

Forres Community Council

Thursday 19th September 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	
CC Fiona Graham (FG)	Minute Secretary	
CC Kev Skivington (KSk)		Garry McCartney (GMc) (Press)
CC Graham Murdoch (GM)		
Peter White (PW)	Admin Secretary	Members of the Public (MOP) in attendance
		Debra Duke (CCLO)
		George Alexander
		Ann Rossiter (Forres Community Spirit)
Apologies		
CC John Innes (JI)	CC Ken Shand (KS)	Sandra MacLennan (FAF, FIB)
Cllr Kathleen Robertson	Cllr Paul McBain	Yvonne Findlay (MoP)
Cllr Van der Horn		Henrieta Grant Parker (MoP)
		Steve Wall (MoP)
		Derek Haslam (MoP)

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>Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There have been five reports of Vandalism for August 2024. Lines of enquiry are being followed for all, utilizing CCTV and house to house enquiries. One has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal. 2. Two reports were received of Assault in August, both have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal. 3. Two reports have been received of persons found to be in possession of small personal amount of controlled substance the person was reported to the Procurator Fiscal. 4. One person was traced, arrested, and charged, following a report of a serious assault outside a licensed premises. A report was submitted to the Procurator Fiscal. 5. There have been one Breach of Bails reported to the Procurator Fiscal. 6. Three reports were received of persons being threatening and abusive towards their partners. enquiries are all still ongoing into each. 	

	<p>7. Four reports were received in August 2024 of threatening and abusive behaviour, three have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal, one still has ongoing enquiry being made.</p> <p><u>Acquisitive Crime</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This month saw three reports of theft by shoplifting from local businesses. Enquires are still ongoing into all with some positive lines and potential identities for some suspects. 2. A report of Fraud where the suspect has cloned another’s social media account and attempted to deceive the victim by asking for a further deposit of £200 for an item that was advertised for sale online by the real person. The suspect also contacted the real person by WhatsApp asking for the deposit back. There was no monetary loss. Enquiries are still ongoing. 3. A report of Fraud whereby the victim did sign up for a Facebook investment, various amounts of money were deposited to the suspect, and when asked to withdraw the money the suspect refused. Enquiries are still ongoing. 4. A report received of a person putting £100 of fuel into a vehicle at a local filling station, before entering and failing to pay before leaving. Positive lines of enquiry are ongoing. <p><u>Road Safety & road crime:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One report of a person driving whilst under the influence of a controlled substance. Positive lines of inquiry are ongoing, hopefully resulting in a charge. 2. One person was charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal for Driving while Unfit, no insurance, failing to stop after an accident, and other driving offenses. 3. One person was charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal for defective tyres and no MOT. 4. One person charged with driving a vehicle is overweight. A report was sent to the Procurator Fiscal. 5. One person reported to the Procurator Fiscal for failing to report the accident. 	
3.	<p>Public Session</p> <p><u>Forres Railway Station</u> -HGP advised that she had visited the station recently and advised that the station map and layout were all out of date. Especially as the photos show the old station that was knocked down in 2017. She asked if the Community Council could take these matters forward to Scotrail. SF asked the FCC members are happy to contact Scotrail / Network Rail, which was agreed.</p> <p><u>Outdoor Gym</u> – AR asked if there was any update with regards to the outdoor gym or, if is it still being dealt with by SF. It was confirmed that he was still dealing with it.</p> <p><u>Forres Roundabouts</u> – SM advised that they now have a contact at Amey and with Cllr McBain they will be having a meeting with Amey to discuss the roundabouts on the A96 next to Forres.</p> <p>Knockomie Residents Association – Mr. Haslam advised he was part of the newly organized Residents Association for the people who live within the Knockomie development, and earlier this year their Factor had changed hands and there was a lot of confusion for the residents and they decided to create a residents association</p>	

	<p>and they are making the new Factor accountable. The Association now has over two hundred members, and they wanted to let people know they exist.</p> <p><u>Common Good Fund</u> – GA advised that after the report in the Forres Gazette, he had received questions about the news. One question he received from a concerned resident who stated their dismay about how the Moray Council used the funds to help fill their financial black hole. GA queried if this decision was solely for the 2024/2025 budget year or for all years in the future. SL advised it was not just for the current budget year, but they cannot say that it will not be used in future years. GA advised that many local charity/volunteer organizations will not be able to run as they currently do, and this will impact the local community. SF asked if the Open Spaces Department had changed its budget because the funds were used for grass cutting.</p>	
4.	<p>Ratification of Minutes 15th August 2024.</p> <p>The minutes were agreed to be a true record of the previous month's meeting.</p> <p>Proposer – Kevin Skivington Seconded – David Parker</p>	
5.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p><u>Community Council Scheme Review</u> – Debra Duke advised what the scheme is, and it must be reviewed before the next community council elections. She provided maps of the areas that Forres Community Council covers. DD that their policies and procedures are given to all FCC members, and she wanted to know if there are areas that need 'tweaking' (for example boundaries – should areas be moved into the Forres area). DD advised there is a Survey Monkey consultation out for any suggestions that need amending, she asked to please get in touch if we have any queries concerning policies and procedures.</p>	
6.	<p>Planning/Licences <u>Planning</u></p>	
7.f.	<p>Action Plan Updates</p> <p>a. <u>Forres Town Maps</u> – SF asked if we had found out who owns the Maps that are situated around the town. SM advised that Forres Area Forum purchased the boards from Moray Towns Partnership which is no longer in existence and were installed by the Council, SL advised that the one behind the Co-op is situated on the pavement, so it is on Council ground. SF advised that because they are out of date, who is responsible for them as they need cleaning, repairing, and up-to-date information put up on them so we can get the necessary work done on them?</p> <p>b. <u>Resilience</u> – SF advised that JI has not had a chance to conduct a range check, even though they were tested during the Grant Park 100 event this was in line of sight, but further ranges need to be tested.</p>	JI

