

Fortrose & Rosemarkie Community Council

Wednesday 6th September 2023 7pm by Zoom

Minutes

Item		Action by
1	Welcome & apologies Present: A Phillips (Chair) AP, J Pugh (Sec) JP, Lucy Tonkin LT, David Guthrie DG, Ann Jefferson AJ, Cllr M-M MacCallum MMM Apologies: Bob Latimer (Treasurer) BT, Gareth Davies GD, Calum Mackenzie CM	
2	Minutes of the last meeting Proposed by DG, seconded AP. Agreed.	
3 3.1 3.2 3.3	Matters arising <u>Rosemarkie Church chimes.</u> DG said that Rev Beattie had apologised for the delay and that congregation member Keith Lorraine would liaise with DG. <u>Empty properties.</u> MMM reported that THC was reluctant to put burdens on properties for sale, such as Mill Cottage, Rosemarkie, because in the long run they are unenforceable. MMM suggested that it would be better to look at a Black Isle-wide scheme to tackle holiday lets/airbnb displacing permanent residents. It was agreed this should be conveyed to the Place Plan team. MMM to update on Janitor's House at next meeting. <u>Co-op request.</u> AP has written to the local manager explaining that FRCC had registered concerns with THC over the Co-op's planning application for a new store, namely the inevitable increase in traffic and the fact that the location is not zoned for development. The FRCC itself is neutral on whether the area requires a larger store and has suggested to the company that it holds a public meeting to gauge local opinion which the FRCC will help publicise.	 DG JP MMM
4 4.1 4.2	Points from the public <u>Paths and pavements.</u> MMM is in contact with a community organiser in Nairn to discuss how they assessed and improved disabled access/dropped kerbs. She will report back. <u>Memorial benches.</u> Another request for a memorial bench at Chanonry Point had been received. Benches at Chanonry Point are not permitted and AP would explain this. Unfortunately despite a request, THC has not sent any general guidance or advice that the FRCC can circulate, nor provided a Council contact to whom enquiries can be directed. MMM to take up with	 MMM

4.3	acting Ward Manager. <u>Feddon Hill play park</u> AP confirmed that the play park at Feddon Hill is overgrown and apparently abandoned. She confirmed that it is not under THC ownership. Local resident Louise Anderson said the equipment was rusty and potentially dangerous. JP to liaise with LA over a possible improvement plan.	MMM JP
4.4.	<u>Tourism concerns</u> AJ had circulated a report looking at “over-tourism” in the Highlands and felt it merited a separate meeting to discuss points raised and possible solutions. Concerns were raised in particular over motorhomes parking illegally/inappropriately overnight. With permission from the authors, AJ would send the report to the three ward councillors. AP noted that in the Highland Tourism Infrastructure Plan, the acute problem at Chanonry Point had been recognised and a costed strategy had been produced for footpaths and car parking. AP asked MMM to find out if any action has been taken and where any money has been spent. It was anticipated that work should be ready for 2023. MMM asked for a copy of the document. AP to supply. DATE TO BE SET FOR SEPARATE MEETING.	AJ AP/ MMM
5	Police report No monthly report had been received. A new officer for the area was due to take up the post at the end of August. The meeting felt strongly that a report should be forthcoming each month. MMM to liaise with Police Scotland regarding the new contact. There had been four accidents in the Fairy Glen in the past month, reported at least one caused by a slippery surface. MMM said that THC was taking steps to address this.	MMM
6 6.2 6.3	Treasurer’s report Accounts to 6.9.23 attached sent by BL. Balance: £7638.26 with pest management invoice outstanding. There is £465 in unpaid fees from 11 properties for gull services. DG to chase. <u>The End of Summer Ceilidh</u> made £573. The FRCC thanked BL and Calum MacKenzie for organising. It was agreed that another similar event should be held in future. <u>The St Boniface Fair raised £769.</u> The FRCC thanked all who took part.	DG JP/BL
7	Planning AP reported that she had contacted THC to help with establishing access rights relating to Dr Fraser’s Field (planning application for 12 houses). No response atow. AP said that the steps down “The Slog” slope in Rosemarkie required repair but that ownership was an issue. The developers at Greenside Farm had been expected to improve the steps however they say they cannot do so unless THC can demonstrate ownership. MMM to chase.	MMM

