

**Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council**

**Minutes of Meeting 12th February 2019**

**held at 7pm, Falkland Community Hall**

**Welcome from Chair**

**Present:** Peter Burman, Rod Crawford, Ken Laurie, Gavin Lawson, Kenny Lumsden, Claire McLeod,

Douglas Young

**Apologies:** John Smith, Cllr Heer

**In Attendance:**

***Councillors:*** David MacDiarmid, Donald Lothian, Police***:*** PC Phil Park, Community Officer ***Residents:*** 16

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| **Agenda Item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| 3  Declarations of Interest | None | None |
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| 4  Minutes of Previous Meeting | Approved by all. | Noted |
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| 5  Matters Arising from previous meeting not on agenda | **1**.Training for Community Councillors – RC attended. Handouts will be issued in due course to other Com Councillors. It was a well worth session.  **2**. Update from Raymond Kelly re planning application to move Lomond Pharmacy to Liquorstane building – On 6 February his planning application went live on FC website. Public have 21 days to comment. The pharmacy will locate on the ground floor, with ample parking spaces provided. RK hopes to be moved in by the end of summer. | Noted  Noted |
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| 6  Police Matters | Community Officer PC Phil Park was in attendance. A written report had previously been issued to CC. Com Police will be changing shifts allowing them to have more presence in the community. He listed the various grades of calls they deal with. One initiative was the banner competition on display at the primary school. He has met with and has the backing of MP Stephen Gethins in our community. There will be speed checks and traffic monitoring taking place. He is working with the school as much as possible.  Cllr MacDiarmid commented that we need continuity of police officers serving our community. If they are known by the public the public will work with them. Cllr MacD commented on the danger of taking children to and from school. Heavy traffic moving through Pleasance, some taking dangerous manoeuvres. RC stated this is an ongoing issue. RC invited PC Park to the Making Falkland’s Future meetings on 28 Feb, 28 March and 13 May. |  |
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| 7  Action Register | **1**.KL previously wrote to Visit Falkland re Christmas lights and is currently still awaiting a response and neither have the lights been returned. He will write again or DY to speak with the Visit Falkland people.  **2**. Discharge of effluent into burn – a quotation for the work has been provided. KL stated the septic tank is not working properly. CC understands raw sewage is being discharged. SEPA are involved and CC are awaiting up to date info.  **3**. Phone box at Newton of Falkland – there is no immediate obvious use. Leave as ornamental or adapt? Move to Falkland? JS had previously been looking for the correct paint colour as it is in need of some TLC.  **4**. Playpark at Balmblae – when does it open? Had a risk assessment taken place before work commenced? Fencing still in situ but portacabin has been removed. | Noted - ongoing  Noted – ongoing  Noted – ongoing  Noted - ongoing |
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| 8  Update on St John’s Works site | Meetings have been held since 2016. The site was an instigator for CC to apply for Charette funding. We all want the best outcome for housing in Falkland. Our concerns were incorporated in correspondence to Springfield Properties. CC have met with them and they have given a response, DY to put this on website.  Pam Ewen, Chief Officer with FC Planning dept has written to MP Stephen Gethins and MSP William Rennie, both of whom have shown an interest in village with S Gethins visiting recently.  G Honeyman, resident, stated CC letter to Springfield was excellent. CC are entitled to see PACT report. Springfield are only adhering to statutory requirements.  Jim Brown, resident – what is a development strategy? Clarification needed from P Ewen. Parts of development can be bespoke on boundary of conservation area. More detailed plan required.  KL to write to P Ewen and Springfield Properties.  PB commented that Springfield are lacking in vision. He recently visited Dysart and old and new properties can sit side by side. |  |
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| 9(i)  Cllr D MacDiarmid’s report  9(ii)  Residents’ Issues | **1**. He will meet with Police and FC Transportation re heavy traffic on Pleasance. Frustration from locals.  **2**. Potholes on A912, sunken drain at Gowrie Cottage, 2 beyond mast entrance. | Noted  Noted |
