

Fortrose and Rosemarkie Community Council

**4th December 2024 by Zoom**

Minutes

Item		Action by
1.0	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b> <b>Committee present:</b> Theo Stratton TS (Chair), Heather Alexander HA, Anne Phillips AP, Bob Latimer BL (Treasurer), Cllr Morven-May MacCallum MMM, Kerry Ward KW, Lucy Vaughan LV (taking notes), <b>Apologies:</b> Jo-Anne Pugh JP (Sec), Anne Jefferson	
2.0	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b> Proposed by AP and seconded by LV.	
3.0	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
	Thanks were noted to David Guthrie, Bob Latimer, David Grigor, Jo-Anne Pugh, Mary Galloway for the Fortrose tree and residents of Fortrose and Rosemarkie for their hard work in getting all the Christmas lights and trees up. There was general agreement that they are looking great and serious progress has been made. Thanks also noted to Councillor MacCallum for her hard work and support over the past year.	
4.0	<b>Points form the public/correspondence</b>	
4.1	<b>Fairy Glen road monitoring.</b> HC roads are monitoring the condition on a regular basis. MMM attended a comprehensive meeting with HC officers and there are no improvements programmed and no reasons for concern. The cutting back of the vegetaion at the bridge is a big improvement.	
4.2	<b>Black Isle swimming pool land.</b> TS tabled a map of the land which is part HC owned and part private ownership. TS will update in January.	TS

4.3	<b>Work to Rosemarkie Church Wall.</b> Update from Tim – HC are going to do work on it.	
5.0	<b>Police Report.</b> No report but MMM confirmed that Police Scotland are reviewing how the reports are completed to ensure a consistent approach, as some communities do get one.	
6.0	<b>Treasurer Report</b>	
6.1	Report submitted by Bob. Balance for all accounts £8244,82. £1000 received from Pat Munro for the Christmas lights which is being transferred to the interest bearing account until the New Year. Book sales have been positive. There was a short discssion about the healthy balance and it was agreed to discuss further at next meeting about how to distribute funds and amount to retain. Everyone to consider ideas to support local causes.	All
6.2	<b>Card reader</b> Bob was thanked for organising the new crad reader which will be put to use at the Carol Service.	
7.0	<b>Planning</b>	
7.1	<b>Fairy Glen Camping Pod application</b> Note MMM did not take part in the discussion. A response was made as a statutory consultee on behalf of FRCC to note practical points about the application, particularly the blind bend for traffic, concerns about a possible increase in pedestrians using the road, management of waste water, condition of rock face etc.	
8.0	<b>Short Term lets/Visitor levy</b>	
8.1	<b>Visitor levy update</b> – TS to snd round more detail from HC	TS
9.0	<b>Community Issues /Consultations</b>	

9.1	<p><b>King George V Playing Fields Fortrose</b></p> <p>MMM noted that there has been great progress in her work with Fortrose Academy and pupils to provide a variety of items for the park. Items chosen by the pupils include a hamster wheel, hammock, shelter and zip wire. Hopefully these will be installed at the beginning of next year and help with discouraging anti social behaviour. The beach hedge was cut to a lower length on advice from Police Scotland to also help with this. Location for siting was to be determined and noted that liaison with local residents is important. The anti climb paint on the Football Club container has been a big success. Progress was welcomed on this news.</p>	
9.2	<p><b>Railway Line Path</b> - LV has contacted the land owner and Phil Waite PW (HC) about the railway line. Thanks to AP for contact details. This is a Core Path. PW was very helpful and has already moved one straw bale that was on the path. HC have a ranger who is now involved and speaking to the local farmer about the other bales. The owner is going to remove the high level hanging trees over the next couple of months. Phil has suggested a volunteer day to look at wet areas and he may be able to provide stone for this. LV to follow up and check progress.</p>	LV
9.3	<p><b>John O'Groat trail</b></p> <p>Noted JP has sent a letter of support and railway line is part of this route and good to promote.</p>	
9.4	<p><b>Meeting Room Furntiure update</b></p> <p>Bob noted the items are being fixed by Men's Shed and he will check progress.</p>	BL
9.5	<p><b>Coastal erosion.</b></p> <p>This is being monitored closely.</p>	