8	Licensing Nothing to report.	
9	Common Good A subgroup of Gwyn Phillips, Vint Grant and Okaine McLennan to meet to discuss Common Good including coastal erosion and asset management. AP to liaise.	AP
10	Community issues/consultations	
10.1	<u>Chanonry Point.</u> AJ reported that human excrement was regularly found and having to be cleared by volunteers. AP said that volunteers should not have to deal with this and that incidents needed to be reported to the Council's environmental health team. A resident has suggested that a fence could be used to section off the area however there were concerns that this would either be trampled down or make clearing litter and other waste harder. The FRCC had repeatedly asked THC for better consistent signage approaching the Point eg "Unsuitable for motorhomes" "No public toilets". Signs indicating distance to public toilets at the site might help. MMM to chase. Chanonry Point Advisory Group due to meet 7.9.23 and would discuss further. AJ to update MMM.	MMM
10.2	<u>TTRO/20mph/Road safety/Safe Routes to School.</u> Still no signage indicating new one-way system, nor yellow lines on Rosemarkie High Street. Unclear what the white painted parking boxes signify - permit holders? AP to speak to Shane Manning at THC.	AJ
10.3	AP to liaise with Avoch Primary re safe routes to school. <u>Gulls.</u> DG reported that Elgin was using its Common Good Fund to tackle gulls with sonic deterrents. Unfortunately, there are no Common Good funds currently available for grants in Fortrose and Rosemarkie, according to THC website. Common Good subgroup to check.	AP
10.4	<u>School links.</u> JP reported that the Young Councillors have been asked to publicise (within the Academy) a beach clean at Rosemarkie starting at 0900 on Saturday 16 September. A wider community litter pick is planned for the autumn - date to be fixed.	AP
10.5	<u>Community growing/planting.</u> No ROGS update.	
10.6	<u>Verges/parking.</u> See 10.2. Volunteers in Rosemarkie had cut back overgrown verges. Fines have been issued to those parking on the double yellow lines on the seafront however infringement continues. (NB An earlier request from FRCC to THC for additional smaller posts to make this harder, at the cost of £16,000, had been rejected.) LT requested that public transport be reinstated as an item on the monthly agenda, given increasing concerns over cuts to bus routes which impacted job opportunities and onward public transport links. LT suggested soliciting local residents' views via Facebook and the mailing list and the Ward Councillors holding regular feedback meetings with Stagecoach. LT to put on	

10.7	Facebook. JP re mailing list. MMM to advise. <u>Cathedral activities</u> . AP said the Whatsapp group established to co-ordinate the St Boniface Fair would be used to liaise.	LT/JP MMM
10.8	<u>Volunteers/Sub-committees</u> Nothing to report.	
10.9	<u>Xmas lights</u> . DG/JP to meet to audit lampposts/draft letter to potential ponsors. JP to discuss plug/bracket maintenance and possible funding streams with acting Ward Manager.	
10.10	<u>Fortrose Community Market</u> No update from TBI	DG/JP
10.11	<u>Litter</u> See 10.4. AJ reported that the cigarette butt boxes at Chanonry Point were well used. AP thanked AJ for her help.	
10.12	<u>Marine Environment</u> AP to discuss current projects with Duncan MacRae.	
10.13	<u>Asset transfers</u> AP had circulated a consultation document from the Scottish Government. AP reported that the Raddery House group had held an open weekend at the site. She felt the condition of the buildings had deteriorated considerably since the site was vacated. The group expects to hear the outcome of their CAT application within the next couple of months.	AP
10.14	<u>Visitor levy</u> The consultation link had been distributed via the mailing list. For discussion at planning meeting see 4.4	
11	Community meetings	
11.1	<u>BICC</u> Meeting to discuss Place Plan presentation was held 31/8/23, attended by AP/JP. The approved minutes will be posted on the FRCC website.	
11.2	<u>BIT</u> No meeting	
11.3	<u>BIP</u> AP attended the AGM 30/8/23. 8 bodies are currently represented and the BIP is aware that wider participation/representation is desirable.	
11.4	<u>Place Plan</u> The next community consultation events will be in North Kessock (15/9/23) and Culbokie (16/9/23). Details on Facebook.	
11.5	<u>Green Freeport</u> At the BICC meeting, Cromarty CC reported that they are seeking more details and more transparency regarding plans.	
12	Any other business	
12.1	<u>Community Council elections</u> . Details on how to stand will be circulated on Facebook, the website and via the mailing list. There are 9 positions on FRCC and for the Community Council to continue, 5 must be filled.	LT/JP
12.2	<u>Fortrose Station Road car park</u> . A member of the public had complained about the road surface and lack of markings. THC is aware and promised action has not been forthcoming. MMM to check status.	MMM
12.3	<u>Marine Terrace beach steps</u> . AJ said at least one set were dangerous and needed attention. AP to contact THC.	AP
12.4	<u>Bench between Fortrose/Rosemarkie</u> . Request for a bench for pedestrians to rest on walk along Rosemarkie Road (A832).	

	Would require a grant, and permission from THC roads department. AP to enquire and copy in MMM.	AP/ MMM
13	Date of next meeting Wednesday 4th October via Zoom.	