



Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

**Minute of Meeting – 9th March 2022
held at 7pm via Zoom call.
(public invited to attend)**

Welcome from Chair

Present: Rod Crawford, Jim Brown, Stuart Knowles, John Smith, Roz Esslemont, Peter Burman, Douglas Young, David Anderson, Lauren Ballantine (minutes)

Councillors: Cllr David McDiarmid **Police:** nil **Residents:** 1

Apologies for absence: Keiran Allan, Cllr Donald Lothian, Gavin Lawson

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
1	Welcome from Chair	
2 Declarations of new Interest	None.	
3 Minute of Previous Meeting	February minute, taken by Lauren Ballantine. Approved.	
4 Matters arising not on the agenda	None.	
5 Police Update	Monthly police report for February had been circulated in meeting papers. Noted that Community Police had visited Falkland House school for workshop session with pupils with feedback positive. DY also noted that Falkland Garden Group had conducted sessions with Falkland House School pupils that had been well received .	
6 Council Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Discussion around request to define single generic email addressed for Community Council to be used for contacts from Fife Council. RC, JB & RE to meet to finalise response and procedures. ii) Email received from FC regarding double yellow lines in Falkland & conflicts between existing Traffic Regulation Orders (in force year round) and 'seasonal' application signage on streets. Agreed - to further investigate consult community as part of consultation for Sustrans project proposals. 	RC, JB & RE to resolve
7 Planning, Listed Buildings and Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) No significant applications relating to Falkland & Newton of Falkland CC area this period. ii) PB – raised potential need to consider wider planning /listed building issues other than just those applications on weekly list. Concerns about usage of unsuitable materials in Conservation Area e.g. Portland cement 	

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	<p>pointing rather than lime mortar /putty and also work on listed buildings without seeking appropriate consents. Agreed this needs to be handled sensitively with initial 'education' / engagement approach</p> <p>iii) RC and SK had attended Fife Community Climate Action Network meeting on Climate Action Hubs, feedback note will be issued. This is Scottish Govt initiative rolling out climate action hubs across Scotland with significant funds in place to support. Fife should be location for next hub that becomes active in Scotland. This should provide support offering practical, simple and achievable actions appropriate to local conditions</p>	
<p>8 'Falkland's Future' -Sustrans PFE Projects</p>	<p>i) Report from 'stakeholder' session held last Thursday for CC and elected members to review Sustrans scheme proposals– good productive meeting. CC members who couldn't attend the mtg are encouraged to read the presentation material issued and raise queries /comments to JB and SK. Broad support for project from attendees and agreed proposals represent overall great vision of how Falkland streets could be made safer and improved. Next steps will be to promote and engage with wider community as much as possible. JB requested if any further feedback on meeting</p> <p>ii) Cllr McDiarmid agreed was excellent meeting. Had previously discussed some issues with FC officer (transportation) but better chance of getting them fully on board if 70% funding could be obtained from Scotgov / Sustrans . Reiterated his frustration with current Pleasance situation, very unsafe. Also welcomed proposals for High St West /Westport footways, however has reservations with Horse Market/bottom of Factory site proposals.</p> <p>iii) RC felt 3D visualisations are particularly persuasive tools to show community project benefits. Report sent out should include visuals.</p> <p>iv) SK noted intention to start consultation now with engagement sessions face-to-face in the hall possible again. Covid pandemic has slowed progress.</p> <p>v) JB suggested 3 possible focus sessions for consultation, including Pleasance 20mph zone, High Street/West Port footways, and village centre / filtered permeability proposals Each sessions will describe the full scheme but hope to concentrate discussion and feedback on the specified focus area</p> <p>vi) DY – queried if the proposal for a pedestrian path from hall car park to Pleasance would be included. JB confirmed this was not part of current proposals</p> <p>vii) Next steps – finalise plans for engagement dates and try to set up meeting with Fife Council at higher level</p>	

