



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 21st Feb 2013.

Present :

Community Cllrs J S Bremner, R Duncan, S Ferris, Mrs E Hayward, R J Hellyer, C Lipscomb, J F Mackenzie,.

Also Present :-

Moray Cllrs A McLean, A Skene, L Creswell, G McCartney (Forres Gazette) & 6 MOP's.

1. Apologies:-

Apologies for absence came from Moray Cllr G Alexander, Comm Cllrs S Kennedy, J McDowell, D McLean, Mrs C Pitstra & Youth Rep K McGrath.

2. Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 17th Jan 2013

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

In Points Arising from the minutes Cllr Hayward wished to make clear that further enquiries into the disabled parking signs in the public car parks had revealed that 10 people had been financially penalised during the last two years under those parking notices, contrary to Cllr Alexander's statement that the signs were "frighteners" and had no legal standing.

3. Public Session:

- The Chair welcomed Inspector Paul McCruden asking him to update the members. The Inspector said that during the last period 21 drivers had been dealt with for breaking speed limits, 5 for drink driving and others were warned for a variety of offences such as disobeying road signs, driving without insurance and a number of vehicular defects. Fixed Penalties had been issued to an individual for urinating in the street and to another for causing antisocial annoyance to a neighbour by using a stereo. Following an enquiry about metal theft the Inspector said that 3 incidents since January were being followed up and were ongoing. A speed survey, carried out on the A96 at Brodie, revealed that the average speed to be 49.8 mph with no conclusion supporting further speed restrictions. Briefing us on the changes to the new Police Scotland the Inspector said that the Moray Division had now amalgamated with the Aberdeenshire Division to form one of the 14 new divisions but insisted that the public would see no change in operation. He also told us of the replacement of the **0845** non emergency number by an easier to remember **101**. The Chair thanked him for the information.
- Fiona Burnett, from Environmental Services, came to address members on new recycling services and the extra bins to go with them. Householders will be receiving an extra 2 bins, a large blue for paper and cardboard, and a purple one for plastic and tin, issued in mid March and serviced fortnightly. She said that letters would be delivered to householders detailing the pick-up times for the various bins prior to the issue of the bins. Cllr Ferris asked what arrangements had been made to dispose of the plastic, once collected, and was told that it was being collected for treatment by a firm in the Central Belt at no expense to Moray Council and in fact earned money for the Local Authority.

- Comm Cllr Hayward asked the Moray Cllrs if any response had been found to explain the delay in action on the Hanover Housing planning development. It seems that it is held up because of a Historic Scotland objection to the plans and in particular to a building in the corner of the development site.
- A member of the public, Mr Jeronim, asked the Cllrs who in Moray Council was responsible for applying for grants to fund cycleways, Cllr McLean said that he would find out and Cllr Skene said that she had been told that what was being referred to as an old cycleway was, in fact, the route of the old road. This was denied by Mr Jeronim.
- Mr B Macdonald, of FACT, updated the members on the case of Sanquhar Pond saying that an Environmental Engineer would be examining the site tomorrow.

4. Secretary's Report:-

- The Secretary said that he had received an email from the CCLO requesting members input on a Community Safety Draft Strategy which he had circulated to all members for their input on the topic.
- He said that he had been approached by a representative of Forres Events Limited seeking permission from the Community Council for the use of the CC Logo. After discussion members agreed to permitting its use to support the European Pipe Band Championships.

5. Chair's Report:-

- The Chair told members that he had received complaints about travellers up at the Muiry who were blocking paths to walkers trying to enter the woods. He was also concerned about the cancellation of the arts budget as any application for funding had to show support and match funding from the Local Authority. Because this was not to be available no grants would come to Moray.

6. External Groups Report:-

- Cllr Mackenzie said that the Heritage Trust were seeking volunteers for opening Nelsons Tower again this summer.
- Cllr Hayward said there had been no new planning applications.
- M Cllr Skene told the meeting that she had supported the Chinese week, meeting a Chinese couple who were part of a heritage group in China. She said she would be attending the Conservation Scheme meeting.
- M Cllr McLean said that he was helping to support the Friends of the Falconer Museum who were seeking volunteers to keep the Museum functioning. Cllr Ferris said that as the Comm Council were paid corporate members of the Friends we would support their aims as well.

7. Treasurer's Report:-

- The Secretary, in the absence of the Treasurer said that the account now stood at £1713.45 This was broken down into CC Operating Account £487.22 and Special Projects £1226.23
- The Secretary said that at the recent JCC meeting the topic was raised on advertising the Community Councils in the forthcoming elections, due in September of this year, and funding was sought to cover the cost of this. After discussion members voted unanimously to use the Special Projects Fund to donate £75 to the JCC for this purpose.

8. A.O.C.B:-

- Nil

9. Date of Next Meeting:-

- Thursday 21st Mar 2013 at 7 30 pm



Colin T Lipscomb
Secretary.

Ratified by
Comm. Council 21/3/13



John S Bremner
Chair.