**Meeting: Wednesday 13th February 2019 Fortrose Leisure Centre**

Present: Iain Brown (IACB), Tom Heath (TH), Douglas Stuart (DS), Anne Phillips (AP), Archie MacLeod (AM), Lucy Tonkin(LT)

Councillor Gordon Adam

**Pre-Meeting Presentation on the Growing our Cathedral Book Project.**

Presentation by Mike Marshall.

The Growing our Cathedral Book is a history of Fortrose Cathedral from 1260 to the present in story form. It has been written by Betty Marshall and is being Illustrated by Rachel Bevan-Baker/McBride. (an example of the illustrations is appended). The initial target is to print 500 copies for sale in local shops and tourist outlets which will cost approximately £5,000 and is to be funded by donation. No financial help was requested from Community Council but assistance was requested in the following ways:

1. The use of the FRCC bank account to manage the flow of funds. This is already done for other local projects and has been agreed.
2. To help with publicising the project and fundraising with the FRCC website and facebook page. This was also agreed.

Any surplus monies from the project are to be donated to FRCC for the benefit of the Community. FRCC wholly endorses the project and offers our congratulations and encouragement.

1. **Welcome & Apologies**

**Apologies were received from:**

Sarah Atkin (SA), Russell Mackenzie, Constable John Murphy (JM), Sgt. Mike Gallie (MG)

**2.0 Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the December Meeting were adopted. Proposed (AM), Seconded (LT).

1. **Matters Arising**
   1. The Seniors’ Lunch was held on 30th January and was enjoyed by all. Our further thanks to all those local businesses and individuals who contributed.
2. **Correspondence/ Points from the Public**
   1. Correspondence has been recited expressing concerning extraction of hardcore close to the Raddery Hill Road and the potential dangers of consequent large volumes of mud on the road. Highland Council has been contacted and action requested.
   2. A letter was received expressing concern about the imminent closure of public toilets.
   3. A Letter of thanks was received in regard to the Seniors’ lunch.
3. **Police Report (reads)**

The following are the crimes, offences and antisocial behaviour and other incidents of note dealt with between 08/12/2018 and 13/02/2019:

9/1/19 – Theft of house keys from door of property on Seaforth Drive, Fortrose.

Patrols continue of King George playing fields regarding anti-social behaviour.

107 Calls were received for this area during the last 2 months.

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

(Although unable to attend Sgt. Gallie phoned the Chairperson prior to the meeting to discuss issues)

**6.0 Treasurer’s Report**

**Fortrose and Rosemarkie Community Council  
Treasurer’s Report as at 11 February 2019**

[1] Financial Statement  
  
 1 April 2018 Cash-at-bank **£ 2,803.25**  
  
 Net Income Highland Council Grant £ 587.75 grant down from £1,415.60 in 2017-18  
 Fund Raising £ 144.00 Ceilidh profit  
 Fund Raising £ 47.86 Car Rally Donations  
 Fund Raising £ 40.69. Plough Inn Donations  
 St Boniface Fair £ 100.00 Donation to Seniors’ Luncheon  
 Bank of Scotland £ 275.00 Complaints compensation from BofS  
  
 Sub-total **£1,195.30**   
  
 Net Expenditure Secretaries £ 200.00 expenditure ended July 2018  
 Andrewiina Junor Trust £ 220.00 late payment for 2017-18  
 Website £ 54.00 annual fees (of £30 and £24)  
 Dolphin bus leaflet £ 57.00 loss on publication  
 Grass strimmer £ 75.00 for Fortrose Volunteers  
 Safety Gloves £ 15.00 for Fortrose Volunteers   
 Christmas lamp-post lights \* £ 80.00 for erection & dismantling, and cable ties  
 Christmas Tree \* £ 110.00 metal base for tree  
 Electricity for Christmas tree \* £ 20.00 donation to church  
 Senior’s luncheon \*\* £ 90.00 estimated  
 Miscellaneous £ 29.00 including Remembrance wreath  
  
 Sub-total **£ 950.00**  
  
 11 February 2019 Cash at bank **£ 3,048.55**

[1] The two accounts at Bank of Scotland merged. Signatories for bank changed to reflect new office bearers.  
  
[2] Without fund raising and donations and complaints compensation, total of £608, there would have been an   
 over-spend of £20 of the annual grant from Highland Council. Fundraising is an essential activity.   
[3] \* The Christmas Tree and lamppost lights cost £210, 36% of grant.   
  
