



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

**Minute of Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
held at 7pm via conference call due to lockdown Covid-19  
(public invited to attend)**

**Welcome from Chair**

**Present:** John Smith, Jim Brown, Douglas Young, Gavin Lawson, Roz Esslemont, Kenny Lumsden, Stuart Knowles, Peter Burman, Lauren Ballantine (minutes secy),

**Councillors:** Cllr D MacDiarmid      **Police:** nil      **Residents:**3

**Apologies for online absence:** Rod Crawford, Cllr Heer, Cllr Lothian

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
3 Declarations of new Interest	None.	
4 Minute of Previous Meeting	July minute, taken by Lauren Ballantine approved.	Approved.
5 Matters arising not on the agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Details of the CC insurance scheme have been received from Fife Council,</li> <li>ii) Ownership and responsibilities for War Memorial Structure</li> </ul>	Add to CC issues for discussion at next meeting.
6 Police Update	NTR.	
7 Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Email from John Brown (former CC Chair), confirming that the War Memorial structure is owned by CC, therefore they are responsible for maintenance.</li> <li>ii) Fife Council Democratic Services regarding our request for waiver regarding the composition of the CC, not allowed – it must remain as 2 members from Newton and 8 from Falkland.</li> <li>iii) Cupar and North Fife preservation society, asking to support a funding application for the restoration of Melville Doocot. Positive response sent</li> <li>iv) Notification from Fife Licensing Board, Off-License application for the Stables by Falkland Stewardship Trust</li> <li>v) Bruce Taverns, non-committal response to letter re action required to the Lomond Tavern, they are aware of the situation and are in talks with a potential tenant who would be responsible for repairs.</li> </ul>	



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<p>8 Planning, Listed Buildings and Conservation</p>	<p>PB has written to Fiona Fisher, FC Built Environment officer about a proposed review of the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management plan, she has referred to a colleague, Matthew Price. PB will make contact.</p> <p>JB noted that it is important to recognise that the Falkland Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan is not a CC document, it is a FC Planning document.</p>	
<p>9 Falkland's Future</p>	<p>JB noted that progress on Places for Everyone (Sustrans) project has been slower than hoped be due to Sustrans internal issues.</p> <p>We submitted a change request for additional funding which was approved. This will allow some additional design work, tree survey, topography survey and preparation of presentation material including 3d visualisations for the public consultation. Sustrans are also proposing funding subscription to 'Survey Monkey' software program for online surveys which will help evidence what the community supports .</p> <p>Public consultation hopefully beginning in 1-2 months, plan is to hold a series of public workshops focussed on particular intervention areas , e.g. workshop on Pleasance junctions and 20mph speed limit extensions to allow Pleasance residents and school parents etc to have more detailed input. Online consultation is also proposed.</p> <p>JS raised issues about possible changes to traffic flows and concern that these items may be presented as a 'fait accompli'</p> <p>JB confirmed there will be opportunities to make comments and suggestions at the public consultation but any proposals would have to comply with Scottish Government policies to obtain funding. Nothing will be done unless Community support can be evidenced.</p> <p>PB made comment of confidence in work carried out by SK &amp; JB and hoped people would review proposals objectively.</p>	
<p>10 Residents Issues</p>	<p>Concern raised over large temporary road sign on the footpath that has not been weighted down enough.</p>	



