

# Fortrose & Rosemarkie Community Council

**Wednesday 1st May 2024 by Zoom**

## Minutes

| Item                |   | Action by                    |
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| 1                   | <p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p><u>Present:</u> Theo Stratton (Chair) TS, Jo-Anne Pugh (Sec) JP, Bob Latimer (Treasurer) BL, Anne Phillips AP, Lucy Vaughan LV, Ann Jefferson AJ, Heather Alexander HA, Keith Abernethy KA.</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> Cllr Morven-May MacCallum MMM, Kerry Ward KW<br/>(BL apologised for needing to leave the meeting after (6)).</p>  |                              |
| 2                   | <p><b>Minutes of the Last Meeting</b></p> <p>Proposed AP, seconded LV. Agreed.</p>  |                              |
| 3<br>3.1            | <p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p><u>Fairy Glen path/safety.</u> TS to follow up with MMM and contact THC/RSPB. HA noted that the RSPB needed to be explicit in signage at the carpark and update its website re a safe route.</p>   | TS                           |
| 4<br>4.1<br><br>4.2 | <p><b>Points from the public/correspondence</b></p> <p><u>Fortrose Union FC Fun Day.</u> KA was invited to address the meeting. He said the football club is to hold a fun day on Saturday 24/8/24 with kids' football in the morning and stalls (for a fee in aid of Mikeysline) in the afternoon. He was keen for FRCC assistance and participation. It was agreed that FRCC should take a stall, that village noticeboards would take a poster, and that AP would provide KA with other useful contacts. If FRCC St Boniface stalls were required, this could be discussed nearer the time. JP noted that FRCC, having acquired a signed Premier League footballer's shirt, was working on a joint-fundraiser with Fortrose Union.</p> <p><u>Vandalism at Feddan Hill Woods.</u> FRCC had been contacted by Black Isle Men's Shed (BIMS) on behalf of the wood's owner. Local police and local councillors are aware of the problem. Video images suggest the offenders are of school age. Following discussion, it was agreed that JP would write on behalf of FRCC, BIMS and Rosemarkie and Fortrose Trust (RAFT) to the acting head teacher at Fortrose Academy, alerting him to the problem and asking for assistance in raising the matter with pupils, drawing attention to damage and firesetting at the woods, and on-going vandalism issues at Fortrose public lavatories - and the fact that Police Scotland are now involved.</p> | <p>AP</p> <p>JP</p> <p>P</p> |

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| 4.3                    | <p><u>Highland Council Masterplan Consent Area (MCA) proposals.</u> Nairn CC's analysis of THC's proposed response to the Scottish Government's new planning proposals had been circulated. The proposals were due to be discussed at THC Economy and Infrastructure meeting on 2/5/24. The concerns raised by Nairn and by other Black Isle Community Councils were noted: specifically, the impact the proposed discretionary planning powers would have on the concept of Place Plans and local decision-making. It was agreed that FRCC would submit an urgent response outlining concerns, in line with other CC's submission. TS to action ASAP.</p> | TS           |
| 5                      | <p><b>Police Report</b><br/>TS said that Cromarty CC had obtained a report, which recorded eight 999 calls (three abandoned), three reports of domestic/neighbour incidents, and no reports of vandalism from the period from end of March to end of April. It seemed unlikely that this covered the FRCC area since incidents of vandalism had been reported in that time period. TS to continue liaising with the area constable and with other CC's in the hope of obtaining at least an accurate Black Isle-wide report on a monthly basis.</p>  | TS           |
| 6                      | <p><b>Treasurer's Report</b><br/>BL reported that £2983.85 had been moved to an interest-bearing deposit account, and that £3309.40 remained in the current account. With £50 held in petty cash, the total amount at FRCC disposal was £6343.25. Paul McSorley has kindly agreed to scrutinise the accounts in line with THC policy ahead of next month's AGM.</p>  |              |
| 7<br>7.1<br>7.2<br>7.3 | <p><b>Planning</b><br/>Application: RAA storage - Noted that FRCC had agreed to put forward the application to reduce RAA'S costs.<br/>Application: Change of use to garden ground, Berisay, Fortrose. No comment.<br/>Decided - Extension to house on Feddon Hill; Change of house style from Birch to Rowan at Greenside Street.</p>   |              |
| 8                      | <p><b>Licensing</b><br/>Nothing to report.</p>   |              |
| 9<br>9.1<br>9.2<br>9.3 | <p><b>Community issues/consultations</b><br/><u>Coastal erosion.</u> TS reported that work is ongoing. THC/golf club update at next meeting.<br/><u>Common Good.</u> The sub-group is due to meet shortly. Useful documents from previous FRCC office holders had been delivered and are being examined. AP to update at next meeting.<br/><u>Chanonry Point.</u> AP to liaise with MMM/CPAG regarding</p>   | TS<br><br>AP |

