



The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

Chairperson: John S Bremner
90 Bogton Road

IV36 1BJ
Telephone: 07929 846340

FORRES

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 15th April 2010.

Present :-

Community Cllrs J Bremner, R T Duncan, S Ferris, Mrs E Hayward, R J Hellyer, S D R Kennedy, C T Lipscomb, J.Mackenzie, J McDowell, Youth Rep R Kennedy.

Also Present :-

Moray Cllrs L Bell , I Ogilvie, I Young ,D Bick (Forres Gazette), 2 members of the public.

1. Apologies:-

Moray Cllr J Hamilton, C Cllrs D Maclean, Mrs C M Pitstra & P Smith.

2. Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 18th March 2010

The minutes of the above meeting were objected to by Cllr Kennedy. He felt that the minute referring to the Lochyhill planning application was not a true reflection of the meeting. After some discussion on the topic a form of words was agreed and the minute, subject to rewrite, was agreed.

3. Public Session:-

- Mr Peter Wilson of Mackenzie & Cruickshank returned to tell us that no further approaches had been made from the Flood Relief Team and that he felt that it would now be settled by the reporter after an expensive Public Enquiry. Moray Cllr Bell said that Mr D Gowans had made approaches through Mackenzie & Cruickshank's solicitors but had not received a response. Moray Cllr Young pointed out that the Council Legal Officers advise Cllrs but do not instruct them as to a response. Mr Wilson said that a visit to the site would have shown the Cllrs the problems that would be created. C Cllr Mackenzie said that he understood the problem and that whilst Mr Wilson might be compensated for loss of trade, no compensation would be given to the workers laid off as a result, jobs would go. Moray Cllr Young said that he was sure that everything was being done to minimise the problems caused by the construction.
- A member of the public asked the Moray Cllrs what purpose the electronic bus timetable at the town hall stop served. She said that the timetable, nicknamed "Darth Vader" because of its design had cost £5,000.00 to install and had broken down five times since its installation.

4. Secretary's Report:-

- The Secretary drew members attention to a letter from Mr D Bruce, Environmental Protection Officer, concerning a memorial to the Nimrod Crew, lost in Afghanistan in 2006. It required, at short notice, our views on locating it adjacent to the Forres War Memorial. After some discussion the Secretary was instructed to reply that subject to the Royal British Legion being consulted & that adequate room was left for Remembrance Day ceremonies around the War Memorial the Community Council had no objections. It was also suggested that an alternative site could be by the War Veterans Cottages, adjacent to the model Nimrod installed there.
- Members were also asked to study options to determine Community Council funding, a process which had been interrupted last year prior to our election, following an email from John Ferguson. Members studied the options given and selected option 2, a £500 grant plus a per capita amount based on the population, as being the fairest. They totally rejected any suggestion of combining Community Councils & Neighbourhood Forums funding into one pot per area. The Secretary was instructed to notify Mr Ferguson of this selection.
- The Secretary told the meeting that a response to our letter to the CEO of Moray Council with respect to our objection to the Community Councils being associated with the Community Support Unit and the Area Forums had been received. Moray Council respect our decision not to be a part of the CSU plans.

5. Chair's Report:-

- The Chair said that he had attended a meeting at the Horizon building of the Small Towns Partnership which indicated a precursor for a future committee to decide plans for the town. The Chair said that this appeared to be part of the Whole Town Strategy.

6. External Groups Report:-

Cllr Hayward said that she had raised the failures of the e planning system at a meeting with Mr Burnie. Cllr Hayward said it was undemocratic when some councils allowed access to comments and Moray Council did not.

- Cllr McDowell queried Moray Cllr Ogilvie's statement about the Over 60's Lunch Club closure being in abeyance & she confirmed this. He said that Irene Weeden & Heather Shaw had denied this & said that it was closing. Moray Cllr Young said that the closure of the after school club was caused by lack of supervisors as well but Community Cllr Ferris said that he thought the problem was that the community centre and staff were not user friendly.
- Cllr Mackenzie said that M Cowie was organising planting, that FIB had got a new treasurer and that they were working with the FAAA and Christmas Lights Committees this year
- Cllr Duncan said that 2 students from Mt Dora would be here in June.
- Youth Rep Ross Kennedy said that Next week a presentation would be given in Forres Academy to Moray Cllrs and local business men about a Youth Café. Members felt that the Community Council should have been included in the invitees.

7. Treasurer's Report:-

- The Treasurer reported that the account stood at £362.98

8. A.O.C.B:-

- Cllr Ferris said that an endorsement had been sent to Moray Council roads, requesting a 20 mph speed limit for Leys Road. He also noted that in a seminar MVSO had become decision makers in funding streams.
- Cllr Hayward told the meeting that entry to the Castle Inn had been arranged for 3rd May.
- Cllr Hellyer said that he had been asked by Cllr Maclean to say that in research into playing fields he had discovered that Moray Council had not consulted with Sport Scotland prior to deregulation of the NHS site on the Grantown Road from a playing field. By law Sport Scotland should be involved in change of use of sports fields.
- Cllr McDowell told the meeting that he had been selected to represent the Community Councils of Forres, Kinloss & Findhorn and Dyke Landward on the board of Forres Golf Course. He also told the meeting that he was working with the over 60's Lunch Club to ensure their continuence and had been told by Heather Shaw (CSU) that no outside caterers would be permitted to deliver into the Community Centre. This would mean the Club, should it wish to carry on, would need to leave the Community Centre. Members felt that this reinforces the belief that the Council wishes to empty the Centre of users so that it can be closed down.

9. Date of Next Meeting:-

- Thursday 20th May 2010 at 7 30 pm

Colin T Lipscomb
Secretary.

Minutes to be ratified by
Comm. Council 20/05/10

John S Bremner
Chair.