

Fortrose & Rosemarkie Community Council

Wednesday 7th February by Zoom

Minutes

Item		Action by
1	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p><u>Present:</u> Theo Stratton (Chair) TS, Jo-Anne Pugh (Sec) JP, Bob Latimer (Treasurer) BL, Anne Phillips AP, Lucy Vaughan LV, Kerry Ward KW, Ann Jefferson AJ, Vint Grant VG, Claudette Bruce (Highland Broadband) CB.</p> <p>Cllr Morven-May MacCallum MMM.</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> None received.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the Last Meeting</p> <p>Proposed by KW, seconded by LV. Approved.</p>	
3 3.1 3.2	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p><u>Condolences:</u> The Community Council offered sincere condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of acting Ward Manager Jullie Wileman who unexpectedly passed away. JP has emailed THC on the FRCC's behalf. TS to liaise with MMM to send letter to family.</p> <p><u>Avoch nursery:</u> TS passed on thanks from the school for the £70 donation towards staff Makaton training.</p>	TS/MMM
4 4.1 4.2	<p>Points from the public/correspondence</p> <p><u>Marine Terrace traffic:</u> TS has spoken to ward councillors and the issue is very much on their agenda. AJ asked about enforcement of parking restrictions/one way system and loss of the footpath - she has had no response to enquiries made to THC/Shane Manning. MMM reported that she's hoping that THC Infrastructure chair, Cllr Ken Gowans, would visit the site with her. It was agreed that a sub-group of AJ, AP and JP should meet and liaise with MMM in driving improvements forward, including the provision of an overflow car park in the area.</p> <p><u>Highland Broadband:</u> CB was invited to address the meeting regarding the rollout of ultrafast broadband in Fortrose and Rosemarkie. Fibre cabling is currently being laid, completion by end of May, with rollout of services from July. Each household will have a junction box outside the property and if they then subscribe, the property is connected. There has been some disruption on the Avoch/Fortrose road as cables are laid. Households in affected roads will be informed by letter a week in advance of works and access will be respected. There is a drop-in</p>	AJ,AP, JP, MMM

9	Common Good AP to update at next meeting.	AP
10	Community issues/consultations	
10.1	<u>Fortrose Post Office/Royal Mail</u> : The CC has learnt that Fortrose Post Office is likely to change hands in the near future, and that Royal Mail is closing the sorting office on the site and moving operations to Inverness. The CC is reassured that a Post Office operation is likely to remain in the village but there is concern that Royal Mail's withdrawal might impact our local postal service. TS to establish facts with Royal Mail/MSPs etc.	TS
10.2	<u>Ceilidh</u> : Feedback on the recent ceilidh has been very positive and it raised useful funds (see 6). JP thanked the Plough for its generous raffle donation. Useful lessons had been learned re marketing and JP will consider organising another in late summer.	JP
10.3	<u>Rosemarkie Beach/coastal erosion</u> : MMM reported that THC had commenced work on the section by the Caravan Park using Common Good funds, and that Scottish Water was helping to part-fund work at the Golf Club. The issue of core footpaths was being addressed. JP to send photos of damage to the sea wall by houses on the front to MMM.	JP/MMM
10.4	<u>Graffiti/vandalism</u> : LV said local police had been very helpful regarding damage to the public toilets. A homeless person had been sleeping in the toilets in Fortrose. She said it was a difficult situation and there seemed little guidance or support available to help the person find alternative accommodation.	
10.5	<u>St Boniface Fair</u> : A date has been set for this year's event: Saturday 3rd August. An initial planning meeting had been hosted by AP. The aim is to ensure the event is more authentic, with appropriate costumes and stalls, music, children's entertainment etc. AP to contact prospective stall holders, and contact Historic Environment Scotland re opening Chapter House/inviting costumed actors. JP to circulate planning document. BL noted that one stall needed repairing and volunteered to organise.	AP JP BL
10.6	<u>Public Transport Consultation</u> : MMM thanked the CC for the summary of responses to its consultation (now uploaded to the FRCC website) and is hoping to arrange a meeting with Stagecoach. She also said Knockbain CC was keen to liaise on the issue. TS to contact. AP said that the Community Council Association offered support to CC's to develop community transport plans and perhaps in consultation with other Black Isle CC's a plan could be developed, eg a loop service linking with a Tore "park and ride" to Inverness.	TS
10.7	<u>Seagulls</u> : JP reported back on discussions with David Guthrie who has coordinated the CC's approach to nuisance	

10.8	herring gulls over the last two years. It was agreed that due to the change in rules regarding nest/egg removal, it was not possible for the CC to offer a similar coordinating service this year. It was agreed that JP would send out an explanatory document to the CC mailing list, drafted by DG, and that the CC would offer guidance for residents who faced difficulties (DG has volunteered to act in an advisory role). JP to liaise.	JP
10.9	<u>Christmas lights</u> : JP said that she and LV had held an initial meeting to investigate options regarding refreshing/renewing Christmas lights. Further report at next meeting.	JP
10.10	<u>Black Isle Place Plan</u> : TS said that the draft version has now been published, with useful facts and figures. He had some concerns regarding the focus on tourism and the absence of recognising the importance of other commercial activity eg farming. He noted the emphasis on affordable housing. He sought input from other members. AP said that she too had concerns regarding the wish for “more housing near villages/make easier to build” given the infrastructure problems (roads, public services etc) in Fortrose and Rosemarkie. AP, JP, AJ and LV all had concerns regarding governance of any future Place Plan board, regarding function and accountability. It was agreed that comments would be sent to TS as soon as possible and that the CC would request an extension to the deadline for responses (currently 28/2/24).	ALL
10.11	<u>Senior event</u> : AP said that a “Senior’s Afternoon Tea” would be held on Tuesday 25 June. Volunteers in the community would be sought. JP to liaise with the Academy. AP to contact possible musicians.	TS
10.12	<u>Volunteers/sub-committees</u> : As already mentioned.	JP AP
10.12	<u>Young Councillors update</u> : JP thanked the 3 young councillors who had helped at the ceilidh. She said that 2 current councillors were about to leave school for university and that a recruitment campaign was underway to find at least two replacements. At this week’s meeting, one young councillor reported continuing concerns over the Rosemarkie one-way system and lack of enforcement. Was an occasional police presence required? (see 4.1)	
11	Community Meetings	
11.1	<u>BICC</u> : no date set. Increasingly urgent re Place Plan discussion. TS to chase.	TS
11.2	<u>BIT</u> : no update.	
11.3	<u>BIP</u> : no update.	
11.4	<u>Place Plan</u> : see 10.9	
12	Any Other Business	
12.1	Discussion on paying for business Zoom account - current arrangement expires this month. MMM to check funding	MMM

	possibilities, otherwise it was agreed BL would action payment for zoom, costing approx £11 pm (partly offset by possible mobile contract savings see (6)).	BL
13	Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 6th March 2024.	