

Fortrose & Rosemarkie Community Council

Wednesday 10th July 2024 by Zoom

Minutes

Item		Action by
1	Welcome and Apologies Present: Theo Stratton TS (Chair); Jo-Anne Pugh JP (Sec); Anne Phillips AP; Lucy Vaughan LV; Kerry Ward KW; Ann Jefferson AJ Apologies: Bob Latimer BL (Treasurer); Cllr Morven-May MacCallum MMM.	
2	Minutes of the Last Meeting Proposed Lucy Vaughan, seconded Kerry Ward. Agreed.	
3	Matters Arising None.	
4	Points from the public/correspondence	
4.1	<u>Road safety:</u> TS reported that a number of residents were concerned about speeding/poor road manners on St Andrews Walk/Harbour Road in Fortrose. There are concerns that it is being used as a 'rat run', that the road is very narrow especially when used by camper vans, and that visibility at the junction is poor. KW noted that signage from the High Street suggested that it was the main route to Chanonry Point. AP said that road works on the High Street may have aggravated the issue. LV noted that the footpath down from the High Street needed improvement. AP said that both the path and the road are at risk due to damage to the seawall. TS to discuss concerns and investigate possible improvement. LV noted that traffic speeds on Feddon Hill were too high and that dangerous overtaking was putting pedestrians, including school children, at risk. JP to invite comment on next newsletter to mailing list.	TS
4.2	<u>Vandalism/anti-social behaviour:</u> FRCC had received upsetting information regarding behaviour in Station Crescent, Fortrose. JP, LV and MMM had replied to the concerned resident with suggestions regarding doorbell cameras/CCTV. TS to contact local police and THC.	JP
4.3	<u>RAA planning application:</u> It was agreed that FRCC would support Rosemarkie Amenities Assoc in a revised planning application for (existing) storage units near the Beach Cafe.	TS
4.4	<u>Black Isle Swimming Pool:</u> TS noted the high level of local interest in the decision of the BISP trustees to hand over assets to the Puffin Hydrotherapy Pool in Dingwall. TS had attempted to get in touch with the directors listed on the	

	<p>Companies House register and via other means to clarify the reasons for the decision. AP noted that the most recent board meeting notes from the group indicated that handing over funds to the Puffin Pool was an option but it was not clear if/when a decision had been made. Some donated money had been given back to Avoch Bowling Club. AP said that the objective of the group was to teach children to swim and life-saving techniques and that was not the objective of the Puffin Pool, no matter how laudable. AP felt that money should be ring-fenced for local children's swimming lessons. JP and LV acknowledged the local disquiet and the difficult position the trustees faced. FRCC noted the deep local unhappiness, and is disappointed at the lack of consultation and the absence of a clear public explanation of the reasoning behind the decision. TS to liaise with other Black Isle CCs to seek a response from BISP trustees. TS to speak to Tullochs/Springfield regarding plans for the land that had been earmarked for the pool.</p>	<p>TS</p> <p>TS</p>
5	<p>Police Report</p> <p>No report received. TS to liaise with MMM to encourage Police Scotland to provide a monthly pan-Black Isle report, which is now more urgent given recent vandalism concerns.</p>	<p>TS/MMM</p>
6	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>BL submitted a full report in absentia. Income this month was from fees for St Boniface Fair stalls. Expenditure included costs of the Senior's lunch, hire of the meeting room for the AGM and minor maintenance costs for Fair stalls, in addition to the monthly mobile phone payment. The balance on 28/6/24 including the deposit account was £6514.90.</p>	
<p>7</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>7.3</p> <p>7.4</p> <p>7.5</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p><u>Wester Links house</u>: New house. No comments.</p> <p><u>Near Fairdale, Lambton</u>: New house. No comments</p> <p><u>Holiday cabin, Pleasant Point, Eathie Road, Rosemarkie</u>: It was noted that this was more holiday letting. FRCC not aware of local objections.</p> <p><u>RAA revised application</u>: see 4.3</p> <p><u>Co-op development</u>: TS confirmed that FRCC had submitted a comment in relation to the application for an extension at the rear of the current store, noting concerns over lorries loading/unloading. Several local residents have lodged objections, based on lorry deliveries and access.</p>	