| **1.** Recycling – leaflet distributed from FC – are we getting a 2nd blue bin or a larger one? Concern that less can be recycled in green bin and more to go to landfill. We may see more ‘fly tipping’. Incinerators are not good but FC seem to be leaning towards this. | Noted |
| **2.** Potholes in Back Dykes – if not 40mm deep then they won’t be filled. | Noted |
|  | **3**. South side of back Dykes is 20 mile per hour. There is no speed signage going downhill. Cllr MacD has previously questioned lack of speed signage to be told there is not enough traffic to warrant speed signs!  Pavements are also in need of repair. | Noted |
| 10  Charrette Implementation Report | KL gave an extensive updated report on Making Falkland’s Future. Time and energy going into funding process. At end of March we will find out if this has been granted. We have applied for maximum funding of £300,000. Proposed parking will be on site of curling pond field keeping coaches and some cars out of the village making the high street friendlier. Proposed car park will not interfere with the bowling green. As we are a historic village, there are environmental issues and topographical and drainage surveys need carried out. Car park to hold 8 coaches and 32 cars with access to village via road by palace wall and Castleshots.  Construction proposals – wall repaired on main road (at current entrance to bowling green), no asphalt – plastic grid and gravel, may need separate drains, small picnic area/bicycle parking. Footpath to Castleshots, thereafter the estate is responsible for maintenance. Grass seed as no budget for turfing.  Planning in principle has been applied for, when funding agreed then detailed planning will be sought. Work would not commence until October as tenders would be required and also a project manager. The money would be given to FC who are the banker only. There will be no charge for parking as the aim is to encourage visitors to park there rather than in centre of village. Pedestrians will only need to walk 370 metres taking 5mins via Castleshots. If walking round by the Palace walls this is a 780 metre, 10min walk. FC is considering paving improvements and a 40 mph speed limit.  We need a better traffic management system and flow of traffic through the village. The school junction is a major issue with pedestrian crossing immediately after the ‘not clearly marked’ mini roundabout. Funding finishes at end of April. There will be a report to CC and Sustrans by beginning of May.  Transport consultants are very experienced appreciating the issues at the school junction. A survey has taken place and 85% of vehicles stay within the speed limit on Pleasance whereas on Newton Road 85% of traffic go **above** the speed limit! The Pleasance dissects the village where the school is. There are various narrow carriageways through the village. There are proposals to make some streets one way. Ideas of making the village pedestrian friendly/plaza in high street? A trial to be held with local bus company who drop school children off at fountain to check bus route around the village. Can we widen any pavements? Car spaces are needed for residents also. As we are dealing with a historic village we need plans to fit Falkland. People to change their behaviour for their greater good. There is a drop in meeting on Thursday 28 March, 12-8pm, for residents to have their say. Sustrans state there is also money available for walking to school. All plans are dependent on availability of funding but we have a robust and well meaning case for funding.  Resident asked how will traffic flow, especially lorries and coaches if area around fountain is pedestrianised? Indeed how do we manage traffic around village? |  |
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| 11  Planning, Listed Building and Conservation Issue | 1. Raymond Kelly, Lomond Pharmacy to move current pharmacy to Liquorstane buildings. Application currently live from 6 Feb for 21 days.  2. Castleshots walls – in need of repair. PB pressing Ninian Crichton-Stuart. Possible application to Historic Scotland required.  3. Trees – there is a tree officer at FC. PB to follow through. | Noted  Noted  Noted |
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| 12  A.O.C.B. | Has someone put a bid in for Town Hall?  Bob Stuart’s house – saplings need cut back. Can poison be put down?  Signs coming into Falkland – are they faded or need washed?  School field – there are tonne bags on the playing fields behind school wall, what do they contain?  Gates at cemetery should always be closed.  Ken Laurie informed the Committee he will be resigning from the Community Council after the Sustrans funding has been exhausted at the end of May  Chair hoped Ken would reconsider. | Noted, Cllr MacD to investigate  Noted, Cllr MacD to investigate  Noted, Cllr MacD to investigate  Noted, Cllr MacD to investigate  Noted, Cllr MacD to investigate  Noted |

**Next Meeting: 7pm Tuesday 12th March 2019**

**Lomond Room, Falkland Community Hall**