



Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

Minute of Meeting – 10th October 2023 held at 7pm at Falkland Community Hall (public invited to attend)

Inaugural Meeting of New Council

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

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

Apologies for absence: Gavin Lawson, Cllr Holt

Meeting opened with Cllr McDiarmid in the chair who welcomed all attendees and sought nominations for the position of Community Council Chair. Rod Crawford was proposed by D Young, seconded by J Brown. There were no other nominations. Unanimously agreed, RC accepted the position and then took the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Chair proposed that the Community Council adopt the Fife Council Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils as its constitution together with the model Standing Orders. Approved unanimously.

Appointment of other office bearers:

Vice Chair no nominations – Agreed to defer to November meeting. JB will act in this role in the interim.

Secretary – RC proposed Jim Brown, seconded, by DY. Agreed unanimously. JB accepted the position.

Treasurer – JB proposed David Anderson, RC seconded, Agreed unanimously. DA accepted the position.

Dates of future meetings – agreed to carry on with the second Tuesday of the month, and to have online meetings for December, January, and February.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
3 Declarations of new Interest	None: Recap of complete Declarations of Interests to be given at next meeting	
4 Minute of Previous Meeting	Agreed and approved.	Approved.
5 Matters arising not on the agenda	None	

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6 National Trust Update	RC had circulated update RC will share to community on social media.	Noted
7 Police Update	Report circulated to CC members. 19 calls. 3 recorded crimes. 2 Dishonesty, 1 disorder.	Noted
8 Election timetable / Vacant Positions	FC have made it clear we need to advertise all vacant positions. We have two elected member vacancies for Falkland and two for Newton, we will advertise and post on social media of Falkland and Newton of Falkland.	RC to action.
9 Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Email from Janice Laird, Chair of Freuchie CC, copying a planning application for an upgrade to a cellphone mast on East Lomond. Not certain which CC area this applies to. CC would have no objections; improved coverage could only be a good thing. ii. Mail from company in England promoting mobile phone based 'Town Trails' for tourist information etc. Offering to provide this service. RC will circulate and can be discussed at the next meeting. Feeling is that this would be good idea but could be handled locally. Much info is already in existence. 	
10 Falklands Future Development	Nothing to report.	
11 Planning, Listed Building, Conservation Issues	Whinstone (AirBnB) update. Last meeting agreed to continue to object to short term let for 10 persons. CC asked to be a statutory consultee to the application. JB raised a query on a drawing in the application on 19 th September, received a response on the 20th and submitted the objection. Queried if comment was being treated as Statutory Consultation and was told that it had been received 'too late' and would therefore be treated only as a public comment. As there are only 4 total objections it will not go to the planning committee which would be required for a statutory consultation. There is no valid reason for Fife Council to take this position.	
12 Residents Issues	None.	

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<p>13 Flood Action Group</p>	<p>RC and JB met with John Smith and John Brown. Their main concerns appeared to be insurance for FAG activities and application for external funding support. CC reiterated that CC Insurance does not cover FAG activities although we have all risk cover for the monitoring system hardware. They have accepted that property owners should have their own insurance. The CC will help with funding applications and take on the previous role they had for receiving and making payments on their behalf. It was an amicable meeting.</p>	
<p>14 Community Council Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Scotch Whisky International and playpark – Keith Rennie has requested a meeting with RC and JB for an update, that will hopefully be next week. ii. Community newsletter – Quarterly update, the minutes could be used as a skeleton for what can be included. Clubs and societies can share what they are doing. Reiterate that the meetings are for everyone to attend. iii. Nursery play equipment – JB, the playhouse has been ordered; delivery had been arranged for the 23/10 but the nursery have asked for a delay until the base is sorted. iv. Bank of Scotland closure – nothing further to report. v. Christmas, JB proposed that CC should buy a tree from a commercial supplier to get correct size and quality e.g. Wemyss Estate is a possibility. Lights – NTS have agreed to light the hedge at the Palace and floodlights have been upgraded. JB will procure new lights for tree of cheaper grade and we will compare quality. Cllr McD will speak to FC Tree Officer to assess how the trees on the Brunton Green are doing and make sure no damage has been caused by the lights. vi. Falkland Development Group. (CC, Estate, NTS, SWI and Fife Council– Further meeting set for the 6th November, follow up meeting that Gordon Mole of Fife Council has asked for. (Note these meetings are for exchange of information only) 	<p>DA to contact. All agree.</p>
<p>15 Elected Cllr Issues Cllr McDairmid report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Update on Raw sewage coming down Back Dykes. Scottish water cannot lift the manhole covers without a road closure, so it won't be fixed until later in the month. ii. Reported various potholes in the village, they've been repaired. iii. Falkland to Dunshalt path – FC cleared it all and it has grown over again. It's been reported again. iv. Gulleys on Leslie Road have been reported. Keep on reminding them. v. Emailed Maxine Doyle (Newton Hall Committee), regarding looking for money to do work on the down pipes in the gutters. 	<p>RC notes that WMT have given money to Newton Hall.</p>

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Elected Cllr Issues Cllr McDairmid report (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">vi. Reported gully outside the pharmacy, Scottish Water have been out to fix it.vii. Trees at Meadowfield – no start date on work being done.viii. Discussion with transportation – should have done the build out in September. Will get back to them about when this will be starting.ix. Garages in the carpark – who owns them? Complaints that they are in a poor state of repair. Understood these are individually privately ownedx. Reported fencing on pathway behind the stables. Fencing is on Estate land but was originally put in by FC. <p>RC has forwarded an email to Cllr McD about action required to a Tree on Millgreen.</p>	
A.O.C.B	<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. DY – Replacement of Tourist Indicator maps. RC has tried to find who originally made them. Keith Rennie (SWI) has noted interest in supporting provision of new ones. RC and Cllr McD to discuss options.	

Next Meeting: Tuesday 14th November, 7pm Falkland.