

Fortrose & Rosemarkie Community Council

Wednesday 6 December 2023 by Zoom

Minutes

Item		Action by
1	Welcome & Apologies <u>Present:</u> Theo Stratton (Chair) TS; Jo-Anne Pugh (Sec) JP; Bob Latimer (Treasurer) BL; Anne Phillips AP; Lucy Vaughan LV <u>Apologies:</u> Kerry Ward KW; Ann Jefferson AJ	
2	Minutes of the Last Meeting Agreed. Proposed by AP, seconded LV.	
3	Matters arising None.	
4 4.1 4.2	Points from the Public/Correspondence <u>Feddon Hill path/playpark.</u> Path has been damaged and playpark is overgrown. Ownership (THC or other) to be established. <u>Public transport consultation.</u> JP has summarised the responses the FRCC received via Facebook/email and will send details to our three Ward councillors.	TS JP
5	Police Report TS has met the new area officer, Constable Eve King who hopes to come to a future meeting and is happy to supply a regular report for our area/the Back Isle. She confirmed that enquiries were ongoing concerning the recent incident at the Academy and the apparent attempted dog-napping incident on the Rosehaugh estate. LV said an upsetting incident of vandalism/graffiti at the Fortrose public toilets is being formally reported to police.	
6	Treasurer's Report BL said that apart from paying a phone bill, there had been no activity. The balance stands at £5,128.51. He said that it was possible in principle to set up a subsidiary account for specific projects, such as funding a beach wheelchair.	
7 7.1	Planning <u>Fairy Glen road quarry site.</u> The FRCC noted that THC had put the site up for sale. Any planning application would need to consider the possible contamination issues noted in the particulars and designing safe traffic access.	

8	Licensing Nothing to report.	
9	Common Good AP said that the sub-committee had met for the first time. A full report is attached. See 10.3 re coastal erosion.	
10 10.1 10.2 10.3 10.4 10.5	<p>Community Issues/Consultations</p> <p><u>Home Care.</u> Report from KW. Eilean Dubh Home Care is now delivering care to all those in Cromarty, Rosemarkie, Fortrose and Avoch who previously received it, but there is a considerable “unmet” need (except in Cromarty). Sufficient staffing for Munlochy, Tore and North Kessock has not been found. EDHC is continuing to recruit.</p> <p><u>RAA beach bonfire.</u> FRCC Young Councillors had written to the RAA chair in support with concerns over the environmental impact. They had received a positive and reassuring response. The event itself was a great success and the FRCC congratulated RAA on the event, appreciated the steps taken to minimise litter and pollution, and thanked all those who helped with the clear-up.</p> <p><u>Coastal erosion.</u> AP said that THC’s Black Isle Area Committee had allocated £90,000 to carry out remedial safety work along 70 metres of Common Good Land (Caravan Park). The Roads department would assess the stretch which threatened the road on Marine Terrace. An earlier agreement to co-ordinate coastal protection with THC, the Golf Club and Scottish Water did not seem to be happening. Scottish Water did not intend to act because pipework is not at risk. THC had rejected funding work at the golf course and the club was now attempting to fundraise. AP pointed out that a UHI study suggested an outlay of £250,000 would be needed to protect the entire length. The Common Good sub-group is investigating the impact dredging off White Ness may be having on the pattern of coastal erosion and is contacting Marine Scotland. AP to report back. It was agreed that this item should appear on future agendas for updates, including from ward councillor Cllr Morven-May MacCallum.</p> <p><u>Graffiti/Vandalism.</u> See 5 above.</p> <p><u>Rosemarkie and Fortrose Trust.</u> LV is one of 5 trustees who currently run the trust operating public toilets leased from THC in the two villages. She said the trust could be a useful vehicle, in time, to take on other local projects. She noted that the finances were currently healthy, thanks to various donations but the trustees were seeking to establish any THC plans to encourage “donations” from motorists using the Rosemarkie toilet car parks which they felt might impact donations at the toilets in future.</p>	AP MMM

