



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

**Minute of AGM and Meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
held at 7pm at Falkland Community Hall  
(public invited to attend)**

**Welcome from Chair,**

Chair clarified that the meeting will be in two segments,

- Annual General Meeting
- November Monthly meeting.

**Present:** Rod Crawford, Roz Esslemont, John Smith, David Anderson, Stuart Knowles, Peter Burman, Doug Young, Kieran Allan

Minutes – Lauren Ballantine

**Councillors:** Cllr D. McDiarmid, Cllr D. Lothian, Cllr G Holt.

**Police:** nil

**Residents:** 4

**Apologies for absence:** Jim Brown, Gavin Lawson

**AGM - 2022**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
A1 Declarations of interest;	At monthly CC meetings, members declare any new potential conflicts of interest. For clarity, members gave a recap of all Declarations of Interest/ Memberships of other organisations:  R Crawford – Trustee Falkland Gardening Group, War Memorial Trust R Esslemont - Chair Parent Council J Smith – War Memorial Trust, Falkland Stewardship Trust, Falkland Society, DY- Chair Gardening Group, Rotary Howe of Fife.	
A2 Minutes of Previous AGM	The last AGM was held in November 2021, minutes of that meeting were approved at the December CC meeting. Chair requested if there were further comments relating to these minutes. No further comments. Previous AGM minutes approved.	
A3 Chairs Report	In the Last year, we began face-to-face meetings again and this has continued. The Falkland Development Group consultation event on 26 October brought together much of our work over the year regarding potential developments affecting the village . There was a healthy turnout and good engagement and feedback. The CC highlighted the continuity of work going back to the Charrette & Austin Smith Lord projects leading to our current involvement with Sustrans. We presented proposals which have been discussed with Fife Council re 20mph. speed limits on the Pleasance, improvements to footways and associated parking. Visualisations were well received and we noted both	

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

**Minute of AGM and Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

	<p>positive and negative comments from the community on aspects of the proposals. Further public consultation will be held on these issues. The Falkland Development Group involving Scotch Whisky International, NTS and Falkland Estate will continue to meet and we intend to continue in a spirit of sharing information and ensuring the community have a holistic visibility approach to future proposals.</p> <p>Other issues covered during the last year included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The potential disposal of the Church building and its implications for the village .</li><li>- The potential to restore water flow to the Bruce fountain either by a recycling system or connection to natural springs and the possibility of Scottish Water installing an additional free drinking water fountain in the village centre meeting current regulations.</li></ul> <p>We still have no community councillors from Newton of Falkland – 2 current vacancies.</p>	
A4 Treasurers Report	<p>Financial statements to 31/03/2022 have been circulated to community councillors for review and approval. These statements have not yet been subject to independent third-party examination so it proposed that they will be approved at this meeting “subject to independent third-party check”. Key points of the Financial Statements are as follows; -</p> <p>Income for year ending 31/03/2022 - £30,471.44 Expenditure for year ending 31/03/22 - £25,158.19 Statement of funds at 31/03/22 - £19,165.11</p> <p>Retained funds at 31/03/2022 includes the following amounts: -</p> <p>War Memorial Fund surplus (maintenance) - £2,075.08 – ring fenced Defibrillator Funds - £1,180.00 – ring fenced</p> <p>Fife Council Local Community Planning Budget - Benches - £4,000.00 funding for 22/23 expenditure FC Resilience Fund – Generator Refurb - £1,000.00 funding for 22/23 expenditure</p> <p>For information, Current cash at Bank as at 08/11/2022 is £18,072.51.</p>	
A5 Election of Community Council Office Bearers;	<p>Office bearer positions are for the duration of the council with no automatic requirement for annual re-election.</p> <p>R Crawford, J Brown and R Esslemont have indicated that they are willing to continue in their roles of Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer and Secretary respectively.</p> <p>John Smith and Peter Burman have decided to retire but offer their help/advice if needed. Rod Crawford thanked them both for their immense contribution to the Community Council.</p> <p>There are currently 2 vacancies for Newton and 1 for Falkland, these will be publicised for applicants.</p> <p>The next elections for Community Councils will be held in 2023.</p>	

