



Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

**Minute of Meeting – 11th April 2023
held at 7pm at Falkland Community Hall
(public invited to attend)**

Welcome from Chair,

Present: Rod Crawford, Jim Brown, David Anderson, Stuart Knowles, Kieran Allan, Doug Young, Roz Esslemont, Jack Reekie (part time)
Minutes – Lauren Ballantine

Councillors: nil

Police: nil

Residents: 6

Apologies for absence: Gavin Lawson, Cllr Holt, Cllr Lothian, Cllr McDiarmid

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
3 Declarations of new Interest	None	
4 Minute of Previous Meeting	Agreed RC noted all previous minutes are now up to date on website, reported on Facebook page.	Approved
5 Matters arising not on the agenda	26/4 – Creative Community Spaces day conference organised by 'Heids and Herts' at the Stables discussing community resilience and wellbeing issues – Rod Crawford/Jim Brown to attend.	
6 Short Term Letting – Whinstone, South St. West.	Email from Robbie Nellies –circulated prior to meeting. Old Children's care home has been turned into a holiday let. Certificate of Lawfulness for this change of use was rejected as not correct procedure. Applicants were told to submit full planning application but have not done so. For 3 weeks or so, there have been 5 different lets. This is a breach of planning regulations. Resident is opposed to change of use. House is being advertised through an agency online and via apps. There is a phone number to take booking advertised at front door of property. JB noted that a Short-term letting licensing scheme has also been launched, meaning every new rental must have a license. If property has been rented since before October 2022 they	

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	<p>have until October 2023 to apply. Otherwise they must obtain licence before commencing letting There are currently no applications for any rental properties in Falkland.</p> <p>This situation had been brought up at previous meeting with FC, Cllr McD has asked planning if a change of use is in place. A Change of use is needed as it was previously a Care home (commercial use class).</p> <p>Agreed to wait to hear back from Cllr McD, CC will ask for clarification on how to proceed.</p>	
<p>7 Flood Action Group Update</p>	<p>John Smith and John Brown attended to give update on Flood Action Group issues.</p> <p>Brash screen prevents heavy build up further down. Fife Council are responsible for the current one but plan to replace it a further 30/40 yards upstream. Fife Council will pay and install. Falkland Stewardship Trust will take ownership and clear regularly, with Fife Council clearing it in heavy weather. There will be a new access to allow machinery to get to it meaning an alteration to the play park, as lack of potential for suitable vehicles, swings will be moved to allow this. Engineering company is building them for all over Scotland. The Flood Action Group feel confident and secure about the plan.</p> <p>David Anderson to be included in correspondence with FAG and will follow up for CC.</p> <p>At the last meeting, resident brought up the leaky barrier and playpark insurance issues. Resident was worried over suing someone if they were flooded and raised question about liability for playpark accidents. J Smith said opinion of Scottish Flood forum was that there was no real chance of successful claims if mitigation measures did not operate adequately . RE stated playpark is maintained and covered by Fife Council so is not the same issue.</p>	
<p>8 Police Update</p>	<p>Report circulated to CC members.</p> <p>15 calls. 3 recorded crimes – Dishonesty, Vandalism, Wildlife crime.</p> <p>Papers also circulated regarding security of motorcycles and cars, officers unable to make tonight but hoping to be here in May to talk about it.</p>	
<p>9 Correspondence</p>	<p>(i) Letter sent to Roads and Transport.</p> <p>(ii) Email from Democratic Services with dates of next CC elections – 28/9</p> <p>(iii) Planning Advice Scotland – Training and mentoring sessions, offered dates.</p>	

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<p>10 Falklands Future</p>	<p>(i) Sustrans PfE project – N. T. R (ii) Planning Aid Scotland will give presentation to CC members on local place plans on Wednesday 19th April.</p>	
<p>11 Planning, Listed Buildings and Conservation.</p>	<p>Nothing to Report</p>	
<p>12 Residents Issues</p>	<p>(i) Resident – JS noted that Bill Pagan from Cupar Development Trust has been in touch re Community Action Plan drop-in meeting happening on Saturday 15/4 at Cupar Corn Exchange . Open Invite to all. Plan will cover whole Bell Baxter catchment area (ii) Resident – Item 8 on previous meeting minute, query meaning of minute. JB / RE noted this was just report of meeting with development group. CC reps had been surprised that NTS /Estate seemed to be expecting letter responses from sports clubs. Sports clubs have been given no indication where they could move to, they have been told there is no flat suitable flat land within estate they could be given. The clubs had been held told to write and ask for clarification, they did this, and a meeting was held in the hall but there has been nothing else. RC noted that CC have had no contact from the Bowling Club, CC are more than willing to stand up for them. Meeting will be set up with CC, Football club, bowling club.</p>	<p>RC</p>
<p>13 Community Council Issues</p>	<p>(i) Scotch Whisky playpark proposal – RE has handed in primary school pupils plans. Public questionnaire, still waiting on analysis of data. (ii) Defibrillator update – has not been delivered yet. (iii) Coronation planning – DY, litter picking waiting on confirmation from school to go ahead on Friday 12/5. RE will contact. Coffee Morning being held on 6/5 in the hall organised by the Development Trust / Hall committee. (iv) Meeting with FC re school incident – Wrote to FC asking for meeting re near misses. Relevant officers came along, RC, JB, SK, RE, 3 elected councillors. Productive meeting – on board with suggestions which are still being drawn up. Expanded to wider issues, spoke about Sustrans issues. All attendees felt positive. (v) Nursery play equipment at Primary school–Nursery to come up with items that they would like and bring it to CC. RE noted Parent Council will put application in to WMT asking for funding for climbing frame equipment</p>	

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	to provide some play facility in school park for children resident on East side of A912.	
14 Cllr McDiarmid Report	(i) Mill Wynd – Bridge damage has been reported. (ii) Defibrillator – Has not yet been delivered. (iii) Pelican Crossing on the Pleasance – timing of lights to be investigated. (iv) Residential home, South Street West – Asked planning if a change of use to an Airbnb is in place. Discussed in meeting. (v) I wish to make a formal request to Education Services for installation of School and Nursery signage. Do I have the backing of the Community Councillors?	Agreed
15 Elected Members Issues	None	
16 A.O.C.B	None	
Post Meeting	<p>A closed session for Community Councillors only was held at the end of the meeting to update CC members on the progress of discussions with FC Roads and Transportation regarding A912 speed limit and junction issues as FC had requested this information not to be publicly released until the Fife Council meeting agenda was issued. RE was not present for this session.</p> <p>The issue of the Bowling and Football clubs and the NTS car park development was also raised and it was agreed unanimously that CC office bearers would request a meeting with NTS Chief Executive to state our opposition to any adverse impacts on the clubs and our concerns about lack of community consultation.</p>	

Next Meeting: Tuesday 9th May, 7pm Falkand.