8	<p>Licensing</p> <p>No new applications. Further to a query at the AGM, TS had established that short-term holiday lets do fall under the licensing authority however CC's statutory right to discuss and make comments regarding holiday accommodation does not appear to have been tested. TS also noted that THC short-term let application area is non-searchable and not user-friendly. It was agreed that FRCC should watch for future applications for short-term holiday letting.</p>	
9	<p>Community issues/consultations</p> <p>9.1 <u>Coastal erosion</u>: No specific update. AP noted that work was still required on Marine Terrace seawall and the seawall at Fortrose Harbour. TS to raise with MM/THC.</p> <p>9.2 <u>Common Good</u>: AP said that the sub-group has drafted a letter regarding concerns over the historic sale of Common Good land, in particular at the campsite in Rosemarkie by the Boat House and at the corner of Castle Street, Fortrose. Investigations by a resident had also uncovered that THC did in fact own the land at the Slog steps in Rosemarkie which due to uncertainties over ownership, the developer at Greenside had not, as agreed, improved. JP to follow up earlier FRCC exchange with Cllr Atkin. AP to investigate a request for a memorial bench in the village which could potentially be sited at the top of the steps. <u>Chanonry Point</u>: KW confirmed that the Chanonry Point Access Day would go ahead on Saturday 27 July starting at 12.30. Help was required from 10.30am and in particular from 4.30pm to move matting. AP to ask for volunteers via Facebook. AJ noted that shrubs on the roundabout were blocking driver visibility which was hazardous to pedestrians. JP to investigate. KW to contact MMM and the BI Men's Shed regarding traffic control on the day.</p> <p>9.3 <u>Traffic and Parking</u>: See also 4.1. It was noted that there was still a lack of signage and yellow lines, no overflow carpark and no real enforcement of parking regulations at Rosemarkie. Concern was expressed about routine parking on the Hawkhill Road/Marine Terrace junction by one particular vehicle, pointing in the wrong direction, which led traffic to believe it was still possible to turn left onto the seafront. Regarding a site for an overflow carpark, TS confirmed that Scottish Water would be prepared to sell the land it owned by the Camping and Caravan site. It was agreed that on-going traffic and parking issues should be FRCC's top priority for the next 12 months. TS to meet MMM to discuss how best to make progress.</p> <p>9.4 <u>Public Transport</u>: Continuing concerns over the lack of frequency especially in the morning and evenings to and from Inverness.</p> <p>9.5 <u>Christmas Lights</u>: JP to report at future meeting.</p> <p>9.6</p>	<p>TS</p> <p>JP AP</p> <p>JP KW</p> <p>TS/MMM</p>

9.7	<p><u>Senior's Afternoon Tea:</u> The afternoon was a great success and the feedback positive. Many thanks to those who volunteered to help and to the Wall2Wall Fiddle group who provided the excellent musical accompaniment. AP reported that food donations had kept costs down with total FRCC outlay around £120.</p> <p><u>St Boniface Fair:</u> The subgroup due to meet 13/7/24. AP reported that 20 stall-holders had now signed up, that refreshment would be provided by St Andrews Church and that permission had been given to use the foyer of St Peter & St Boniface church if required. Entertainment and music arranged. It was agreed that £20 would be provided to AP for fabric for bunting/aprons.</p>	BL/AP
9.8	<u>Rosemarkie & Fortrose Trust (RAFT):</u> LV said that the AGM had been held recently, applications to ensure future funding were underway and that the insurers had been contacted regarding repairs arising from vandalism.	
9.9	<u>Young Councillors update:</u> JP thanked the 11 Academy pupils who had assisted at the Seniors' Afternoon tea. She hoped some would also be available to help at the St Boniface Fair. The next meeting would be at the start of the new school term.	
9.10	<u>Regenerate Our Green Space (ROGS):</u> JP said that the community growing group was on the point of acquiring land owned by Tullochs/Springfield on Ness Road. The 0.7 acre site was originally part of an area zoned for a new primary school. However, THC's plans had changed and the prospect of any new school building was now off the table. Additionally, adjacent land had recently been sold in a private sale to a nearby resident and the remaining triangle of land owned by Tullochs and requested by ROGS was too small for a school or a retail unit. A draft plan for allotments, a community growing area, a seating area and spaces to encourage wildflowers and wildlife was being developed. FRCC residents who wished to get involved are encouraged to visit the group's website or Facebook page.	
10	Community Meetings	AP
10.1	<u>Place Plan:</u> In order for the plan to be submitted by Black Isle Partnership, urgent constitutional amendments needed to be made. Consequently an EGM for the BIP was due to be held that evening.	
10.2	<u>BICC:</u> KW had attended a Black Isle Community Councils meeting on 20/6/24 at which Place Plan governance had been discussed. Minutes as circulated to FRCC members.	
10.3	<u>Black Isle Tourism:</u> Black Isle museums are working together to develop a Heritage Trail by Easter 2025. AP to check if the trail would provide new information boards for Fortrose and Rosemarkie.	
10.4	<u>BIP:</u> See 10.1	

11	Any other business	
11.1	<u>Highland Community Planning Partnership</u> : AP attended a meeting on 19/6/24 at which details of a 10-week reorganisation of services at the Ross Memorial Hospital, Dingwall, to allow for construction work had been discussed. The local CC and medical practice met to discuss matters arising. AP to circulate details of the website, which also contains general information on well-being and health in the Mid-Ross area.	AP
11.2	<u>Rosemarkie Amenities Association</u> : It was agreed that FRCC would support an application for regeneration funds for a project to provide tools for community use to improve Manse Brae and other areas locally. JP to send letter of support.	JP
11.3	<u>Ceilidh</u> : BL has explored availability of the ceilidh group and the Gordon Memorial Hall for another fund-raising ceilidh on Friday 13 September. JP to liaise with BL.	JP/BL
11.4	<u>CC Anniversary</u> : KW said that Cromarty CC was planning to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2027. AP to ascertain when FRCC was established with a view to a possible joint celebration.	AP
11.5	<u>Mercat Cross</u> : TS had replied to the apologetic email from the perpetrators. The remains are in safe storage with THC to be collected at a later date. THC has made it clear that it will be repaired but that due to workload/costs this may be some time in the future. Future permanent location tbd. TS continues to investigate the BBC's Repair Shop programme involvement.	TS
12	Date of next meeting The next meeting will be at 7pm on Wednesday 7th August via zoom.	