

Forres Community Council

Thursday 15th January 2026 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 Graham Murdoch (GM)	Treasurer	Cllr Scott Lawrence (SL)
CC John Innes (JI)		
CC Kev Skivington (KSk)	Vice Chair	
CC Michael Walker (MW())		Garry McCartney (GMc) (Press)
CC Derek Hallas (DH)		
CC Christina MacFarghar (CM)	New Treasurer	
CC Travis Bremner (TB)		Members of the Public (MOP) in attendance
		George Wilson
Apologies		
CC Imogen Symon (IS)		
CC Gary Gunn (GG)		
Cllr Draeyk Van Der Horn (DH)		

Item	Discussion	Action
1.	Welcome, and apologies: Steve welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2026 and wished everyone a happy new year. Apologies were recorded.	
2.	Public Session <u>Forres Library</u> – Steve brought to the attention of all Councillors about the opening hours of the library after a consultation. The changes mean that the library will now open on a Friday but the changes don't affect the library user group but those who work or are students will lose their ability to go enable them to use it for students or those who work who and need a place to go, will not have that ability. The consultation period had been extended until Friday 16th January at 12 noon.	
3.	Community Safety Report: There was no report received this month from Police Scotland.	
4.	Ratification of Minutes 18th December 2025. The minutes were accepted as a true record.	

	Proposed: Derek Hallas Seconded: Michael Walker	
5.	Action Plans Moray Flow Park – SF advised that he has contacted the marine section of Nature Scot and has received automated response advising a response will be received within the next 21 days. SF received an email from Tim Eagle, and he read out part of the response stating the matter will be raised in Holyrood.	
6.	Roles and Responsibilities SF advised that Gary would be interested in getting involved with Forres Cultural and Heritage Scheme, SF advised that Gary would be interested in getting involved with Forres Cultural and Heritage Scheme, SF would like volunteers for the Resilience Group. Travis has also advised he would be interested in being involved with Forres House Community Centre. See Treasurers report regarding that role. Steve advised that Imogen will be looking at and setting up the website, Christine mention she will assistance with helping looking at ideas and setting up the website for FCC.	
7.	Matters arising There were no matters arising this month.	
8.	Planning/Licences There were no planning applications that warranted any comments from FCC. CM queried about the application from Forres Active Travel with the changes to be made to the St Leonards Road entrance to Grant Park as it had received an objection from a member of the public. This was discussed at the meeting to help clarify the application KR advised that all issues will be commented on by the Transport and Travel.	
9.	Training SF advised we need to look at training as it cannot be done during a normal meeting as it would be inconsiderate to the Elected Councillors, so we need to go through the Health Check to ensure we conduct our meetings correctly as per the documentation. It was discussed and we will hold a training session in the hour before our normal Community Council meeting in February.	
10.	Treasurers Report SF advised he had spoken with Gary who said he interested in taking on the Treasurers role. CM advised she had put herself forward for this role, SF apologised for missing this. Steve asked for any objections, which there was none.	

	Proposer – Kevin Skivington Seconder - Michael Walker The current bank balance for FCC is £5,259.14. Our Admin Grant from Moray Council has not been received as of the date of our meeting. There is portion of the money is ring fenced for the Resilience group.	
11.	Moray councillor reports Cllr Paul McBain – PM advised he has nothing to update us on due to the short recess period over the Christmas break. Cllr Robertson – KR advised there has been a lot going on with the Forres Academy plan being submitted, the Scottish Government Budget took place and the council are working through it to see what the Council will receive/ A lot of disruption has taken place due to the severe weather that has happened. Various committee meeting will take place, and the full council meeting g will happen at the end of the month. Cllr Scott Lawrence – SL advised that things are slowly getting back to normal after the festive period. front facing, but there has been work continued in the behind the scenes. There has been a short but busy time due to the UK Government Budget was late which meant a delay with the Scottish Government Budget SF asked if the Councillors had heard any thins back from the Court of Session regarding the Forres Academy new building. They had not and it will be a waiting game unfortunately. KS asked about the Councils schedule for gritting and ploughing of roads and pavements as he had heard from locals who were not happy with their efforts so far. SL advised that there are priorities but due to the severity of the amount of snow falling the Council were going over main priorities unfortunately.	
12.	AOCB There was no other business.	
13.	Date of next meeting: The date of our next Forres Community Council meeting is on Thursday 19th of February 2026. It is going to be in The Green Room, Forres House Community Centre, High Street, Forres.	