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<p>11 Community Council Issues</p>	<p>i) Community Council Vacancies. CC has stated aim to improve demographic composition of the council. One Newton resident, John Green, has put himself forward but was not able to attend tonight's meeting due to other commitments. Two applicants have come forward for the one Falkland vacancy, Keiran Allan and David Anderson. The CC scheme rules delegate existing members to decide process to select new member as no intermediate elections are held. KA briefly addressed the meeting but DA did not appear to be able to connect and so the decision was deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>ii) Fountain Proposals. PB has spoken to Tom Morton from ARC Architects who proposed colleague Paul Higginson for the work. PB to set up a meeting to talk through a programme and costings.</p> <p>iii) Flood Action Group held meeting on 13/9, with discussion over the insurance that the flood action group are seeking through the CC insurance scheme. JB responded that it is difficult to see a circumstance in which the FAG could be sued as they should not be committing to any action that can be legally challenged. They are an advisory body. Operation of the insurance cover would involve the CC being sued as a supervisory body for the FAG which could expose the CC members personally.</p> <p>iv) Bike Park/Trails on East Lomond. A meeting was held between CC, Rebound and Falkland Estate. Chair of Rebound noted that original intention of mountain bikers had been only to been to restore existing trails and operate as previously. Development of Business plans and other proposals had been to meet the requirements of Falkland Estate including the proposed increase in lease fees. No other update or further activity.</p> <p>v) Facebook/Website. CC Facebook page will allow CC to post on other sites e.g. FRHYS, on behalf of the CC instead of using members personal FB account.</p>	



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	<p>GL queried whether we could use this to post notices planning applications within the community? JB to review.</p> <p>vi) Lomond Tavern. Neighbouring resident was successful in contacting Environmental Health, bins should now all be emptied. Bruce Taverns have agreed to clear all the area at the back of the premises over the next 4-6 weeks. They are placing responsibility on any the new tenants for repairs which is not encouraging. Resident Sheila Allen made comment about the smell and appalling state of the back area which is a serious health hazard.</p>	
<p>12 Cllr McDermiad's Report</p>	<p>i) Property owner on South Street has been unhelpful in aiding the repair of footpath, complaining of damage to their overhanging hedge as it had to be cut back to allow repairs.</p> <p>ii) Pothole Repairs. Back Dykes are being given temporary measure as short term measure , Work budgeted for 2022/23 for full surface repair.</p> <p>iii) Written to Fife Council officers with reference to the exterior of the Lomond Tavern.</p> <p>iv) Street Lighting at Cross Wynd, Scottish Power lost power to the lamppost. West Port streetlight is not working</p> <p>v) Cameron Drive pathway and Royal Terrace potholes are to be assessed. Repairs required to junction at Cross Wynd and Back Wynd as well as the kerbs outside the Bakers shop as this is trip hazard.</p> <p>vi) School bus stop outside The Covenant, Proprietor objecting to use of this location. Will raise issue with Moffat &amp; Williamson</p> <p>vii) Spoke to N Stuart about broken fences and bridges needing repaired at West Loan accesses to Estate.</p> <p>Comments on the following were made to Cllr McD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Main bridge decking at the West Loan playpark needs repaired.</li> <li>○ More signs needed for dog fouling at both Cemeteries and school playing field as its very bad just now.</li> </ul>	<p>Cllr McD to report.</p> <p>In touch with bus company. Looking at external money for this.</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ JB commented on lack of advance notice to footway repairs on South Street. there had been previous consideration for widening footpaths but FC stated they had no funding to support this, 70% of the cost could have been met by Transport Scotland under 'Safer Routes to School' scheme, this lack of communication can mean missing out on opportunities.</li> <li>○ Grass Cutting Residents not all happy with how the grass cutting is going. Questions again about opting out of rewilding as feel it is not a necessity for Falkland.</li> </ul>	
<p>13 A.O.C.B</p>	<p>JS proposed replacement Information board outside Fayre Earth, the existing CC notice board is currently obscured the outdoor seating area of The Covenanter. Can it be moved beside the interpretation board? JS to follow up</p> <p>Pathway from Carpark to Pleasance going through Sugar Acre? This could be safer for school children. Could also allow residents to park in Car Park and walk to their houses. Streetlights would have to be added and some sort of barrier to stop people going straight onto road. JS proposing to speak to NS along with Cllr McD about the possibility of carrying this out? All agreed it's a good idea.</p> <p>Possibility of holding next CC meeting at the Community Hall to be reviewed.</p>	<p>JS and Cllr McD to make contact.</p>

**Next Meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> October 7pm - Venue T.B.C.**