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9 Residents Issues	N.T.R.	
10 Community Council Issues	<p>i) Bruce Fountain. Meeting was held 2 weeks ago with Scottish Water (SW) lead rep on their new drinking fountain programme across Scotland. SW were initially sceptical of Falkland being suitable for the scheme – small community, insufficient footfall etc. However generally positive meeting – reviewed possible site (Cross Wynd), meets all technical specifications. Discussion on tourism and active leisure users, – SW left with more positive views. This discussion was about provision of a new potable water drinking station in Falkland provided free by SW. Very unlikely under current regulations that Bruce Fountain could be re-activated as potable drinking fountain and also concerns regarding road safety issues. Bruce Fountain refurbishment probably limited to a recycled ornamental basis only. Agreed to pause meetings with ARC Architects until feedback from Scottish Water received. Attendees surprised to hear Falkland water supply comes from Holl reservoir /Lomond Hills WTW.</p> <p>ii) Flood Action Group. Nothing significant to report – still stalemate as regards responsibilities for ‘Leaky Barrier’ at West Loan playpark area. Cllr McDiarmid – noted camera surveys had found obstruction within culvert at East Loan, FC officer to report back when work proposed to remedy.</p> <p>iii) Village Hall standby generator. JS has located potential generator at the estate stables – ideally sized for hall although issues of required repairs to be investigated. Grant aid applied for from resilience fund (FC). JS confirmed that ongoing responsibility for maintenance and operations would not be CC responsibility.</p> <p>iv) Queens Jubilee celebrations. PB circulated notes on status. Falkland Stewardship Trust intend to plant a number of trees in Home park opposite Estate stables. National Trust have agreed in principle to host garden party in orchard with focus on children. Falkland Events (Stuart Pearson et al) investigating beacon at top of Falkland Hill, Falkland Coast & Countryside Trust believed to be taking initiative for this and other Howe communities have expressed interest. Various organisations including Community Dev Trust and Falkland Society reviewing possible activities.</p>	

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11 Cllr McDiarmid Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Walkabout raised concerns from resident about tree at Stag Green obstructing light. This is under Conservation Area control so no work can be done without permission. ii) Funding secured in principle for replacement benches (4) across Falkland (2 in cemetery, 1 at top of East Loan, 1 outside bank). Requires application from CC to locality budget (£3200). RC to action. iii) Play equipment at top park (East Loan) in poor state and in need of replacement. FC has no budget to replace. Potential benefits of a multi-use games area (MUGA) and /or outdoor gym equipment at this location. RE to investigate potential project with Cllr McD looking at potential funding organisations etc. iv) Held discussion around traffic calming measures in the village particularly for Pleasance / 20 mph zone. Liaison with FC officers and Sustrans project, positive steps being taken forward. v) Hole in road at Cross Wynd – difficulty in contacting Scottish Power. Will keep pursuing. vi) Tree planting schemes. Approx. £400 was available for tree planting for East Loan but proposals from group seem to have stalled. Unsure if War Memorial Trust grants were actually paid or just allocated. Will continue to explore what is happening. Gardening Group are looking to make contact to consolidate approach. 	<p>RC – to progress application for bench funding.</p> <p>RE – progress potential project to replace equipment at top park.</p>
12 Elected Members Issues	N.T.R..	
13 A.O.C.B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Query from DY re bin emptying situation at Walker Trust houses . Reply from FC officer confirmed this is being dealt with. ii) SK – update on ‘Heids & Herts’ engagement with Art Club to make short film of activities. iii) Resident raised issue – bins not getting emptied at Balmbrae, 6 weeks since last lifted. Issues with state of road at Bamblae & sign needing fixed. Noted that FC have very small budget for unadopted roads. This is main access route to play park and should ensure equal opportunity access for all. JS/JB to investigate if path funding could be obtained to allow access for disabled as well as authorised service/maintenance vehicles . 	<p>JS/JB – investigate road situation at Bamblae and report back,</p>

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 12th April 2022 at 7:00 pm
in Falkland Community Hall.**