is a fairer way of dispersing funds. It was highlighted that some Community Council do not have the funds to pay rent or other costs due to their size and funding received.</p>	

<p>10.</p>	<p>Moray councillor reports</p> <p>Cllr Kathleen Robertson – Advised that the Council are only been back a couple of weeks due to summer recess. KR advised that with the loss of the Stagecoach bus service covering Kinloss and Findhorn ending the Council is bringing out a paper to see how they can expand the m. Connect service.KR has been asked to write to the Government, who want people to green up and use public transport but as the reasons for the likes of Stagecoach cancelling rural routes is due to financial as a vast majority of passengers are either over 60 or under 22 and bus companies do not get a full fare reimbursed. The council is contacting the MOD and Stagecoach to see if they can help in the interim period. The Council is finally changing the lightbulbs in their buildings which could save around £600,000. They are looking at installing solar panels for some of the buildings that are expensive to heat. KR also stated that they will be starting the process of preparing for the budget in spring and at present there is a £10 million deficit to fill.</p> <p>Cllr Scott Lawrence - SL advised that the issue with Stagecoach is not only a Findhorn and Kinloss issue it affects Forres too. Councillors, Community Councils and Stagecoach met at the start of the summer holidays to discuss the problems, and he also stated that the Car Share Scheme is no longer running due to issues. The Council is looking at the options available and advised that the on-demand service by m. Connect cannot be used as it is well used within the town. Any routine bus service d has to go through a proper bus registration, which can take up to 3 months, so the Osprey Bus could not be hired for this purpose. SL mentioned that residents within Forres in some of the new housing estates must pay a factoring fee and are therefore entitled to form a residents' association. Residents can then take on the factoring. SL is looking into encouraging homeowners to form residents' associations and for them to take responsibility of the local grounds around them.</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>Forthcoming Events</p> <p>16/08 – Children's Film Club showing Robot Dreams 24/08 – Grant Park 100 Festivities (all day) 31/08 Adult Film Club showing 07/09 - Moray Open Doors</p>	

12.	<p>AOCB</p> <p><u>Forres Features</u> – the company has now been wound up and a couple of carvings were prepared to be located at Cluny Hill and Grant Park. GM met with Sandra MacLennan, and it was decided to situate one next to the carving of the Piper. GM spoke with Sarah Campbell from Moray Council with regards to permissions, a risk assessment needs to be done and installation by the contractor which has both been organized, therefore whoever has ownership of the carvings will need to have them added to their insurance, and would this be FCC or Forres in Bloom? #Sandra MacLennan advised that they could add it to their insurance.</p> <p><u>Conservation and Heritage</u> – Within the Development plan there is a pot of money allocated for Cluny Hill. There is the Cluny Hill Management Plan and Kirsty Shand has advised that if a community group were to take on the work, more work could be done than it would if Moray Council were to do the work. GM asked if FCC were willing to take this on, SF advised GM he could, and FG advised she would help.</p> <p><u>Active Travel</u> – Judith Binnie would like to attend FCC to give an update.</p>	
14.	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting will be on Thursday 19th September at 7.00 pm in the Garden Room in Forres House Community Centre.</p>	