**Meeting: Wednesday 8th August 2018. Fortrose leisure Centre.**

Present: Anne Phillips (AP), Russell Mackenzie (RM), Lucy Tonkin (LT), Tom Heath (TH), Iain A C Brown (IACB), Archie Macleod (AM)

Jennifer Barclay, Gordon Adam (Ward Highland Councillors)

*The Highland Council = THC High Life Highland - HLH*

1. **Welcome & Apologies**

Apologies were received from Douglas Stuart (DS), Sarah Atkin (SA

1. **Presentation of proposed Planning Application for a new Co-op by Iain Mason, Acquisitions Manager**

Mr Mason described briefly the reasons for rationale for the Coop wishing to close the existing store in Fortrose and to move to new premises on the Rosemarkie side of Ness Road between the planned care home and the house on the corner of Ness Road and the A832.

The Co-op believe that the existing store is no longer fit for purpose being too small to service the potential demand from the catchment area and being constrained by uncomfortably narrowl aisles.

The gross area of the planned store will be 6,000 ft­2 of which 4,000 ft­2 would be sales area. This compares with a gross area of the present store of 3,800 ft­2 so that the new store would be approximately 50% larger than existing in sales area. The overall site would cover 1.79 acres. Between care home and house on corner.

Based upon a figure of 10 car parking spaces per 1,000 ft­2 the new store would have approximately 60 car parking spaces; significantly more than at present.

They proposed to build affordable housing on the old site.

In a question and answer session, including questions from members of the public and Ward Councillors, Mr. Mason said that he believed that moving the Co-op and building houses on the old site would be to the benefit of other traders in Fortrose High Street. This claim was met with considerable surprise.

The Community Council refrained from expressing either support for, or opposition to the proposals. But will consider the application carefully when it is lodged and consult with the public before responding. The application is expected by the end of September.

**3.0 Minutes of last meeting**

Proposed, RM. Seconded, LT.

**4.0 Matters Arising**

* 1. It has been established that the missing flagpole from King George V field was removes by THC on safety grounds. JB advised that at a recent Ward meeting it was decided that it should be replaced if funds could be found. **Action:JB/GA**
  2. Provosts chain has been recovered from the Bank of Scotland. It is agreed that the chain will be put on public display in the Jewellers in Fortrose. Other items from the former Royal Burgh including the Mort Bell, The Old Burgh Seals, The Quincentenary Record, The Quincentenary Film are still being looked for.
  3. A letter has been sent to THC requesting a traffic island at the top of Ness Road to deter speeding drivers from cutting the corner (at a risk to pedestrians) when turning from the High Street.
  4. A letter has been sent to THC requesting double yellow lines at the junction of Academy Street and the High Street to reduce the problems of turning traffic when vehicles are parked outside the former Bank of Scotland.
  5. The CC agreed to fund the purchase a petrol strimmer for the use of the Volunteer Group on receipt of an acceptable quotation. **Action: IACB**
  6. Letter regarding difficulty of Fire Engine being able to exit Station Road onto High Street has not yet been sent to THC. **Action: TH**
  7. Uploading of GDPR document to website is outstanding. **Action: AP/TH**

1. **Correspondence/ Points from the Public**
   1. Enquiry regarding Herring Gulls on Marine House and Abbeyfields rooves and increasing noise and mess from dogs. **Action:TH**
   2. We have been invited by THC to complete a questionnaire as part of the Initial Engagement briefing of the Community Council Scheme Review. Proposed answers are to be drafted and circulated within the CC before responding. **Action:TH**
   3. Can CC minutes be made available to the Highland archives. Can pre 1998 minutes be put onto CC website. **Action: TH**
   4. We have received complaints regarding overflowing litter bins in Cathedral square, in particular the one close to the Anderson. The frequency of emptying bins not adequate in the tourist season and representations were made to the Ward Councillors as to whether either emptying could be more frequent or bigger bins provided. They said that they had been pressing the Council officers on both solutions but to date without a positive response. The point was made that THC and other bodies are encouraging tourism in this area and by extension have a duty to ensure that facilities are available to cope with the resultant increase. The Ward Councillors agreed to look into the matter again. **Action: JB/GA**
   5. The CC agreed to look into measures that could be taken to persuade people to take their litter home when bins were full. **Action: TH**

1. **Police Report (reads)**

The following are the crimes, offences and antisocial behaviour and other incidents of note dealt with between 15/07/2018 and 01/08/2018:

Speed checks continue to be carried out between Fortrose and Rosemarkie when duties permit.