 A few residents paid for the Christmas tree, for tree lights and decorations, for electrical inspection of the   
 lamp-post lights, without which there would have been a total expenditure of approx. £200. Without this   
 voluntary work and donations the council would have paid £410, i.e. 70% of grant.   
   
 A paper is being tabled on Christmas costs including lamp-post lights.  
  
[4] \*\* 1V10 and the Fortrose Café provided purvey for the Seniors’ Luncheon and there were two voluntary cash   
 donations plus many raffle prizes gifted.   
  
[5] The destinations of the charitable donations at The Christmas Eve Carol singing to be considered at Meeting.  
  
[6] The income and expenditure incurred by the publishers of the book on Fortrose Cathedral is being recorded   
 in the accounts of the community council and conducted via the council’s bank account.  
  
[7] The recovered Chain of the Provost of Royal Burgh of Fortrose to be on public display at Easter.  
  
[8] Canisters of film of 900th Anniversary of the Royal Burgh celebrations may – at cost – be restored to use.

Thanks given to AP for the Senior’s Lunch

Fortrose and Rosemarkie Community Trust is being registered, Public meetings to be held in March. A first priority is to ensure that there are public toilets in the two villages.

1. **Planning/Licensing**

7.1 A summary of the Status of current planning applications is appended.

7.2 Hamish Little of Pat Munro requested a meeting following their acquisition of the Greenside Farm Development from Patterson Estates. He will be invited him to the March meeting of FRCC.

1. **Common Good Fund (CGF) Update**

8.1 Coastal Protection

The coastal protection works are well advanced at the Rosemarkie Campsite. FRCC has been in correspondence with the Highland Council regarding the materials used, in particular whether the galvanised steel wire gabion baskets are suitable for use in the marine environment. THC has confirmed that the steel wire used is as per the specification they requested and have a design life of 120 years.

8.2 Chanonry Point

The unsatisfactory situation at Chanonry Point in respect of traffic and other matters was a major point of discussion at the Highland Council Ward meeting on 4th February attended by SA. DS requested a further discussion of this matter at a subsequent meeting. Action DS

**9 Community Issues**

9.1 Well Being Mental Health

A status report on the “Wellbeing in the Black Isle Partnership Group” is appended. This partnership is an important initiative aimed at preventing the tragic recent suicides, particularly amongst young people in our area. As part of the initiative a survey has been prepared and will be circulated in our area. Action SA

9.2 Public Toilets.

There remains great public concern regarding the threatened closure of the public toilets in Fortrose and Rosemarkie and of the mixed and changeable messages sent by THC to those bodies trying to keep the toilets open. That notwithstanding, a group of people in Fortrose are in process of setting up a Community Development Trust (CDT) with an initial priority to secure public toilets in our area. The CDT cannot be operational before the 1st April deadline set by THC for signatures on a lease. FRCC is to write to THC on behalf of those seeking to set up the trust explaining the situation and seeking a stay of execution.

The next stage in the establishment of the Trust is to hold public meetings in March.

9.3 Dog Park Update

A local resident has made a proposal for a dog park near the Leisure Centre and is in contact with THC.

9.4 Grit Bins

A survey of grit bins has been made and THC notified of those requiring filling. Action AM

9.5 Christmas Lights

A status report (appended) on the Christmas lights available to FRCC and the cost of the same was presented to the meeting by IACB. After discussion it was decided that:

1. In future years lights would be concentrated on the two village centres.
2. The offer described in item 10 of the status report would be accepted.
3. Future lights and decorations must be funded from donations or sponsorship rather than from the Highland Council grant.
4. We need an individual outwith FRCC to organise lights and tree for 2019 and on. Action TH

9.6 Distribution of Collection from Christmas Eve Community Singing

Thanks to all who made the Christmas Eve Community Singing in the Cathedral so successful. A sum of £707 was collected at the gate and it has been decided that:

1. £200 will be donated to Fortrose Pre-School Ltd.
2. £200 will be used as a contribution to Community Lights and Tree.
3. The disbursement of the remaining £307 will be decided at the March meeting

9.7 Review of Highland scheme of Community Councils

A report entitled “A Review of the Highland Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils 2018/19” has been published by THC. This is available on the FRCC website. The main change to the current position is the facility to invite Youth Members onto the Community Council.

* 1. Potential Contribution from Parklands for public art

Condition 16 of the Planning Permission for application 17/02523 – 40 bedroom Care Home reads:

No development shall commence until details of a feature of Public Art to be provided on site, in accordance with the Council's Public Art Strategy Supplementary Guidance; and proposals for its installation and maintenance; have been submitted to and approved in writing by the planning authority. The Public Art feature shall thereafter be installed and maintained in accordance with the approved details and timescale for provision

Parklands have approached FRCC asking whether they could make a contribution direct to the Community Council for FRCC to organise the artworks.