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| 9.4  | <p>alternative THC help with parking etc for the proposed Access Day, following the demise of the Ranger Service.</p> <p><u>Traffic/parking.</u> It was noted that Highland Broadband working was continuing and causing widespread disruption. FRCC had been told that it should be complete by mid-May. AJ expressed frustration at the failure of THC to paint yellow lines and erect signage in Rosemarkie in advance of the tourist season. AP noted that parking plans for the village had been proposed by THC in 2019. It was agreed that the situation was unacceptable. TS to pursue, with assistance from MMM, and to report back.</p>   | AP/MMM |
| 9.5  | <p><u>Fortrose Post Office/Royal Mail.</u> All MSPs had been contacted and had expressed concern over the forthcoming “unplanned closure” of Fortrose Post Office. TS tasked with suggesting they lobbied for a regular mobile service for the Fortrose/Rosemarkie area in the absence of a permanent presence. FRCC to continue to publicise details in the hope of attracting a prospective buyer, and to explore other options.</p>  | TS/MMM |
| 9.6  | <p><u>Public transport.</u> TS continuing in talks with other BICC’s with similar concerns. TS to establish if MMM and other local councils have been able to meet Stagecoach to discuss the response to the FRCC transport survey and other issues.</p>  | TS/JP  |
| 9.7  | <p><u>Christmas lights.</u> JP to update next meeting.</p>  | TS/MMM |
| 9.8  | <p><u>Seniors’ afternoon tea/St Boniface Fair.</u> Senior’s afternoon tea will be held on Tuesday 25/6/24. AP reported that the St Boniface Fair working group had met recently. Information for prospective stallholders is scheduled to go out shortly on email/Facebook. Contact is being made with Historic Environment Scotland and local musicians. JP reported that a professional entertainer, who could provide stilt-walking, juggling etc was offering a discounted price of £300 to attend the event. It was agreed that this year, the St Boniface Fair was as much about community-building and profile-raising following the Covid hiatus and payment was approved. JP to liaise with BL re deposit payment. AP to send future working group meeting dates and details to HA who wished to join.</p> | JP     |
| 9.9  | <p><u>Rosemarkie &amp; Fortrose Trust (RAFT)</u> LV said that RAFT’s AGM is in June and another trustee is sought. JP to include a paragraph supplied by LV in the next FRCC mailout. The next “Tidy Up Day” is at Fortrose toilets 8/5/24 at 1.30pm.</p>   | JP/BL  |
| 9.10 | <p><u>Feddon Hill playpark.</u> JP reported that LV, and three Young Councillors had leafletted all properties on the Feddon Hill estate to establish if there was an appetite for a group to form to rejuvenate the derelict play park. LV had made enquiries regarding insurance issues. JP to update at next meeting.</p>  | AP/HA  |
| 9.11 | <p><u>Young Councillors.</u> JP thanked the Young Councillors who had helped with 9.10. Three new Young Councillors had now been recruited to replace two leaving for university: two currently in S2, Sol Wilson (Fortrose), Saffron Barton</p>  | LV/JP  |
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| 9.12 | (Rosemarkie), and Jessica Sinclair (Fortrose) in S1.<br><u>Regenerate our green space (ROGS)</u> JP said that ROGS was hopeful regarding the possibility of purchasing around 0.7 acres of land adjoining Ness Road for community growing. With that in mind, the group is encouraging local people to help shape its use and design via a questionnaire on its website <a href="http://www.ourgreen.space">www.ourgreen.space</a> |                 |
| 10   | <b>Community Meetings</b>  |                 |
| 10.1 | <u>Place Plan</u> . BICC hosted a meeting in early April to discuss proposed governance. Agreed suggestions have been submitted.   |                 |
| 10.2 | <u>BICC</u> . See 10.1. The BICCs have liaised over MCA proposals (see 4.3).   |                 |
| 10.3 | <u>BITT</u> . AP said that at the group's recent meeting it was agreed that Black Isle tourist maps would be provided free. Separately, a new Heritage Group formed of interested parties, was looking at setting up a Heritage Trail for the Black Isle.  |                 |
| 10.4 | <u>BIP</u> . No meeting.   |                 |
| 11   | <b>Any Other Business</b>  |                 |
| 11.1 | <u>Memorial benches</u> . AP to respond to an on-going enquiry regarding a new memorial bench on Marine Terrace.   | AP              |
| 11.2 | <u>RAA/FRCC Tidy Up</u> . A joint litter pick/tidy up in Rosemarkie is planned for Rosemarkie on Saturday 4/5/24 starting at the Mill Road Car Park at 0900. Notice to go on FRCC Facebook.  | AP              |
| 12   | <b>Date of Next Meeting/AGM</b><br>JP said that the Committee Room at Fortrose Leisure Centre was booked from 1800-2100 for the AGM/June meeting on <b>Wednesday 5/6/24</b> at the cost of £36.30. A zoom connection would be supplied for those wishing to attend remotely - TS/JP/AP/BL to arrange.  | TS/JP/AP/<br>BL |