

# Fortrose & Rosemarkie Community Council

Wednesday March 2024 by Zoom

## Minutes

Item		Action by
1	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b> <u>Present:</u> Jo-Anne Pugh JP (Sec, Acting Chair); Bob Latimer BL (Treasurer); Anne Phillips AP, Kerry Ward KW, Lucy Vaughan LV, Ann Jefferson AJ. <u>Apologies:</u> Theo Stratton TS (Chair), Cllr Morven-May MacCallum	
2	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting</b> Proposed AP, seconded BL. Approved.	
3 3.1 3.2	<b>Matters Arising</b> <u>Highland Broadband.</u> AP noted that work to lay ultrafast broadband fibre was progressing quickly. She would check that affected roads had been informed of works in advance, as agreed. <u>Discretionary awards.</u> LV asked about the process for awarding FRCC money to local charities. JP said that the FRCC income was very small and that amounts raised at events were largely used to fund FRCC activities, with small amounts also going to local charities where possible (eg from Carols at the Cathedral). Decisions on awards are made at FRCC monthly meetings and local charities are welcome to approach the CC.	
4 4.1 4.2	<b>Points from the public/correspondence</b> <u>RAA request.</u> Rosemarkie Amenities Association requires planning permission for storage containers and a garden shed by the Beach Cafe/play area. It was agreed that they could apply under the auspices of FRCC for convenience. RAA will undertake the necessary paperwork, etc. JP to inform RAA. (AP took no part in this discussion to avoid conflict of interest). <u>Feddon Hill playpark.</u> JP and KW had been in touch with the resident who had raised concern over the condition of the playpark and equipment. JP said that ROGS had offered to help if landscaping/wildlife planting was of interest. It was agreed that residents at Feddon Hill would need to decide on the site's purpose, drive any project and organise upkeep. JP will arrange for the Young Councillors to leaflet the estate, possibly during the Easter break, suggesting that FRCC/ROGS will help link up and support	JP

4.3	any residents who would like to form a group to refurbish or repurpose the site. <u>Litter Pick and Tidy.</u> JP said that ROGS is holding two sessions 10am-12 on Saturday 16 March (Feddon Hill path) and on Saturday 23 March (Cathedral Square). FRCC had agreed to lend litter picking equipment when not in use by the Beavers. AP to check. JP to liaise. AP said a date would be set for a Rosemarkie beach survey/clean up.	JP  AP/JP AP
4.4	<u>Ranger Service.</u> FRCC had been contacted by a resident concerned at the loss of a Ranger for Chanonry Point, and highlighting concerns over human waste at the site. AP said that incidents must be reported to THC. She was also investigating appropriate low-growing native vegetation with Nature.Scot with a view to replacing bushes and thus discouraging visitors from using the site as a toilet. An easy-to-use “reporting portal” to register incidents with THC has also been suggested. It had been understood that funds raised from the car park at the site would be used to pay for the ranger service. It is unclear if there will be a parking enforcement officer on duty instead. AP to seek clarification from MMM and ask for a representative from THC to attend a meeting as a matter of urgency to hear concerns.	
4.5	<u>Golf Club.</u> F&RGC had provided an update to FRCC regarding erosion at the course following October’s storm damage. The club is paying £90,000 for rock armour to be installed to protect the first and second tee and to reconstruct the core path, with THC contributing £6,500 and Scottish Water £41,000 (to protect their sewer). The club is continuing to seek help with funding for this and further restoration work.	MMM/AP
5	<b>Police report</b> No report has been provided. TS to chase. (See also 11.2) AJ to provide details for TS to seek police help in identifying the owner and the removal of an abandoned boat at Chanonry Point.	TS  AP/TS
6	<b>Treasurer’s Report</b> BL outlined this month’s expenditure: £8 pm for a new Giff Gaff phone contract (via JP). £35 for annual ICO GDPR registration and £155.88 for an annual Pro Zoom account. The balance stands at £5,781.85. BL to check insurance details with Zurich and pay renewal. It was agreed that FRCC should establish what amount was required to be kept as a balance (for example, for replacement defibrillator pad, admin outgoings etc) and any excess would be placed in a separate account to clarify what was available as potential expenditure. AP to provide details at the next meeting. BL to set up second account.	BL  AP/BL