**Minute of AGM and Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

A6 Closure of AGM	There being no further AGM business, the AGM section of the meeting was declared closed.	
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**8 November 2022 – Community Council Meeting**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
3 Declarations of new Interest	None. See note above under AGM	
4 Minute of Previous Meeting	October minute taken by Lauren Ballantine approved.	Approved.
5 Matters arising not on the agenda	None.	
6 Police Update	Monthly report circulated - 18 calls, 4 recorded crimes Speeding Campaign – Still looking for volunteers for speed watch.	RE, bring up at Parent Council meeting 15/11
7 Correspondence	(i) A hacker email demanding money not to tarnish reputation was checked out and ignored (ii) RC, email from Alex Genova and Josh Davie about the filming re. the ownership of the Estate. Permission given to the Chair to take part.	
7 Falklands Future	(i) Feedback Development Group (CC, FE. NTS, Scotch Whisky) JS – Good vibes from the event, well attended, very useful. Organisations should be made aware of feedback, reservations are considered. Residents feedback – unhappy not to have clear plan for football field and bowling club and for them not to be shown on the map from NTS. (ii) Scotch Whisky will hold second stage consultation on Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November in Falkland Community Hall 2-7pm. Are currently at pre-planning stage. (iii) Sustrans – Good meeting with Roads and Transportation. Generally supportive. Issues raised by a few on social media, (Westport and Hill Road Parking, Horsemarket the biggest) JB to reach out to those not happy. Meeting with local members – JB to set up.	RC, meeting on Thursday with 4 groups and will raise this.
8 Planning, Listed Buildings and Conservation.	(i) A few applications for work to trees in the Conservation Area. (ii) Waiting for planning application from Scottish Water for the 'Top up tap' drinking water fountain	

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

**Minute of AGM and Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

<p>10 Residents Issues</p>	<p>Photographic evidence – Engine pumping water to Pillars, burn had dried out on July 13<sup>th</sup>..</p> <p>Village Car Park will be closed on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December for the Village Christmas event from 6am-6pm. Please don't park overnight.</p> <p>Flooding – Drains full, bottom of Lomond Crescent, really overflowing.</p>	
<p>11 Community Council Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Remembrance Sunday – JS and KA are leading, Polish embassy member joining. Possibly 18 wreaths being laid. Gather at 10.45am.</li> <li>ii) Christmas Tree and Lights. Need, if possible, to get village lights on to coincide with festival. NTS have agreed to light the hedge. JB getting quotes for CC lights to be PAT tested. Tree to be put up on 27<sup>th</sup> November.</li> <li>iii) Defibrillator – Cllr McD, 10 months back log, put name against one for the next shipment coming. Prices are £1700 and £3000. Raymond will meet the remaining balance.</li> <li>iv) Falkland Development Trust – JS noted concerns about viability but a recruitment drive has gained new members. AGM is Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December.</li> <li>v) High Street Parking restrictions, JB received mail from Fife Council asking for CC input regarding parking arrangements and double yellow lines in Falkland.</li> </ul>	<p>CC to contribute refreshments for embassy.</p> <p>Agreed £250 if new lights needed</p> <p>To be discussed at next meeting.</p>
<p>12 Cllr McDiarmid Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Two footbridges at Balmbrae are dangerous and in need of repair.</li> <li>ii) Set up a meeting with Colin Davidson on 17<sup>th</sup> to look at future maintenance for hedges and pathways.</li> <li>iii) Outside tap for Castle Park has been installed</li> <li>iv) East Loan Playpark, request for new fencing bordering private walk.</li> <li>v) No fouling sign on cemetery, someone has complained. Repainting of railing is still on the agenda.</li> <li>vi) 9<sup>th</sup> January, work on pleasance – resurfacing, build outs commences. Information can be found on facebook.</li> <li>vii) Deputy Consul General from the Polish embassy, Renata Wasilewska-Mazur, attending wreath laying on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>viii) A92 meeting with AMEY on 14<sup>th</sup> November, have had SK and RC added to the invitee list.</li> <li>ix) Traffic junction journey turning count survey will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November. Details will be shared on Residents Facebook page.</li> <li>x) Vintage Quine shop – suspect manhole will be investigated by Scottish Water.</li> <li>xi) Traffic incident involving myself and another male near the pharmacy, male has been cautioned and charged, and will report to Procurator Fiscal.</li> <li>xii) Pedestrian crossing at school – reported fault.</li> <li>xiii) Youth club project delayed until January 2023.</li> </ul>	<p>JS- Repaired on Friday.</p>

**Minute of AGM and Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

	<p>xiv) Reported fly-tipping at Castle Shotts to Ninian.</p> <p>xv) High Street bin issue has been resolved.</p> <p>xvi) Back Dykes Terrace, junctions still to be white lined.</p> <p>xvii) Toilet signposting requested.</p> <p>xviii) Village signpost cleaning requested.</p> <p>xix) Rivertrack ongoing maintenance, all three councillors have agreed to fund this year at a cost of £250. CC should apply to Donald Grant for this via the locality budget.</p> <p>xx) Back Dykes Terrace, smelly manhole reported to Scottish Water and jetted within 24 hours.</p> <p>xxi) Fruit shop, smelly drain reported to Scottish Water and repaired within two days.</p> <p>DY – Progress on damaged Falkland sign near Tennis Court? Paving stone outside newsagent needs fixed again.</p>	
13 Elected Members Issues	<p>(i) Cllr DL – Historic problem with Pleasance water flow, emailed to ask if can be fixed when work is taking place.</p> <p>(ii) Work has started on clearing path from Falkland to Dunshalt.</p> <p>(iii) Cllr GH – Bill Liddle, service manager, new system – job sheets by paper, which was then going missing, now using iPad which should help.</p> <p>(iv) Retained the 36 bus on a Sunday – Good news.</p>	
14 A.O.C.B	None.	

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm Falkland.**