10.6	<u>Christmas lights.</u> JP said that David Guthrie had assembled a team of volunteers to fell, erect and decorate a donated Christmas tree and put up existing street decorations. No response had been received as yet regarding a possible grant from the Pat Munro Foundation to improve the lights. JP/LV to meet in January with a view to improvements in time for next Christmas.	JP
10.7	<u>Christmas Carols at the Cathedral.</u> Will be held at 6.30pm on Christmas Eve. AP reported that the sub-group had sourced a keyboard player and PA, and had assembled a choir to lead the singing. Any funds raised will go towards new Christmas lights and donations towards local registered community groups (for discussion at next meeting). More volunteers are sought for help on the night.	
10.8	<u>Volunteers and sub-committees.</u> <u>Chanonry Point Action Group.</u> AP said that the group had met on 23/11/23 and looked at the impact recent storm damage had had on the Action Plan and THC Infrastructure plans. They received a report from the Warden, and figures for car park usages. It was noted that we will not know until April whether there will be a Ranger service this season. The RNLI risk assessment has been sent to THC Angus MacLeod who has yet to respond. AP has given the name to Cllr Morven-May MacCallum who will try to track the report. Currently the lifelbelts at the site are in a poor condition and there is no other safety equipment. MMM has helped identify a council contact for signage to warn water users of the dangers. Given the success of this year's Access Day, another is planned for those with mobility issues, in 2024 (date tbc). The group is planning to visit Dornoch to investigate how beach wheelchairs operate. A viewing platform similar to Nairn's had been considered, but recent storm damage indicates that this would not be a sensible use of resources compared to moveable matting for those using wheelchairs. Next meeting in February 2024. AP/KW to report back.	MMM
10.9	<u>Railway Path.</u> TS to discuss progress with KW and contact Avoch and Killen CC to discuss ownership and improvements needed.	AP/KW
10.10	<u>Plough Inn.</u> JP said that there was some local concern over the fabric of the building. FRCC hoped that any new tenant would ensure that this building, which is C-listed and an important local asset, was at the very least made water/weather-tight.	KW/TS
10.11	<u>Community growing/hedge tidy.</u> JP thanked all those who had helped at the recent hedge tidy. The plants, which are now a year old, have taken exceptionally well. JP said that ROGS (Regenerate Our Green Space) was one of two	

10.12 10.13	<p>local charities (the other being the Scouts) to benefit from the Co-op local communities scheme: those with Co-op cards could choose a cause to support and the organisation donates money on their behalf. ROGS awaits news on land availability.</p> <p><u>Asset transfer</u>. No update on Raddery House and land.</p> <p><u>Young Councillors update</u>. JP said that she had met them on 1/12/23. They had fed back views on public transport, traffic changes in Rosemarkie and coastal erosion. Their help has been requested for Carols at the Cathedral and for January's Ceilidh. The next meeting is 8/1/23.</p>	
11 11.1 11.2 11.3 11.4	<p>Community Meetings</p> <p><u>Black Isle Community Councils</u>. Knockbain is the current chair and is due to fix a meeting date for January. TS to liaise.</p> <p><u>Black Isle Tourism</u>. No update.</p> <p><u>Black Isle Partnership</u>. No update.</p> <p><u>Place Plan</u>. A draft is expected to be sent to community councils shortly.</p>	TS
12 12.1 12.2 12.3 12.4	<p>Any other business</p> <p><u>Avoch Primary Nursery</u>. AP said the nursery is fund-raising for Makaton training for staff. It was agreed that an amount would be donated from anything raised at the Cathedral Carols. Amount to be decided next meeting.</p> <p><u>Communication</u>. JP said that Spanglefish, the FRCC's website host, was now placing more adverts on free sites, some of which were inappropriate. She had accepted a free 1-month ad-free trial of their paid-for service, and recommended that we continued for £39.99 p.a. She would provide details of this and other services to other community councillors. AP said she was not planning to renew her Zoom account in February. Cromarty and District CC have asked THC about a teams account for use by community councils. JP to investigate.</p> <p><u>Ceilidh</u>. JP confirmed that the band and hall was booked for 27/1/24. BL is working on branding/posters/tickets. A sales push will begin from 4 January. It was suggested that a portion of any funds raised would go towards new Christmas lights. For discussion at next meeting.</p> <p><u>Admin</u>. AP to meet TS to discuss various chair handover issues, and give him the keys to Fortrose noticeboard. BL to ensure shed key returned after Xmas lights stored.</p>	JP JP BL AP/TS BL
13	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 3 January 2024.</p>	