Patrols of Rosemarkie beach area currently being carried out due to increase in youths consuming alcohol.

Vandalism – Damage to vehicle parked at Cathedral Square between 19/7/18 and 22/7/18.

Vandalism – Damage to vehicle on Canonbury Terrace on 5/7/18.

44 Calls were received for this area during the last month.

Any information or community issues please contact Police Dingwall on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

**7.0 Treasurer’s Report**

Cash at bank £2,955.33

Debts £ 747.00

Net Assets £ 2,208.33

Expected from THC in 2018-19 grant

£ 587.75

Balance £2,796.08

Whilst there is currently a healthy balance we have been running at a significant deficit for the last few years and must raise money to stand still.

**8.0 Planning/Licensing**

8.1 18/00444/MSC Erection of House , Land 40SW of Shorelands, Canonbury Terrace. Letter written to THC raising concerns about dangers which may be caused by construction works and vehicle parking adjacent to the blind bend in the A832 as traffic leaves Fortrose.

8.2 18/03570/PIP Construction of 12 Houses Comerscroft Fortrose. The meeting decided that the CC should object to this development on similar grounds to the previous objections to the last applications to date at Chanonry Park.

**9.0 Community Issues**

9.1 Fortrose Community Market: The community Market held in Fortrose Town Hall on 4th August was considered to be a great success. Thanks to all those involved n the organising. We look forward to this becoming a regular event.

9.2 Town Hall: No further progress. **Action: LT**

9.3 Academy Street fence: still no response from Tulloch’s. C/F Fence to go! **Acton: SA**

9.4 Ceilidh Fundraiser: TH Gordon Memorial Hall and the Ceilidh Band have been booked for Wednesday 15th August. **Action: TH**

**10.0 Operational Issues**

10.1 A proposal to make selected correspondence available on the FRCC website and Facebook page was adopted.

**11.0 Common Good Fund (CGF) Update**

11.1 Coastal protection project at Rosemarkie caravan site: Tenders for repair works have been issued by THC for return by 24th August.

11.2 Chanonry Point: Usage of the Dolphin bus is reported to have increased but it is understood that D&E are planning to withdraw the service after the end of the season. There was a general feeling that there had been insufficient communication between THC and D&E in terms of car parking, routing charges and timing. The Ward Councillors agreed to see if there was anything that THC could do to allow the service to continue next year. **Action: GA**

**12.0 AOCB**

12.1 The road sign at the entry to Fortrose has been missing for several years. It was agreed that a new sign should be erected by THC if funds were available. Ward Councillors will investigate. **Action:JB/GA**

**13.0 Date of Next Meeting**

TH proposed the next meeting be Wednesday 26th September, 7pm, The Plough Inn, Rosemarkie.

*Appendix of Actions taken*

*Matters enacted since the Meeting of 11th July*

*A1) Matters Arising 3.3. Provost’s chain located and now in the safe keeping.*

*A2) Matters Arising 3.4. Letter written to Ward Manager & Ward Councillors requesting island at the top of Ness Road to reduce speed of turning vehicles and to prevent cutting of corners*

*A3) Matters Arising 3.4. Letter written to Ward Manager & Ward Councillors requesting double yellow lines opposite Academy Street /High Street junction.*

*A4) Matters Arising 4.3. Beach Clean was publicised on Face book and notice board.*

*A5) Matters Arising 4.6. “Fortrose a Bloody Past” was posted on Facebook.*

*A6) Matters Arising 4.12. The reported obscured sign was investigated with a view to clearing away obstructing foliage but could not be found. Member of public who raised the issue to be contacted.*

*A7) Matters Arising 4.16. In process no letter sent to date.*

*A8) Matters Arising 4.3. Approaches by SA to Tullochs and their Management Contractor have given a categorical refusal to consider a dog park. Efforts to convince them otherwise are to continue.*

*A9) Two letters written to THC expressing concern about dangers of parking on blind bend exiting Fortrose during construction of house by Shorelands Canonbury Terrace*

*A10) Ward Manager contacted regarding overflowing litter bins in Cathedral square*