

Fortrose & Rosemarkie Community Council

Wednesday 6th November 2024 by Zoom

Minutes

Item		Action by
	<p>Welcome & Apologies <u>Committee present:</u> Theo Stratton TS (Chair), Jo-Anne Pugh JP (Sec), Anne Phillips AP, Lucy Vaughan LV, Kerry Ward KW. <u>Residents:</u> Ann Jefferson AJ, Heather Alexander HA <u>Apologies:</u> Bob Latimer BL (Treasurer), Cllr Morven-May MacCallum MMM</p> <p>TS thanked those who had helped with the FRCC stall at the recent Black Isle Gathering.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the Last Meeting Proposed by AP, seconded by KW. Agreed.</p>	
3 3.1 3.2	<p>Matters Arising <u>New member:</u> JP proposed that HA be co-opted as a Community Council committee member, seconded by TS. Agreed unanimously. <u>Black Isle Swimming Pool:</u> FRCC still awaiting a response from former Trustees. It was noted that Cromarty and District CC had also made enquiries. TS to update at next meeting re the future of the earmarked plot.</p>	TS
4 4.1 4.2	<p>Points from the Public/Correspondence No mail had been received via the Rosemarkie Spar postbox; JP to check the Fortrose library box. <u>Fairy Glen road:</u> MMM was thanked for her help in encouraging THC to remove vegetation obscuring the bend. She had also confirmed that regular checks are carried out on the structural integrity and safety of the bridge. FRCC had been copied into correspondence between former councillor Craig Fraser and THC over concerns regarding the structural integrity of the road itself. New signs of slippage at the road edge were noted by FRCC. LV pointed out it is a school bus route. JP to follow up. <u>Scrapyard on Fairy Glen road:</u> Concern was raised about the use of the old council depot on the Fairy Glen road as a scrapyard and the possibility of contamination/pollution. A high number of vehicles also</p>	JP JP

4.3	appeared to be stored at the site and concern was expressed over the safety of access/egress to the road near a blind corner. JP to contact ward councillors. <u>Rosemarkie graveyard walls</u> : FRCC had been copied into correspondence between a local resident and THC over the state of a historic wall by Rosemarkie church. THC had agreed that it would be mended. FRCC to monitor.	JP
4.4	<u>Feddon Hill playpark</u> : KW shared pictures of the ongoing work. FRCC congratulated all those involved and agreed to publicise when complete.	KW/JP
4.5	<u>Motorhome</u> : A resident had contacted ward councillors over concerns that Mill Road car park in Rosemarkie was the location from which a motorhome was being rented. It was felt inappropriate to run a business from a Council car park and that the motorhome was taking up more than one parking bay which residents and visitors needed. FRCC to monitor.	
5	Police Report None received. TS said that MMM had continued to chase on behalf of all BI community councils.	
6	Treasurer's Report BL had supplied a summary in his absence: balance for all accounts £8,121.18. Football shirt raffle had raised £190, sale of Cathedral books £550 and TPMF donation (see 9.10) was £1,000. Expenditure included £668.95 for 4 Christmas lights, £100 donation to BIMS, and £34 for Remembrance wreaths.	JP/BL
6.1	<u>Card reader</u> : Following feedback from the St Boniface Fair, the shirt raffle and the Black Isle Gathering, it was agreed to source a card reader for digital payments. BL to be asked by JP to report back next meeting with purchase ideally in time for the Christmas event.	
7	Planning	
7.1	Conversion of garage to holiday self-contained accommodation on Ness road East. No comments.	
8	Licensing	TS
8.1	<u>Co-op application</u> : A revised application was noted, with an expansion in the shelf space allocated to alcohol. LV noted that the staff room space seemed very small.	
8.2	<u>STLs</u> : It was noted that signs were appearing advising of nearby properties applying to be short term lets. TS to pursue THC to ensure community councils are made aware of such applications and are consulted.	
8.3	<u>THC Gambling policy consultation document 2025-26</u> : TS to circulate and respond.	TS

