

Forres Community Council

Thursday 18th December 2025 at 7.00 pm, Green Room, Forres House Community Centre

Secretary: Fiona Dunsmuir | **Email:** info.forrescc@gmail.com

Attendees - FCC		Attendees – Other
CC Steve Ferris (SF)	Chair	Cllr Paul McBain (PM)
CC Fiona Dunsmuir (FD)	Secretary	Cllr Kathleen Robertson (KR)
CC Kev Skivington (KSk)		
CC Michael Walker (MWI)		
CC Derek Hallas (DH)		Garry McCartney (GMC) (Press)
CC Christina MacFarqhar (CM)		
CC Travis Bremner (TB)		Members of the Public (MOP) in attendance
CC Imogen Symon (IS)		
CC Gary Gunn (GG)		Henrietta Grant-Peterkin
		Lorna Creswell
Apologies		
Cllr Scott Lawrence (SL)		
Cllr Draeyk Van Der Horn (DH)		
CC Graham Murdoch (GM)	Treasurer	
John Innes (JI)		

Item	Discussion	Action
1.	<p>Welcome, and apologies:</p> <p>Steve welcomed everyone to the December Meeting, Apologies were read out.</p>	
2.	<p>Community Councillor Co-Option</p> <p>Steve advised that due to technical issues at the election, 2 members needed to be co-opted onto FCC. This was brought up at our inauguration meeting, as is required. They are –</p> <p>John Innes – Proposer - Kev Skivington Seconded - Michael Walker</p> <p>Christina MacFarqhar – Proposer - Derek Hallas Seconded - Kev Skivington</p>	
3.	<p>Public Session</p> <p>Lorna Creswell advised she had the idea of creating a chart to help councillors and the members of the public to know who is doing what, for example, a councillor who attends meetings for the Osprey Bus.</p> <p>Steve advised this is something we are looking at for the new year, to help new members get settled in. SF advised he would like to see what other members would like to work on.</p>	

4.	Community Safety Report: Our next report should be issued in time for our next meeting, It was agreed that we should have a visit from the officer who covers Crime Reduction to attend our February meeting.	
5.	Ratification of Minutes 20th November 2025. These were accepted as a true record. Proposed: Michael Walker Seconded: Kev Skivington	
6	Matters Arising <u>Moray Flag</u> - Steve mentioned that Forres Heritage Trust will fly the Moray flag at the Tolbooth. SF advised that due to the initial flag has gotten damaged due to normal wear and tear, he asked if members were happy for a new flag to be purchased. The cost of the flags range in price from £72 to £210. Steve asked if we were happy to pay for a new flag out of our adman grant, all agreed. <u>Moray Flow Park</u> – Steve mentioned that at our last meeting he asked that he like to contact Nature Scotland with regards the Survey Phase for the Moray Blow Park. Steve read out his draft letter that he read out and asked if councillors was happy with it and for him to send it. All agreed to the letter.	
7.	Planning/Licences There were no applications received that needed FCC comments. There was a licencing extension from 1496 received and there were no objections to it. Steve mentioned about our meeting that we held regarding 2 questions from the Court of Session about Roysvale and its use during the build of Forres Academy. All elected Community Councillors agreed both questions unanimously.	
8.	Roles and Responsibilities Steve advised that we need to look at what we would like to be or are currently involved with other groups in Forres, for example we are part of the Auchernack Trust alongside the 4 elected Councillor's, but this is a role that only Steve can do due to him being Chair of the Community Council. <u>Forres Culture and Heritage Scheme</u> is now into its delivery phase, and the architectural team are now getting the branding sorted and they have identified some properties for work to be carried out. Some properties are looking at returning their frontages to their original fronts. <u>Resilience</u> – there are 4 people part of the Forres group which includes 3 Community Councillors, the roles are varied for each community council for example, resilience group were available to be called on during the wildfires.	

	<p><u>Local Place Plan</u> – this is now live and is a ten-year plan of what residents of Forres would like to see in and around the town and it feeds into the Local Development Plan which the council will use when considering when allowing Developments happen.</p> <p><u>Forres Academy</u> – This is something that the Community Council as a whole, should and are involved with.</p> <p><u>Forres House Community Centre</u> – This was part of the latest Moray Council sport & leisure review, and the user group was created to include members from all the groups that use Forres House, as well as users of the Swimming Pool. SF believes we should be involved.</p>	
9.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>There is no correspondence received that was requiring attention.</p>	
10	<p>Treasurers Report</p> <p>Update will be given at the next meeting.</p>	
11.	<p>Moray councillor reports</p> <p>Cllr Paul McBain – Paul advised one of the planning applications that was in front of the planning committee and rejected for various reasons was the SSN cabling that would go from Beaulieu to Peterhead. Paul advised that most Councillors have finished for the festive period.</p> <p>Cllr Robertson – Advised that within the Moray Growth Deal is going well as the STEM project within Elin Library for primary school children up to age 8 yrs. The full council agreed to the raising of the admin grants which will impact the smaller councils. The Councillors' expenses are going to be more transparent. Kathleen stated that the Forres Christmas Lights team have done a fabulous job this year and the town looks marvellous.</p>	
12.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Kev mentioned that Forres Area Community Trust (FACT) are looking for Trustees.</p> <p>Gary asked if FC had any involvement with the Museum as he had received a newsletter about it, he was advised that Derek who is the acting Chair.</p>	
13	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>The date of our next Forres Community Council meeting is on Thursday 15th of January 2026. It is going to be in The Green Room, Forres House Community Centre, High Street, Forres.</p>	