



Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

**Minute of Meeting – 13th June 2023
held at 7pm at Falkland Community Hall
(public invited to attend)**

Welcome from Chair,

Present: Rod Crawford, Jim Brown, Jack Reekie, Doug Young
Minutes – Lauren Ballantine

Councillors: Cllr McD, **Police:** nil **Residents:** 5

Apologies for absence: Gavin Lawson, Roz Esslemont, Stuart Knowles, David Anderson

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
3 Declarations of new Interest	None	
4 Minute of Previous Meeting	Agreed	Approved
5 Matters arising not on the agenda	Amendments to Agenda- Item G will be top up tap , Item H will be Website and Facebook page. Items relating to feed back from NTS meeting and Falkland Voices Heard meeting will be amalgamated	
6 National Trust Update	NTS East Scotland manager Stuart Maxwell and new Fife operations manger Cat Peattie were present at the meeting. Provide an update of Falkland Palace issues. There will be a monthly update circulated with upcoming events, staff contacts, etc. NTS have taken note of objections from Historic Environment Scotland and also community views on impacts on Bowling and Football clubs and have abandoned plans for car park at curling pond field. There are no plans to buy the field from Falkland Estate. Happy to work with development proposals by others but will not take lead position, will be looking at past ideas for consideration but community support is essential Would like to invest in Falkland Palace as a visitor experience. For the moment NTS are reassessing possibilities of enhancing the experience within the Palace itself and also reviewing issues of more free public access to orchard and gardens.	

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	<p>Falkland competes with all trust properties for allocation of limited money. CC requested greater involvement with any NTS plans and recommended more transparency vis a vis the community/ Residents in attendance noted that they are happy with the outcome for the Bowling and Football clubs.</p>	
7 Police Update	<p>Report circulated to CC members. 25 calls. 5 recorded crimes. Community Police Officers have offered to attend summer events in village e.g. Falkland Festival to provide Public Information. This has already been organised by Festival committee</p>	
8 Correspondence	<p>a. Email received from Gardening group which raised issue with weeds on cobbled area between the Palace and the Church. Difficult for GG to maintain this, can FC help?</p>	RC to forward email to Cllr McD for action.
9 Falklands Future	<p>a. Sustrans – Places for Everyone project. Nothing to report, Currently waiting on Scotch Whisky International team coming back with their transportation survey. Expected August/September.</p>	
10 Planning, Listed Buildings & Conservation Issues	<p>Air BnB update on South Street West, Whinstone House. Cllr McD has raised issue with FC planning on behalf of neighbouring residents. The enforcement officer has now told them to stop operating pending resolution of planning use status. Applicants have also submitted an application for a short term letting license (licensing issue – not planning). Notification for this will be sent to neighbours.</p>	
11 Residents Issues	<p>Resident A Simpson (Hall Chairman) noted that a resident had raised a complaint against the pipe band practising outdoors in the car park. They have booked the hall on a long term basis and have now been given the possibility of using the football field if they want to practice outside. The band are the award winning Police Scotland national pipe band. They are using the village as a central rehearsal location and are keen to develop stronger links with the community. CC and National Trust keen to encourage this.</p>	
12 Falkland Flood Action Group	<p>Nothing to report.</p>	
13 Community Council Issues	<p>a. Back Dykes top park Playpark, no update from SWI design team. b. Defibrillator – no further forward, trouble with CR2 machine. Will keep monitoring. c. Coronation Litter pick update - successful event with community and school, lots of litter collected.</p>	

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	<p>d. Amalgamated report back from Falkland Voices Heard meeting and meeting with NTS CEO – respected community views and Historic Environment Scotland objections to the car park plans. This will no longer be going ahead. Welcome news that the football club and bowling club are safe. JR – noted that a lot of the recent problem arose from lack of communication with the community and noted H MacLeish suggestion to look at alternative ways of communication that reaches all residents, e.g. Community Newsletter . Will bring proposals to next CC meeting.</p> <p>e. Bank of Scotland closure – bad news but not unexpected. Local Liberal Democrats councillors have begun petition for a free-standing cash machine. CC will write a letter to Bank of Scotland objecting to closure and stressing need to maintain cash machine facilities.</p> <p>f. Christmas lights – Tree lights at Brunton Green really need checked to ensure no damage to trees, tree surgeons will have to be organised to remove lights. This should be done at an early date. NTS will take on lights for the hedge at thh epalace.</p> <p>g. Top up tap – unfortunate initial objection but has proven a great success. Cllr McD, great to be at the launch with 4 kids from the Eco Team at School.</p> <p>h. Facebook page and website – FB launched yesterday, will be used sparingly. Will build up and join more groups. Website was suspended due to overusing storage space. Still investigating.</p>	<p>Agreed.</p> <p>RC to draft letter and circulate.</p>
<p>14 Cllr MacDiarmid's Report</p>	<p>Put to Stuart Maxwell of NTS that the palace isn't being used to the best of its potential, wondering what action will be taken to improve.</p> <p>a. Jackie Kemp – Freelance reporter from the Telegraph had been in touch regarding NS and the transition of the estate. There is a succession talk on July 1st, tickets £20.</p> <p>b. Tree on Southfield – complaints made.</p> <p>c. Fly tipping complaint - 1 empty pallet, mobile A board in Bruce's lane, not sure it qualifies as fly tipping.</p> <p>d. Youth club will cease over holidays.</p> <p>e. Moved on roofing application for Carberry that had stalled.</p> <p>f. BT working on blockage, should be finished by Thursday</p> <p>g. Advertising banner has been removed from barriers at roundabout.</p> <p>h. Bees relocated from the house on Lomond Crescent.</p> <p>i. Car park barriers etc for FC equipment have been removed.</p> <p>j. Water Leak on pavement near cemetery, Scottish Water came to investigate. Water was sampled. (JB – noted that someone had confirmed on FB post that water is part of private water supply)</p>	

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15 Other Elected Cllr Issues	None	
A.O.C.B	DY – Original artwork for reprinting for tourist indicator boards cannot be located , should we start a new map? To be discussed Noted that Ordinance Survey surveyors were around the village to update OS map base info.	

Next Meeting: Tuesday 11th July, 7pm Newton of Falkland Hall.

DRAFT