9	Community Issues/consultations	
9.1	<u>Railway path:</u> Following comments in the recent edition of Chatterbox magazine, LV had contacted Charles Cooper, a retired chainsaw instructor, who has kindly offered to cut back overhanging branches/fallen trees. LV to chase permission from the landowner. Avoch and Killen CC is also keen to improve the path itself. LV to explore with them and other avenues (such as Sustrans) and report back at the next meeting.	LV
9.2	<u>Kessock Bridge:</u> The FRCC had received a reply from Cllr Johnston, updating them on the taskforce committee (council, emergency services, charities and Traffic Scotland). She said the group had not met for 6 months or so, mainly because there had been a marked reduction in disruption. Steps had been taken, such as better CCTV, helpline posters etc, and that emergency vehicles are always allowed through. Transport Scotland shared their experience of dealing with "locations of concern" elsewhere in Scotland. Safety netting was not considered effective. It was agreed that FRCC should monitor disruption and liaise with other BI community councils on merit.	
9.3	<u>Mercat Cross:</u> HES will inspect it with a view to basic repair rather than complete restoration. FRCC had received one response to the request for location suggestions: Cathedral grounds. This would be floated as the preferred option in the next newsletter. TS/LV to discuss the involvement of stonemason apprentices in a possible restoration.	JP LV/TS
9.4	<u>Meeting room furniture:</u> Update next meeting.	BL
9.5	<u>Coastal erosion:</u> No update.	
9.6	<u>Common Good:</u> Sub-committee due to meet next week. HA to join - AP to send invitation. Minimal information on accounts was available via THC online. It was hoped a representative of THC would attend the meeting.	AP/HA
9.7	<u>Chanonry Point:</u> TS said the abandoned and decaying boat that had been there for some time would be moved by THC. AP said a debrief on this year's Access Days had been held and dates for 2025 would be set.	
9.8	<u>Traffic/Parking:</u> KW had circulated pictures of the improved footpath on Marine Terrace. AJ expressed concern that cars were already straddling the kerb to park on it and the surface was degrading. She also noted that "no parking" signs had been tampered with making enforcement more difficult. AJ to investigate cost of sleepers to protect and delineate the footpath and pass details to FRCC/Cllr MacCallum. TS said that he and MMM are planning to meet THC representatives to discuss resurfacing and re-marking	AJ

	<p>the Fortrose Station Road car park. Discussion of an “invitation to pay” regime would include whether the money could be used to support the nearby public toilets. Also to be discussed was the possibility of using land by the Scottish Water site at Rosemarkie as an overspill car park for the seafront (no hard surfacing, possibly an invitation to pay).</p> <p>FRCC welcomed any movement on these long-running issues and thanked Cllr MacCallum and the other ward councillors for their assistance in making progress. TS to update at next meeting.</p> <p>KW said that there had been some traffic enforcement on the Feddon Hill estate, with blue “warning” tickets issued to owners of vehicles parked illegally with wheels on the pavement. LV said that she had grave safety concerns regarding drivers’ behaviour and speeds, especially during school bus drop off, on Feddon Hill. TS to flag to police/THC. TS also noted there was a Council Traffic Consultation in circulation. AP to ask Lucy Tonkin to put on FRCC Facebook page. Finally, the main road in Culbokie was expected to be closed for 10 days on 15 Nov while work was undertaken on the water supply.</p>	<p>TS</p> <p>TS</p> <p>AP</p>
9.9	<p><u>Public transport</u>: Strikes Stagecoach workers are due to go ahead - with a major impact on the Black Isle. AP to ask Lucy Tonkin to post dates on FRCC Facebook.</p>	<p>AP</p>
9.10	<p><u>Christmas Lights</u>: JP said that 4 new lights had now been purchased and that John Ruickbie would look at fitting additional brackets to ensure stability. Mr Ruickbie had also agreed to test the Christmas tree lights. JP had successfully applied for money from The Pat Munro Foundation towards adapting existing old-fashioned sockets on lamp-posts so that more new lights could be purchased for lamp-posts which currently had plugs but no lights. The FRCC expressed deep thanks to TPMF for the award of £1,000. JP was now in discussion with THC re electrical work - any excess funds would be used to purchase another new light. JP said the target for fund-raising in 2025 should be money for 13 new lights - which would cost approximately £2,500. She would continue to explore other sources of possible funds including the Co-op Communities scheme. JP to liaise with BL on a dates for lights/tree to go up/be taken down.</p>	<p>JP</p> <p>JP/BL</p>
9.11	<p><u>Christmas Eve carols at the Cathedral</u>: AP said that she has contacted last year’s committee and that planning has started. HA keen to be involved - AP to send details. More volunteers are always warmly welcomed.</p>	<p>AP/HA</p>
9.12	<p><u>Rosemarkie & Fortrose Trust</u>: LV said the Trust had met</p>	

9.13	last week. Insurance money had been paid. Future objectives include more electric hand-dryers, signage for the toilets from the Fairy Glen, and planted tubs by Rosemarkie Toilets.	
9.14	<u>Young Councillors</u> : Next meeting 25/11/24. JP hoped to recruit a number to help on Christmas Eve. <u>Regenerate Our Green Space (ROGS)</u> : JP said the ROGS AGM would be held at Chanonry Yacht Club on Tuesday 27th November at 7pm. All welcome. JP to ask LV to share on FRCC Facebook.	JP
10	Community Meetings	
10.1	<u>Place Plan</u> : Now registered. AP said that feedback was sought on BICC wording amendments to the BILPP Governance Body document. It was agreed that associate or co-opted community councillors not just elected community councillors should be considered for any Director role and that TS would reply with comments on terms of reference suggestions.	TS
10.2	<u>Black Isle Community Councils</u> : See above. Next meeting would be on 11/11/24. TS and AP to attend.	
10.3	<u>Black Isle Tourism</u> : No update.	
10.4	<u>Black Isle Partnership</u> : AGM due shortly. 3 directors expected to stand down.	
11	Any Other Business	
11.1	Remembrance Sunday: FRCC members attending service in Cathedral Square on 10/11/24.	
12	Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 4th December via Zoom.	