



# The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

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## Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres held in the Tolbooth, Forres, on Thursday 19 March 2009.

### Present :-

Community Cllrs J S Bremner, R T Duncan, Mrs E Hayward, R J Hellyer, S D R Kennedy, F Mallon, Mrs K Rosie, Mrs Lorraine Dingwall, S Ferris, A Sinclair & J Mackenzie.

### Also Present :-

Moray Cllr L Bell, I Young, Chief Inspector Craig Donald, Ken Smith, Editor Forres Gazette, & 3 members of the public.

### 1. Apologies:-

Apologies for absence were received from Moray Cllrs J Hamilton, I Ogilvie, Cllrs C T Lipscomb, C J Piper & Mrs C M Pitstra

### 2. Minutes of Meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> Jan & Feb 19th 2009:-

The minutes of the above meeting were Presented, proposed and seconded.

### 3. Public Session:-

- Carin Schwartz thanked the Moray Councillors and Community Councillors for their support in the securing of the land at Bogton. It was hoped that they would commence on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009. Both Lorraine Dingwall and Bob Hellyer thanked Carin for being the driving force behind the project.

### 4. Police Report:-

- Chief Inspector Craig Donald introduced himself. He advised what the Police in Forres were hoping to achieve by dividing the area into ten 'beats' (or areas) with two officers in each. It was hoped to create links and reaffirm what they were doing.

### 5. Secretary's Report:-

Owing to the ongoing illness of Colin Lipscomb Secretary the report was given by Bob Hellyer.

- Forres Golf Club Minutes :
- Moray Council had no objection to the co-option to the Community Council of Andy Sinclair.
- Education Services :
- Letter received from John Mackay was discussed. Some of what he said with regard to repairs to pavements would be costly to rectify. With regard to other issues concerning tourists and lack of restaurant facilities. The Community Council did not see any problems however it would depend on what time of day tourists arrived in coaches in Forres.
- Kenny Shand a wheelchair user, was working hard re dropped kerbs for wheelchair access. However, these kerbs were badly positioned and unable to influence current work. A requirement would be for support by a specialist who would have the insight to what was required in this regard. This received support of the Community Council. Andy Sinclair said that unless someone was disabled they would have no concept of what was required. Councillors Ian Young and Lee Bell advised they would tackle this issue with Moray Council. The Community Council had already complained about the area next to the chip shop approx. three years ago. Councillor Bell said to come back with suggestions.

### 4. Chair's Report:-

- SEPA improved water in the environment. A request for a response to them before June 2009. Refer to website. A map was sent out to show water improvement.

- A letter was received from RedCo Milne per Mark Cumming.re second drop in exhibition on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2009. This was postponed earlier this month to accommodate facility for Youth and to attend Community Council Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> April. Steve Ferris suggested the public be invited to the Community Council meeting. However there would also be a public meeting the following day. It was advised that the venue would be in the Town Hall or alternatively Applegrove School being the second choice.
- It was suggested that all Community Councils access website on Policy & Resources Pt 10. Web support for a new way of financing Community Council Forums. Councillor Bell advised that consultation was going out to all Community Councils. The JCC would do nothing until they knew how the Community Councils feel.

#### 5. External Group Reports :-.

- Lorraine Dingwall advised that the judges will attend Forres this year on Tuesday 28 July 2009. Forres in Bloom were working towards this date. There would be one day of judging
- Eleanor Hayward requested allocation of monies from Common Good Fund be matched from funds from Leader Fund to erect the cairn at Clovenside Cemetery. Councillor Young advised that there would be very little money in the Common Good Fund this year.

#### 6. Treasurer's Report:-

The Treasurer told the meeting that the CC account stood at £429.84.

#### 7. A.O.C.B:-

- Steve Ferris highlighted the condition of the flag at Auchernack.
- Andy Sinclair advised he would action the filling in of paperwork for Grampian Health Board with regard to a new policy.
- Lorraine Dingwall advised that Forres in Bloom had been invited to a Lottery Meeting. The purpose would be to raise funding for the chequers at the square and that they also required cleaning.
- Mr Mackenzie was concerned that nothing had been done at the St Catherine's Road site with regard to safety. This section of road is where new flats are being built.
- The Tolbooth Building – there was a full consultation where the public told Moray Council what they wanted. Councillor Bell said consultation was ongoing and not forgotten. Heritage for all of Moray. It was being addressed with a view to looking after all heritage and artefacts. Steve Ferris stated that we had costings for lifts and this had apparently disappeared (lost!) when asked for by a consultant. He was told by Moray Council that it did not exist and there was never a consultation. Subsequently we believe that the consultation was found.
- Stewart Kennedy informed the meeting that the roadway to the Waterford recycling centre had been re-surfaced.
- **Common Good Fund** : At this point of the meeting both Councillors Young and Bell left the meeting without apology to the Chairman for their leaving the meeting. Discussion took place with regard to the response from Roddy Burns, Moray Council Legal Officer's letter in the Forres Gazette in reply to the Chairman's explanatory letter with regard to the Forres Common Good Fund and what had been transpiring with Moray Council. Bob Hellyer had already provided draft copy letter which the Chair proposed be submitted to the Forres Gazette in reply to Roddy Burns letter which it was felt was critical of the CC and inaccurate. Suggestions were made to Bob Hellyer to alter parts of the letter of response to Roddy Burns prior to submission to the Forres Gazette. Kath Rosie and Steve Ferris then objected to the letter being published. At this point there was lengthy discussion with regard to the letter however in view of their dissent the proposal to publish the letter was withdrawn by the Chair.

#### 10. Date of Next Meeting:-

- The next meeting will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> Apr 2009.

Colin T Lipscomb  
Secretary.

Minutes to be ratified by  
Comm. Council 16/04/09

John S Bremner  
Chair.