7	<b>Planning</b> <u>House plot near Alexander Ct, Fortrose.</u> AP noted that there had been a number of objections lodged. Currently under consideration. <u>Greenside development</u> - change of style of house, and additional 8 houses. Under consideration. AP said she continued to have serious concerns over flooding at the site. <u>Crofters</u> AJ asked if permission had been sought or granted for outbuildings in a conservation area. TS would be asked to find out.	TS
8	<b>Licensing</b> Nothing to report.	
9	<b>Common Good</b> AP said the group has been gathering background information and will meet shortly.	
10	<b>Community issues/consultations</b>	
10.1	<u>Coastal erosion.</u> (See 4.5). AP expressed concerns over the likely robustness of the gabions that are flanked by rock armour. JP to ask MMM for verbal or written update from THC for next meeting.	JP/MMM
10.2	<u>Chanonry Point.</u> (see also 4.4 and 5). AJ noted that a warden/ranger was essential for this year's Disability Access Day, which was already being planned by Chanonry Point Action Group (CPAG).	
10.3	<u>Traffic/Parking.</u> AP, AJ and JP had met to discuss the long-promised overflow car park. Potential sites had been identified in both villages: on Scottish Water land by the campsite in Rosemarkie (Scottish Water had confirmed they were open to negotiation) and potentially land by the Leisure Centre car park in Fortrose. AJ noted that it was essential that there was urgent action and predicted major car parking issues this summer. AP noted that motorhomes often took up more than one car parking space in what little car park space there is in the villages. JP to contact Iain Moncrieff at THC to arrange a face-to-face meeting to discuss realistic options and feasibility. AJ said that it was still unclear when new yellow lines would be painted in Rosemarkie or the Station Car Park resurfaced/relined. AJ to seek update from MMM.	JP AJ
10.4	<u>Fortrose Post Office/Royal Mail.</u> It was reported that unless a buyer could be found, the PO would close at the end of May. AJ to circulate a letter from Kate Forbes MSP, who is aware of the situation and is appealing to other businesses to take over PO responsibilities. In the absence of a post office, a mobile banking service is essential for the village. TS to be asked to discuss with Bank of Scotland, etc.	AJ TS
10.5	<u>Public Transport.</u> Update re possible Stagecoach meeting	MMM

10.6	from MMM at next meeting. TS to report back on any contact with Knockbain CC who are keen to liaise on a strategic Black-Isle wide plan. <u>Christmas Lights</u> . JP reported that she had been in touch with Nethy Bridge CC following a recommendation, and that they had directed her to a supplier who was currently offering lamp-post lights at an attractive discount. Following discussion, it was agreed that JP and LV would present a plan outlining objectives, priorities and costings at the next meeting for further discussion.	TS  JP/LV
10.7	<u>Senior's Afternoon Tea</u> . AP to update re musicians at next meeting. An appeal for volunteer helpers on the day was included in the last FRCC mailout.	AP
10.8	<u>St Boniface Fair</u> . BL keen to join steering group. JP to email briefing notes. AP to set date for next meeting. KW to organise Trishaw liaison. BL felt that the priority should be to focus on community-building entertainment and celebration, rather than simply as a money-raising exercise.	BL/JP AP KW
10.9	<u>RAFT</u> . LV reported that the toilets are currently running at a deficit and that there needs to be a concerted effort to raise funds. Rosemarkie and Fortrose Trust also has concerns regarding any plan to introduce voluntary parking charges eg in Mill Road car park, since it would likely impact on donations to the toilets. JP to provide LV with THC contact to make enquiries.	JP/LV
10.10	<u>Young Councillors update</u> . JP to hold next meeting 18/3/24.	
10.11	<u>FRCC Communications</u> . FRCC has opted for a Professional zoom account for an annual fee (see 6), since this was felt to be more widely used than Teams and could be used for a variety of FRCC-related meetings. BL to share host details with JP. It was noted that the FRCC "postbox" in the Fortrose Co-op attracted no post. Following discussion, it was agreed that KW would approach the Library, and if acceptable, BL would move the Co-op box to there. AP will keep checking the Rosemarkie Spar box. It was agreed that AP would continue updating the RAA-owned community noticeboard in Rosemarkie with FRCC items. KW to liaise with TS on tidying up and maintaining the Fortrose noticeboard. JP to provide posters with FRCC contact details for both, and the Co-op noticeboard.	BL/JP  KW/BL AP KW/TS JP
11	<b>Community Meetings</b>	
11.1	<u>Place Plan</u> . AP had attended a recent governance workshop. A second workshop is planned. The consensus seemed to be that any board or steering group needed to be independent, transparent and democratic.	
11.2	<u>Black Isle Community Councils</u> . AP and JP had attended the recent pan-Black Isle CC meeting in North Kessock,	

11.3 11.4	<p>hosted by Knockbain CC. There had been a presentation by Black Isle Cares, who are seeking more volunteers and hope for assistance from CCs. There was also discussion regarding Place Plan governance (see 11.1). It was agreed that a fresh body with accountable representatives was required, preferably with a constitution. This was conveyed to the Place Plan representative at the meeting. Separately, it was suggested that a pan-Black Isle police report could be provided to future BICC meetings if individual police reports for each Community Council were not feasible.</p> <p><u>Black Isle Tourism</u>. AP said a meeting was due shortly.</p> <p><u>Black Isle Partnership</u>. No meetings held or scheduled.</p>	
12	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><u>CC Year-End instructions</u>. THC required audited accounts and other details before the end of June. AP to liaise with BL regarding an auditor. JP to arrange other details.</p>	AP/BL JP
13	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>7pm Wednesday 3 April 2024 via Zoom.</p>	