	<p>c. <u>Local Place Plan</u> – SF spoke with the Air Cadets and had a useful conversation, and they suggested some promising ideas and one suggestion they had was to get a bike repair stand due to the Bike Bothy shop no longer trading. This could be something that Active Travel could be involved in. And could be a joint venture with the FCC to apply to one of the potential funding streams. AR gave an update from the last Place Plan Meeting on work that has continued to be worked on. A consultation on SurveyMonkey is going to become available for the whole of Forres Burgh residents to have a say on a variety of areas.</p>	SF/KS k
8.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>SF advised that correspondence was received from SEPA to advise they are changing their floodline services, and there will be a change in the way they report on the flood messages.</p>	
9.	<p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>GM advised that the balance is £7030.33. There have been monies paid out but there are still some expenses to be paid. GM advised that the insurance has asked for a list of assets, but he is not sure of some items that we still hold, SF will be able to provide some more information.</p>	
10.	<p>Moray councillor reports</p> <p>Cllr Lawrence – SL advised that the Consultation on the Common Good land at Roysvale opened on Wednesday, links are on the Council website and Facebook. SF asked if all the surveying groundwork had been conducted and this was confirmed that it had, but they have not received the results yet. Nothing major has come up for Forres, SL advised that they are now starting to receive paperwork for next year's budget.</p> <p>Lorna Cresswell asked if she could ask a couple of questions. These were firstly where play areas link into the Council’s play strategy. Lorna stated she had spoken with a community support worker who advised that Pilmuir and Mannachie were the priority, but could the Councillors advise where Grant Park sat? The other question is about green fingers, for adults with learning difficulties and the current budget constraints, parents have approached her and what we have money for and do not have more for. Anne Rossiter said that there could be an opportunity for these things to go through either the Local Place Plan or the Spirit of Community. Lorna asked if the outdoor gym is a community council asset, if a local group raised funds for something similar would the Community Council take it on under their insurance? SF advised that any equipment purchased by the fundraisers would have to include the cost of lifetime insurance, this is due to the insurance that is held by FCC covering us for Community Council activities.</p>	
11.	<p>Forthcoming Events</p>	

	<p>20-29/0+/24 -Findhorn Bays Arts Festival is on 04/10/24 –Wish – Film Club choice for Children. 12/10/24 – Berlin, I Love You for Adults 18/10/24 –The Iron Giant – Film Club Choice for Children</p>	
12.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Kevin Skivington - advised that the Osprey Bus is going well, and they have a new administrator who is bedding in well, and they are looking at streamlining things. SF asked how the charging of the bus is down at TTF, KSk stated it is ok but there may be a fault with the charger as the building takes priority and this reduces the charging to the bus. So, they charge overnight to avoid disruption. The Osprey Bus is looking to install CCTV. Regarding Youth Activities, The Gaff is going well but they are understandably disappointed that they cannot use the Community Centre but are in a Church Hall and some misconception is that the group is a church group which it is not.</p> <p>Kenny Shand – there are still issues with non-disabled people and lorries parking in disabled parking bays as well as on the zig-zag lines at the traffic lights. SF asked if Forres would be getting a traffic warden, but we will not be getting one, SL said he would find out. KS also advised that there have been instances of cars traveling the wrong way up Tolbooth Street and Cumming Street.</p> <p>Graham Murdoch – Advised there was an article in the Gazette about the Forest Town Forres and there was a meeting with various forestry people, and it was mentioned if there was a possibility of including Cluny Hill in the discussions. GM also advised that any developments that happen FCC will be kept in the loop.</p> <p>Steve Ferris – Resilience meeting on the 24th of September in the Green Room and Remembrance Day, SF asked if we were happy for him to lay a wreath at the war memorials. SF asked if we wish to have a meeting in December as it would be held on the 19th. It was agreed to not have meetings in July and December.</p> <p>Ann Rossiter – mentioned the Open Doors Event on the weekend of 7th September and advised that that number had increased across Moray.</p>	
14.	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>The next meeting will be on Thursday, October 17th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Garden Room at Forres House Community Centre.</p>	