



Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

**Monthly Meeting, 9th February 2021
held at 7pm via conference call due to lockdown Covid-19
(Public invited to attend)**

1 Welcome from Chair to all attending:

Present: Jim Brown (Secretary), Rod Crawford (Chair), Doug Young, Gordon Honeyman, John Smith, Roz Esslemont, Stuart Knowles.

Councillors: Cllr David MacDiarmid.

Police: nil.

Residents: James Robertson, Ninian Stuart p/t, Stuart Hazledean p/t,

2 Apologies for online absence: Peter Burman, Kenny Lumsden, Gavin Lawson, Cllr Andy Heer, Cllr Donald Lothian (late arrival)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
3 Declarations of new Interest	No new declarations.	None
4 Minute of Previous Meeting	January Minute, Taken by John Smith.	Approved
5 Matters arising not otherwise on Agenda	N Stuart indicated he would have to leave the meeting early and Chair agreed he could give an update on Falkland Estate information at this time. NS confirmed that the Estate had received a funding award from the Nature Scot, Better Places fund which was intended to help hot spot locations cope with the influx of additional visitor numbers due to pressure from Covid staycation effects etc. NS thanked the Community Council for providing lead to this funding source. Funding will be used to engage consultants including Landscape Architect, Heritage/Art consultant and visitor survey researcher to work on the Estate's future 'masterplan' which is ongoing with target completion of end March. NS queried if CC wished to nominate someone to interface with this work. Agreed that GH will be contact. NS will provide further update at stakeholder meeting on 24 Feb.	
6 Planning, Listed Building and Conservation Issues	<u>Kerkyra</u> - RC reminded CC that we had agreed to escalate our dissatisfaction with the handling of this planning application to CEO of FC. JB to prepare draft complaint text. <u>Warbeck House</u> , Proposal for 1 st Floor balcony to rear of building. Noted that this proposal had been refused by FC planning after recommendation to refuse from Conservation Officer. <u>Proposed New House adjacent to Bridgend, Balmbrae</u> Noted that this application had been withdrawn and that FC and SEPA	JB



Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

Minute of Meeting 12 January 2021

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
	<p>drainage authorities had recommended refusal due to increased flood risk.</p> <p><u>Planning Sub-committee</u> JB expressed concern that planning issues were sometimes failing to be reviewed on a timely basis by the CC and noted that we only had 10 days to review applications and make request to be 'Statutory Consultee'. This made process awkward if applications were submitted between CC meetings. JS enquired if we could request to be Statutory Consultee on all applications. JB noted this had already been refused by FC as it would result in logjam of applications going to Local Area Committee. JB proposed to reinstate CC Planning sub-committee of councillors who would commit to review list of applications on weekly basis and coordinate online to ensure matters are dealt with satisfactorily between CC meetings. Agreed that this will consist of JB, GL, GH and PB (tbc).</p>	
<p>7 Falklands Future Implementation</p>	<p>RC confirmed next Stakeholder Meeting would be held on Wed 24 Feb.</p> <p>SK confirmed meeting had been held with Sustrans and FC on 22 January to review Draft Phase 2, Sustrans Feasability Study for the potential filtered permeability scheme and High St West /West Port footway upgrading proposals. A number of points remain to be clarified and next delivery group meeting will be on 25th February.</p>	
<p>8 Community Council Issues</p> <p>(i) (a)</p> <p>(b)</p> <p>(c)</p>	<p><u>Community Council Officers etc.</u> RC proposed that the CC Website should be updated to confirm the revised CC office bearers and new members. RC recommended that CC members should provide thumbnail photographs for the website. DY to coordinate updating. CC generic email addresses also need to be checked and updated on website when functioning.</p> <p><u>Flood Action Group</u> – JS confirmed that the depth monitor gauge at Balmblae was operating well and also that work had been carried out by Fife Council to clear and renovate the 'leaky barrier' at West Loan. JS and John Brown are following up flood action proposals with P Laidlaw. Route of culvert on East Loan has still not been determined but does not run into Maspie Burn at Mill Wynd / Palace grounds. Following up with Scottish Water (R Blyth) to establish legal responsibility for water courses flowing off the hill through village.</p> <p><u>Community Council Consultation</u> -. JB had submitted consultation response to FC covering 2 issues. 1) Request for issue of Fife Planning recommendation to Committee when CC is a Statutory Consultee and 2) more flexibility to allow CC member places to be filled from whole CC area if no candidates from Newton of Falkland come forward within a specified time period. Response from FC Democratic Services had just been received immediately before meeting rejecting both proposals.</p>	<p>All to note /DY</p> <p>JS</p>



Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

Minute of Meeting 12 January 2021

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
(ii) (a) (b) (c)	<p><u>Cllr David McDiarmid's case reports -</u></p> <p>St Johns Works Site: Cllr Mcd had discussed ongoing activities with Michael Longstaffe of Smith Anderson. Current activity is only disposal of quantity of low grade reclaimed fill material from the site. A large quantity (~ 20K tonnes) remains in situ but little market for this material. Site is still owned by Smith Anderson with no indication of immediate sale.</p> <p>Car Park Toilets: Noted that toilets are currently free admission for period of Covid restrictions.</p> <p>Residents issues - Issues which any residents present wish to report so that Council can note them , discuss them or agree to action them; - N.T.R.</p>	
10 AOCB	<p>Chair noted that he had been requested to be interviewed on video as part of a project being undertaken by Falkland Estate in collaboration with 3 Universities to look at issue of sustainable land use etc. on the Estate and requested CC agreement that he should represent council on this. JB noted that the purpose and objectives of the project were not fully understood and noted that no individual CC member, including office bearers ,should speak 'on behalf of the council' unless it is to act as a spokesperson when the council has resolved a policy on an issue. RC requested that members should advise him of their views on this matter. JB requested that further information on the project should be obtained and noted that there were different viewpoints within the community regarding the impact of the estate. If this interview is meant to rfect a community viewpoint, an alternative consultation method would be more appropriate.</p> <p>Chair noted that a notice of complaint had been received from someone outside the council regarding CC member(s) actions in relation to the proposed Mountain Biking Park on East Lomond and that Gordon Honeyman had been delegated as investigating officer to review this.</p> <p>Roz Esselmont noted that she had identified a potential candidate to act as Minutes Secretary. Following discussion, it was agreed that RE will discuss the role with the potential candidate including issue of remuneration.</p>	

11 - Next Meeting: 7pm Tuesday 9 March 2021 - Virtual meeting