FRCC are to clarify whether this is acceptable to THC and determine exactly what is acceptable under the Guidance note. Action TH

9.9 Waste Management

Highland waste is no longer serving the Black Isle (commercial waste|. Alternative but significantly more expensive services are available including the Highland Council. Whilst difficult to understand, THC are reported to be the most expensive of these. GA asked to investigate why this should be the case following receipt of more detailed information from AP. Action AP/GA

**10.0 Operational Issues**

10.1 The FRCC fundraiser at the Farmer’s Market. Has been postponed by a further month. **Action: LT**

10.2 Wm Gray have been contacted (Robbie Bruce) twice regarding the missing car park sign behind marine house without the sign being replaced efforts will continue. **Action: TH**

**11.0 AOCB**

All items covered elsewhere.

**12.0 Date of Future Meetings**

In recent months meetings have deviated from the normal second Wednesday of each Month. We will revert to this practice so that dates for 2019 will be:

13th March

10th April

8th May

12th June

No Meeting in July

14th August

11th September

9th October

14th November

11th December

**Wellbeing in the Black Isle Partnership Group**

**Background**

The Black Isle has a group was established (and driven forward) by management at Fortrose

Academy following the tragic suicide of a pupil (aged just 16.) In the past year there have

been other similar tragedies on the Black Isle. The suicide rate is one of the worst in

Scotland. The Wellbeing Group comprises of school representatives, Police Scotland and

the NHS (full membership TBC.)

**First steps:** a ‘Conversation Café’ event took place in June 2018 (summary of that event

attached.)

**Step One:** to establish who the vulnerable groups are. Which groups are well provided for

in each of our areas in terms of social opportunities; services, activities, social spaces to

meet up etc. Where are the gaps? Is there an imbalance (e.g. one community has a lot and

others little.) Are there barriers to participation? How are those barriers overcome?

**Community Councils consultation/input**

The CC’s across the Black Isle attended a ‘round table’ meeting in November 2018 to discuss

all of the above.

That was followed by a community survey that’s already been partially circulated around

the communities. Not with a big ‘push’ though. The bigger push is required to up the

response rate. The pan-Black Isle responses have thrown up some interesting statistics (I

only have hard copy at the moment.)

I organised the ‘scoping’ meeting last week and ahead of that produced a rough analysis of

activities/social opportunities for our villages (can show at the next meeting) focusing on

specific groups (e.g. primary aged children; new mums; the elderly etc.) and generic

categories (e.g. social spaces; cultural events.) Each CC made similar notes. This

information will (hopefully) produce a pan-Black Isle picture which will inform the basis of

discussion at our final meeting in March. The final analysis will then provide evidence for a

strategic approach to tackling social isolation amongst the identified vulnerable groups as

well as a strategy for community wellbeing more generally.

After March the **formal** CC input towards the work of the group will be complete. **My**

**action before our next meeting:** circulate the survey as widely as possible in outlets in our

villages as well as Facebook but with a bit of a lead-in so the response if greater.

Sarah Atkin

21/1/19

**Fortrose and Rosemarkie Community Council  
Christmas Lamp-post Lights and Christmas Tree**

This **revised** paper reviews on parameters of cost two expensive annual projects. Decisions to be taken on whether either should be continued and - if so - how to finance the increasing expenditure.

In December 2018, the costs to date for both Lamp-post Lights and Christmas Tree totalled £410. Some £200 of the £410 was provided by other parties who may not continue their generosity. Costs “to date” because five broken lamp-post lights are being repaired and a bill of at last £50 is anticipated.

The Treasurer’s paper of 7 January, **abridged and up-dated at 12 February**, is below:-

[1] There are 41 lampposts with the potential for power sockets in Fortrose and Rosemarkie (22 in   
 Fortrose, 16 in Rosemarkie and 3 on the road between the two villages).

[2] Ten of the 22 in Fortrose are not fitted with power sockets, leaving 12 at present available for   
 signs. Not all of the ten “without” are suitable for sockets (narrow roads and pavements and high   
 sided vans). Thus, a total of 31 socketed now, possibly more later if sockets are to be fitted.

FRCC has 24 illuminated signs. Five are broken but may be repairable at relatively low cost.

