



The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

Chairperson: John S Bremner
90 Bogton Road
FORRES
IV36 1BJ
Telephone: 07929 846340

Secretary: Colin T Lipscomb
12 Hilltop Road
FORRES
IV36 1FW
Telephone/Fax: 01309 675177
e-mail: collie_forres@keme.co.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres held in the Tolbooth, Forres, on Thursday 17th Sep 2009.

Present :-

Community Cllrs J S Bremner, Mrs L Dingwall, R T Duncan, S Ferris, Mrs E Hayward, R J Hellyer, S D R Kennedy, C T Lipscomb, J Mackenzie, & Mrs C M Pitstra.

Also Present :-

T McLaren , Forres Gazette, & 2 members of the public.

1. Apologies:-

Apologies for absence were received from Moray Cllrs L Bell, I Ogilvie, I Young, J Hamilton, & Cllrs F Mallon, Mrs K Rosie & A Sinclair.

2. Minutes of Meeting of 20th Aug 2009:-

The minutes of the above meeting were proposed as accepted, seconded & ratified.

3. Public Session:-

- Temp Sgt Angela McCarthy, Grampian Police, attended the meeting and told the meeting that there had been a number of incidents lately but the Police had suspects in mind. Other than that she had nothing to report to the members. The Chair thanked her for her attendance.
- Members of the public raised their concerns to the Community Council over the decision to site the new proposed Hospital/Health Centre at Thornhill Farm. The spokesperson said that the site was never large enough to contain the project without using the play park land as well. Both Leancoil and Bogton were large enough and both were common good land. He asked what were the opinions of the Community Councillors. Cllr Mackenzie said that the small play area for tots, on the other side of the A940, needed a dedicated crossing to reach it from Thornhill estate but when the Community Council had attempted to raise this some years ago we were told that the road was not busy enough to justify a crossing. He said that the residents of Thornhill should agitate for this as a condition of the proposed Health Centre & its associated road works. Cllr Hellyer said that the people of Forres had by way of a petition some years ago rejected Leancoil as a suitable site & the liability of flooding at Bogton had prevented that being used as an alternative site. The move of Tesco from Bogton to the site on the Nairn Road had removed the last viable option for NHS to consider.

4. Secretary's Report:-

The Secretary reported mail from the Moray Council.

- In the letter, the Home Improvements Services Manager drew our attention to a public consultation on the Scheme of Assistance for Home Owners & Tenants in Moray. This is intended to replace the existing Private Sector Housing Grant under the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006.
- The Community Council had received a letter from the Community Warden thanking the Community Council for their support in funding the town hall fees for the Youth Cinema nights and also the litter picking equipment used by the Adopt a Street Community Initiative.
- The Secretary reminded the meeting that they had limited time left to submit their applications for re-election to the new Community Council, or to encourage anyone else that they felt would be an asset to the Community Council. He wished to thank the present Council for its understanding of his ill health, & the lack of enthusiasm it caused, during the last year.

5. Chair's Report:-

The Chair said that he had attended the inauguration of the Mosset Flood Defence Scheme and it was very impressive but more to the point it seemed to be working successfully.

6. External Group Reports :-

- Cllr Dingwall said that she would be away next weekend to Cardiff representing Forres in Bloom, together with other members of the committee at the prize giving for the Entente Florale 2009. Members wished her and the team well in the ceremony.

7. Treasurer's Report:-

The Treasurer said that the account stood at £1488.14. The Account for the Cairn Project was closed, the £500 Scottish Executive funding for CC election advertising was still being used. Members asked what was still outstanding & the Secretary said he had an expenses claim for £60 pending. Members proposed that £100 be allocated to the Community Warden to continue the winter film shows for young people. This motion was carried unanimously

8. A.O.C.B:-

- Cllr J Mackenzie said that he would wish that the next Community Council would apply pressure to Moray Council to make safe the crossing at the junction of St Catherine's Road/Thornhill Road/Orchard Road as it was rapidly becoming dangerous for pedestrians. He saw no reason why the junction could not be approved for traffic lights.
- Cllr Heyward wished to draw attention to the continued neglect of the C Listed status of the Castle Inn and called upon the Moray Councillors and the Moray Council Planning Department to exercise their powers as the Planning Authority and to take the necessary action to re-instate the building back to a presentable condition, billing the owner for the cost of the remedial work necessary.

9. Date of Next Meeting:-

- The inaugural meeting of the new Community Council, if formed, will be held on Thursday 15th Oct 2009

Colin T Lipscomb
Secretary.

Minutes to be ratified by
Comm. Council 15/10/09

John S Bremner
Chair.