9.6	<p><b>Common Good</b></p> <p>AP had circulated recent meeting notes and the questions that had arisen were being taken up regarding the accounts etc.</p> <p>AP did also note that from her research, the rental from the King George V playing field should be going to Common Good. It may be going to High Life Scotland? The land is on the Common Good land ownership map. Playing Fields Association (now Sports Scotland ) whose purpose it is to keep the land as a playing field.</p> <p>There was also reference to Ross and Cromarty Council/ HC transfer of car park at Chanonry Point and charge? AP will continue to investigate.</p>	
9.7	<p><b>Chanonry Point</b></p> <p>AP looking at funding sources as there are various things to attend to including tables etc.</p>	AP
9.8.1	<p><b>Traffic/parking generally</b></p> <p>This topic comes up a lot and there is a positive update in that MMM would like there to be further public consultation about possible future car parking/overflow car park particularly by the beaches. HC are looking at setting up a new Community Group to look at this in partnership with HC. HC would design, survey and construct the car park to be managed by the local community. Income generation would also need to be considered on an invitation to pay basis. Options include a new Community Development Trust/ Community Development Company Scheme and Rosemarkie and Fortrose Trust was also noted. It was noted that there are already quite a few community organisations and there are limited resources in managing and taking responsibility for assets, so this should also be considered.</p>	
9.8.2	<p><b>Traffic speed limit map.</b></p> <p>HA noted that the map issued for consultation by HC appears to be inaccurate in terms of the areas covered by 20mph limit. LV agreed.</p> <p>TS to query map and signage and transitions from 60 mph/20mph as this was noted as potentially unsafe and would be good to have a more gradual transition.</p>	TS

9.8.3	<b>Stagecoach</b> BL noted that the Stage Coach App and the printed timetable are not consistent. The App does not reflect reality. The printed one is correct in its projected times. TS to highlight to Stagecoach.	TS
9.9	<b>Christmas Lights</b> New lights are up and 13no old sockets have been changed over by HC and paid for by FRCC. Pat Munro are thanked for their generous donation . Agreed to increase amount to David Grigor for his significant time and machinery and also thanks to owner of tree donation. Agreed to spend £1000 on new lights plus £300. Further allocation of funds to be discussed at next meeting as noted above.	
9.10	<b>Carols at the Cathedral</b> Preparations are going well. Awaiting confirmation of electrics test to take place on 6th December. Alternative option would be to run a cable from St Andrew's Church Hall. Carol sheets are ready and will be available on phones as per last year. T lights/elves etc all organised. SumUp sums agreed as £1, £2, £5, £10 plus cash donations.	
9.11	<b>RAFT</b> Funding is being sought for frost heating and electric hand driers to reduce paper towel waste. The Anderson is kindly organising a Ceilidh to support RAFT on 13th December 2024. Tickets from The Anderson.	
9.12	<b>Young Councillors</b> All set to be elves at the Cathedral Carols and our thank to The Young Councillors and Jo-Anne for all their valuable input and energy.	
9.13	<b>ROGS</b> AGM has just taken place and Heather is the new Secretary. HC Planning Dept.are considering the Ness Road project. Cathedral grounds are now seeded with wild flowers.	
10.0	<b>Community Meetings</b>	
10.1	Place Plan – awaiting update and job description.	

10.2	BICC – mtg 2 weeks ago. Question raised – what can BICC do to support other groups on the Black Isle?	
10.3	BIT – new Heritage Trail launch next Easter.	
10.4	BIP – AGM – just about quorate. Anne Thomas is new director. We should discuss future involvement at next meeting as there was a feeling of lack of consultation or feedback when offers of help have been made.	Add agenda next mtg.
11.0	<b>AOB</b>	
11.1	Add Heather to WhatsApp group chat and check if new Zooms have been set up.	TS
11.2	KW referred to recent reports to check how Developer Contributions for planning purposes are being monitored and spent. MMM will look into this.	MMM
11.3	Slips in Library box noted as; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requests for a swimming pool, McDonalds and the comments were noted as being appreciated.</li> <li>• Top of old cemetery path is overgrown. LV agreed and LV/HA to co-ordinate response as ROGs did work there but Phil Waite may be able to help.</li> <li>• St Andrew's steps require maintenance. TS/HA to discuss and possibly include Mens' Shed?</li> <li>• Map of Fortrose by Cathedral is very faded. Review – could use FRCC funds to replace or a School project?</li> <li>• Astroturf pitch would be good – noted.</li> <li>• Speed bump request on Ness Road – noted.</li> </ul>	LV/HA  HA/TS  All
12.0	Date of next meeting. Wednesday 8th January 2025 at 7pm.	