**Minutes of Meeting**

**Wednesday 9th October 2019. Fortrose Leisure Centre**

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

**Present:** Tom Heath (TH), Sarah Atkin (SA), Douglas Stuart (DS), Iain Brown (IACB), Lucy Tonkin (LT), Archie MacLeod (AM), Councillor Jennifer Barclay (The Highland Council (THC))

**Apologies:** Anne Phillips (AP), Russell Mackenzie, Councillor Gordon Adam (GA-THC)

1. **Presentation by Ruaraidh Ross on Proposals for a skatepark in Rosemarkie**

A local group of keen skateboarders is trying to organise a skate-park locally. Plans exist for a number of options of differing complexity and the group is looking to raise approximately £40,000 for equipment and installation. Their main problem is space to put this equipment. Their preferred location is a corner of the playing field in Rosemarkie to date have not been able to negotiate this with THC. Rosemarkie Amenities Association are now in discussion with THC in respect of this. They are looking for general rather than financial support from the Community Council. FRCC are in favour of, and support, any constructive activities for young people. Action. **TH** to contact TC to clarify issues with using an area of the playing field. **SA** to discuss with Kate Forbes (MSP).

1. **Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting of 11th September 2019 were adopted. (Proposed IACB, Seconded SA)

1. **Matters Arising**
   1. **Wheel chair access from Alexander Court, Fortrose:** The access has been tarred by THC. Our thanks to Councillor Adams for organising this.
   2. **Empty Council owned Houses.** There has been no action by THC on the two empty council owned houses (Former Janitor’s House at Fortrose Academy and that in Bridge Street Rosemarkie). Both are falling increasingly into disrepair. It is a matter of continuing concern that these public assets are being wasted. Action **JB**
   3. **Damage to fencing at playpark on Chanonry Park**. This has now been repaired.
   4. **Meeting of Community Councillors and Community Groups with Chief Executive of THC**. TH and SA represented FRCC. Donna Manson Spoke frankly about the continuing conflict of needs and budget within THC. Given the large number of people attending it was not possible to ask specific questions in respect of our area.
   5. **Care Home Bus Stop.** Item Carried Forward. TH tow write to THC requesting a bus stop outside New Care Home. **Action TH**
   6. **Beach Party Nuisance**. Carried Forward. **Action AP/SA**
   7. **Community Council Elections:** As a consequence of a poor response to the request for nominations for the Community Council Elections both the nomination date and the election date have been put back by one week. The deadline for nominations is now noon on 29th October and the election date is 4th November. It was noted that by the date of this meeting no one present had seen the promised advertising of the elections from THC.
   8. **Police Report.** It was agreed that the Police Report which is normally appended to Meeting Minutes would be posted independently as soon as practicable after receipt by FRCC. Action **TH/AP**
   9. **St. Andrews Walk Bin**  The request from FRCC for a public green bin at the foot of St.Andrews Walk has been turned down by THC on the grounds that there is insufficient room. FRCC are unanimously agreed that there is adequate space in both of the locations suggested so THC.
   10. **Review of Bus Service to Chanonry Point**  We are awaiting a date from THC for the review. Action **SA**
   11. **New Shed at Town Hall.**  Awaiting more information from Scouts. **IACB** to monitor
   12. **BIG.**  Members made preparations to publicise CC elections but on arriving at the event found that no table had been reserved and there was no space available.
2. **Correspondence and Points from the Public**
   1. **Meeting Room Table The** table and chairs in the Leisure Centre Meeting Room are in need of Repair. They are part of the Common Good and there have been previous indications that the Common Good would fund the renewal of the “leatherette” table surface

1. **Police Report**

The following are the crimes, offences and antisocial behaviour and other incidents of note dealt with between 11/09/2019 and 08/10/2019:

* 1. 16/9/19 – Speed checks carried out at Canonbury Terrace. 1 person charged speeding and one charged with no MOT.
  2. 16/9/19 – Damage caused to parked vehicle on East Watergate, Fortrose.
  3. 21/9/19 – Fatal road traffic collision on B9160 Upper Raddery Junction
  4. 26/9/19 – Female arrested for misuse of the 999 system from Castle Street, Fortrose call box.
  5. 4/10/19 – Damage caused to windows at Fortrose pavilion. Youths observed running from area on police arrival.
  6. Patrols carried out of Rosemarkie Beach in hours of darkness.
  7. Speed checks continue in the area when duties permit.43 Calls were received for this area between the dates specified above (11/09/19 – 08/10/19).
  8. Any information or community issues please contact Police Dingwall on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.
  9. With regard to the vandalism at the Pavilion on King George’s Filed( Item 6.5) It was agreed that 1) trestles used to climb on the container roof should be moved away from the container from which people were jumping onto the roof of the damaged storage shed and 2) Public support should be sought to identify the miscreants. Action TH/SA
  10. With regard to the fatal road accident (item 6.3) a letter has been prepared by SA on behalf of FRCC and sent to THC and the Police with constructive suggestions for improvements to the road junction where the accident occurred.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**
   1. **Financial position of FRCC.** No significant change since previous meeting with a steady decline in available funds. In respect of the much reduced funding from THC FRCC will inevitably run out of funds in the foreseeable future. In that respect members of the Public are invited to suggest fund raising ideas.
2. **Planning/Licensing/Consultations**
   1. **Planning Application Updates**

Information extracted from Highland Council website DATE: 9 October 2019

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| **REFERENCE** | **SUBJECT** | **CURRENT STATUS** |
| 18/04060/FUL | Retail unit, Ness Road, Fortrose | Under consideration |
| 18/03570/PIP | 12 House Development, Matheson Drive | Approved 12/9/19 |
| 19/00815/PIP | 3 Houses, East Watergate, Fortrose  Amended to 2 houses | An appeal against refusal has been submitted to the HC Review Panel |
| 19/01286/RCC | Greenside Farm Development, Rosemarkie  Road Construction consent | Under consideration |
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* 1. **Greenside Farm.** A local Group has objected toan application for a road Construction Consent (RCC) which includes an temporary access from Manse Brae onto Courthill Road. There are concerns about the safety of this access given that it appears not to conform to THC standards for such accesses and is also on the steep hill close to a road bend. FRCC share these concerns but have not registered a separate objection.

1. **Common Good.**
   1. **Application for a 30 Year extension to Fortrose Campsite Lease.**  Following a request from the lessees, THC has proposed the award of a 30-year extension to the existing lease which expires in 2025. As per the requirements of the Community Empowerment Act (2015) THC are required to Consult with local organisations before finalising any such award. In respect of the excellent work done by the existing Lessees FRCC support the principle of a lease extension but object to the 30 year length. We are unaware of any valid business case for such a long extension. Consultation must be submitted by 29th November. Action TH
2. **Community Issues**
   1. **Wellbeing in the Black Isle** A summary of the Well-being initiative will be prepared and circulated on notice boards and Social Media. Action SA
   2. Public Toilets. A lease allowing the Rosemarkie and Fortrose Amenity Association (RAFA) has been signed with THC. Our congratulations to all those who made it happen. The Rosemarkie Toilet is open as normal. The Fortrose toilet is available for use but THC have switched off the electricity because of metering problems. A solution to this issue is being sought. TH to liaise with RAFA.
   3. **Tidy Our Royal Borough Group. (TORB).** We wish to make a special mention of TORB who continue to meet on Tuesday morning to tidy areas within Fortrose. Our thanks to them.
3. **AOCB – None**
4. **Date of Next meeting:** Wednesday 13th November – Location to be announced.