

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

**Minute of Meeting 12th November 2019**

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

**Welcome from Chair**

**Present:** Jim Brown, Rod Crawford, Gordon Honeyman, Stuart Knowles, Gavin Lawson, Scott McIntosh, John Smith, Douglas Young

**Councillors*:*** Cllr A Heer, Cllr D Lothian (arrived item 7), Cllr D MacDiarmid **Police***:* nil **Residents*:*** 5

**2** **Apologies:** Peter Burman

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Agenda Item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| 3  Declarations of Interest | None | None |
|  | | |
| 4  Minute of Previous Meeting | October minute accurate and approved by those present. | Noted |
|  |  |  |
| 5 Matters Arising from previous meeting not on agenda | JS met on 9th October with SEPA and Flood Action group – nothing to report. |  |
| 6  Police Matters  7  Actions Register | Police report received and circulated to councillors. Report will be placed on noticeboard at town hall.  1. **Discharge of effluent into burn** – CC will continue to monitor situation.  2. **Phone box at Newton of Falkland** – JS met with M Robb of Newton for an update. Newton residents want the box to stay in Newton, although one resident wants the phone box moved and located in front of village hall. CC are the owners of the box. To move it would require planning permission and an approved contractor to remove electrical supply and resite etc. JS suggests CC write to individual concerned and suggest he pays to have it moved. JS will draft letter on behalf of CC which Chair will sign.  3. **Christmas lights** – Meeting yet to take place with RC and S Pearson, previously of Visit Falkland.  Installation of lights for this year – R Crawford, J Brown, G Honeyman, G Lawson and D Young will meet next week to discuss. There are lights in the Church which can be placed along hedge at Palace, on Christmas tree and weeping cherry tree in church grounds. | Noted - ongoing  Noted - ongoing  Noted - ongoing |
|  |  |  |
| 8  Update on St John’s Works site | GH gave an update – The consultation period expires on 20th December 2019. On checking FC planning portal, Springfield have not submitted an application. | Noted - ongoing |
| 9(i)  Cllr D MacDiarmid’s report | 1. Public path between tennis court and Dunshalt is covered in weeds from windblown soil from fields – ongoing.  2. Sunken manhole on Pleasance at Laich Road end has been reported.  3. Colin Stirling, Lead Consultant of FC Traffic Management has met with Cllr MacDiarmid, S Knowles and J Brown  4. Trees at East Loan, some leaning over road. These trees were donated to community by Smith Anderson. SM proposes we ask a tree surgeon or possibly Mr Adam Reidi, a consultant arborist, who is local, to survey the trees on our behalf. SM will take this forward. | Noted – ongoing  Noted - ongoing  Noted  Noted – ongoing |
| 9(ii)  Residents’ Issues | 1. Lengthy discussion took place re application to FC Common Good Fund from Falkland Parish Church, for funds of £2000 to assist with purchase of used electronic organ, having already raised £10,000. For clarification, the CGF is administered by FC who make decisions how the money is spent. The CC can only make recommendations as how it should be used. There is concern for future if Church of Scotland merge both Falkland and Freuchie that Falkland would close. We would need to find a use for the Church – a music venue, concerts, use as a public space? If church was sold, then electronic organ could be sold or moved and the community would not benefit. The community council should forge relationships with the Church regarding the way forward. A vote was taken, with the majority of CC members voting not to support the current Church application for funding. Chair will draft response to FC re the application and status of CGF cash reserves.  2. **Parking issues in Westport** – the Government have passed an act to prohibit parking on pavements which currently happens in Westport, and other streets. There will be implications when large vehicles, including emergency services, need past. JS had a meeting with Fire service at Falkland House – in the eventuality of a fire with a larger fire tender required, if cars were not parked up on kerbside then the Fire service would not get past – they will write to FC and CC as a matter of concern.  Resident (P Coats) queried whether we can provide residents parking spaces, e.g. area at bottom of hill road? Residents parking schemes can have implications, e.g. where do trades, families, carers park? Could we pilot a scheme in Falkland? Noted that FC Roads have indicated they would not generally support a Residents Parking Scheme in a community the size of Falkland. By 2030 we are expected not to have many petrol/diesel vehicles on the road. If a resident has a garage or parking space then the capacity to charge their vehicle is easy. Whilst in Westport it would mean trailing leads from houses across the road, not viable, unless we could create residents parking spaces with mandatory charging points. There may be issues with providing charging bays too early as they will be modified the closer we get to 2030.  3. **Newton fireworks** - Newton resident, J Moncur has voluntarily had responsibility for fireworks for many years. As he may be moving house next year he is looking for volunteers to ‘hand’ over this role to. He applies to FC Local Community Planning Committee each year for funding which along with bucket donations on the night allows the tremendous display to take place. He has had difficulty drumming up support for this. How can we communicate the need for volunteers? or else lose it! – via Falkland Parish Church newsletter, Facebook – Falkland Residents have your say, Visit Falkland, Historical society newsletter. | Noted - ongoing  Noted  Noted  Noted |
| 10  Falkland’s Future Implementation Report | S Knowles gave a report. Various meetings have taken place with FC, Falkland estate, NTS. No SUDS certificate as yet, but soak away test has taken place. Edge of village car park – can we meet planning deadline of 31 December? Chair states to go ahead with planning application. There are doubts about the ability of CC to take over and administer car park once complete.  The cost of the designs for the overall village centre produced by Austin Smith Lord exceed what we can afford. What can we take forward? – making walking and cycling safer at key junctions – the school and the Pleasance. Can we apply for lottery funding? Meeting took place in Edinburgh with a potential funding partner. JB went to Fife funding fair – we need to look at a wider range of match funders. Can we pilot a temp one-way system in South Street and any other temp traffic calming measures to see if this would work for the village? We have good links with FC roads dept. Next stakeholders meeting on Wed 4 Dec. | Noted - ongoing |
|  | | |
| 11  Planning, Listed Building and Conservation Issue | **Town hall/clock tower** – RC, JB, SMc and DY met with possible new owner – a good discussion took place. Possible new owner wants to have control over the whole building fabric. Chair - could make an agreement that Community organisation would retain ownership of clock mechanism and have access to clock at agreed times for maintenance etc. Possible new owner would have ownership of the tower and roof and is happy to maintain clock while he owns the building. | Noted - ongoing |
|  | | |
| 12  A.O.C.B. | 1. Flooding at Purin Den after hill road end – gully and an offlet is blocked with leaves and not maintained.  2. Newton of Falkland state they are not receiving copy of minutes – Chair commented they receive copy of draft minutes monthly.  3. Flooding on playing field at Newton requires attention.  4. Balmblae road – pot holes have been filled but still work to do. Turning vehicles cause damage to road. Can FC install sign stating ‘Unadopted road, maintained by residents’? Make a strip of land into car parking?  5. Cobbles pothole outside Fayre Earth are a trip hazard.  6. Cemetery, Newton Road – gates are continually open. FC vans park at bottom of cemetery with no indication of work taking place. | Noted  Noted  Noted  Noted  Noted  Noted |

**Next Meeting: 7pm Tuesday 10th December 2019**

**Stuart Room, Falkland Community Hall**