[3] Consequently, there are is a shortage of at least seven signs (31 posts less 24 signs) or possibly   
 up to a shortage of 12 signs if the five broken prove to be irreparable.

[4] Replacement signs were last bought in December 2016, three for £504. Bought from Lumalite,   
 one of the few remaining suppliers, and the company FRCC has used in earlier years.

[5] The cost of a sign in 2019, similar in size and complexity, to existing stock, is £300 plus VAT   
 (£360) reduced to £240 plus VAT (£288) if bought before April.

[8] The cost each year of the signs, electrician to inspect, and the high-loader to erect and dismantle,   
 is approximately £100. Plus, the sports field shed has to be retained in which to store the signs.

[9] FRCC might wish to consider:

1. Are lamp-post signs an expense worth continuing as well as the Christmas Tree.
2. How many, if any, signs should be bought
3. If either questions is answered in the affirmative, how should the monies be raised.

* Should it be by general sponsorship
* individual sponsorship of specific lampposts
* request funding from Highland Council (rumour that other CCs have so done);
* other suggestions.

[10] An external party has notified the FRCC of a willingness to buy five lamp-post lights if the   
 FRCC agrees in February to continue displaying their own and other lamp-post lights.

**Iain A C Brown  
Treasurer  
12 February 2019**



Example Illustrations from “Growing a Cathedral”

**FORTROSE AND ROSEMARKIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL – PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

DATE: 13 February 2019

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE**  **VALIDATED** | **PLANNING**  **REFERENCE** | **APPLICANT** | **DESCRIPTION** | **LOCATION** | **COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTION** |
| 17 Dec 18 | 18/05804/FUL | Mr & Mrs A Fraser | Erection of house | 90m NE of Hopefield Cottage  Flowerburn Rosemarkie | The proposal is deemed by planners to be contrary to Development Plan Policy 35 (Housing in the Countryside), and will be refused.  Action by FRCC – none |
| 19 Dec 18 | 18/05757/FUL | Gary Keith | Erection of House | 25m NE of Garlyle,  10 Ness way, Fortrose | This a fresh application following refusal of earlier application 17/03318/FUL.  The new proposal is for a much smaller house, but the basic objection still stands; it is contrary to planning conditions and out of keeping with surrounding development  Action by FRCC – objection submitted |
| 02 Feb 19 | 19/00246/FUL | Mr & Mrs K Cumming | Change of use of care home to 3 flats | Abbeyfield House, Hawkhill Road, Rosemarkie | The building is listed, but the proposal will have minimal impact externally. This is a worthwhile change of use of a redundant building  Action by FRCC – none |
| 29 Dec 18 | 18/05754/PNO | Mr A Grant | Agricultural building | Upper Raddery, Fortrose | Prior notification of erection of an agricultural building, which does not require planning permission.  Action by FRCC – none |
| 29 Jan 19 | 19/00379/FUL | Mr R Chandler | Installation of 12no. roof mounted solar PV Pasnels | The Grove, St Andrews Walk, Fortrose | The building lies within the conservation area. However, it is a modest 20th century bungalow in a secluded location. The proposal will have minimal if any visual impact, and will not detract from the character of the dwelling.  Action by FRCC – none |
| 7 Dec 18 | 18/05678/FUL | Fortrose and Rosemarkie Golf Club | Erection of office and Pro shop | Fortrose and Rosemarkie Golf Club- adjacent to existing clubhouse | Application approved  Action by FRCC – none |

**UPDATE ON PREVIOUS APPLICATION(S)**

18/04060/FUL erection of retail unit, Ness Road, Fortrose.

Following submission of detailed additional information, the views of the planning authority can now be found on the HC website, and should be referred to. Basically the position of the planning authority is that insufficient justification for the development has been put forward in terms of development plan, roads and transport, and justification for the development in terms of planning policy. Refusal seems likely

Action by FRCC – none

18/03570/PIP outline application for 12 houses 105m SW of Matheson drive, Fortrose (Comer’s Croft). Awaiting decision. HC Development Plans consultation response makes no reference to concerns raised by FRCC, primarily continual increments in overall numbers of houses with resultant impact on traffic, especially Fortrose High Street. The Transport Planning comments in this regard are contradictory, at one point stating that there are no objections, and at another that:

‘Any scheme of mitigation on the High Street which might be necessary to reduce the impact would also require a suitable model to demonstrate its acceptability. Without this robust assessment to accompany anything other than small developments Transport Planning will have no option but to object to the proposals due to a lack of information to enable the impact on the road network to be determined.’