



Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

**Minute of Meeting –12th March 2024
held at 7pm in Falkland Library
(public invited to attend)**

Welcome from Chair,

Present: Rod Crawford, Jim Brown, Roz Esslemont, Stuart Knowles, David Anderson
Minutes – Lauren Ballantine

Councillors: Cllr McDiarmid **Police:** nil **Residents: 2**

Apologies for absence: Gavin Lawson, Jack Reekie, Tara O’Leary, Cllr Lothian, Cllr Holt

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
3 Declarations of new Interest	RC noted that Anthony Garret has retired from the role of Chair of the War Memorial Trust, RC is the new Chair of WMT. David Anderson is also joining the WMT as a trustee.	Noted.
4 Minute of Previous Meeting	Agreed as true record.	Approved.
5 Community Police Report	No Update received this month. RC will enquire and follow up.	
6 Falkland Flood Action Group feedback	An online meeting of FAG will be held on Monday 25/3/24. On 27/3/24 a community resilience drop-in session will be held in Kirkcaldy by Fife Council Resilience department, JB has circulated details to Community Development Trust. On 27/4 at the Falkland Estate Stables, there will be a display of property flood protection items organised by the FAG and Scottish Flood Forum, JB has circulated details to neighbouring Community Councils, and leaflets will be distributed by FAG. Cllr McD, noted that on 13/14 th March, Fife Council will be using cameras to survey Storm water drains between Horsemarket and Cross Wynd as these are believed to be in poor condition.	

Minute of Meeting 12th March 2024

<p>7 Correspondence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Emails regarding setting up a Fife Community Councils association, and Scottish Community Councils Association. JB is keeping watching brief. ii) Scotch Whisky have invited CC members along to the school for a presentation to P6/7 pupils about their proposed development project. Presentation was requested by pupils. RE intending to go – 10am on March 28th. iii) Email request to complete digital survey about Health and Care in the community, JB has forwarded to CC members . iv) Notice that Community Council insurance has been renewed with current provider for a further year. v) Email from Crail Community Council about their Common Good Fund and how FC don't administer it satisfactorily, requesting response on any similar issues from other community councils. Not really an issue for Falkland as Common Good Fund is much less significant vi) Letter informing that the Leslie Hill Road will be closed for resurfacing. vii) Sent email to NTS asking for a meeting, non committal response back. 	
<p>8 Matters arising not on the agenda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Church meeting feedback , meeting held on 16th February called by CoS Presbytery , CC and other community groups attending. CoS ,Howe of Fife 'cluster', met in advance of the meeting and confirmed Falkland Church will definitely be closing but timing uncertain. There could be the option for the Community to buy the building for alternative uses but no commitment has been given from CoS HQ regarding basis of sale or estimated price. Annual upkeep costs discussed and were less than expected. Strong support for keeping as a community use building, possible exhibition space etc. Possibility of 'soft handover' for pilot trials whilst still under the church ownership was raised and will be considered. ii) Custody of common good items in library. Used to be in display in the old Town Hall, NTS did not want to look after archive items when the building was sold. RC has managed to get a list of items with valuations. An agreement was drawn up between NTS, Fife Council and Falkland Community Development Trust which gives FCDT custody of the items. Ownership of the items is vested in Fife Council in trust for the Community, Status of custody agreement and insurance to be confirmed. iii) New CC Website has been approved by 'Digital Fife'. This will be free but website must be set up and maintained by the Community Council. Willie McCool of Digital Fife will provide online training. RC to propose a few dates, training will likely be held in the afternoon. The new website needs serious commitment from CC members but will substantially reduce cost on web hosting, 	

Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

Minute of Meeting 12th March 2024

<p>9 Residents Issues</p>	<p>John Smith (resident) noted Anthony Garret, founding member and Chair of the War Memorial Trust is retiring. He has contributed many years of service to the village, including as a local councillor, Community Council member and CC Chair. Suggestion for the CC to recognise his work. RC endorsed this idea and CC will discuss and review proposals.</p> <p>JS also commented that Falkland Society currently use an office in the library building for photo and paper archives, if rent has to be paid as proposed, they will have to be move. This is a service for the community, should it not be free of charge? JB - This is an issue for the Development Trust. Other organisations and societies, including Community Council, have to pay for use of hall and library Buildings.</p>	
<p>10 Planning, Listed Building, Conservation Issues</p>	<p>No significant applications since last meeting.</p>	
<p>11 Falkland's Future Projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Sustrans Project Update, meeting with Sustrans advisor held this week, JB has submitted a Change Request to modify schedule and hopefully retain the small amount of funding remaining. ii) Charette Report Outcomes/Local Place Plan review, another workshop might be needed as not all points were spoken about – organise through WhatsApp. iii) Falkland Developments Group – no further meeting scheduled for the moment; JB will request a meeting with NTS in April. 	
<p>12 Community Council Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Community Council Action Plan – will be discussed at next business meeting. ii) Back Dykes playpark – issues with access remaining, SWI are still waiting on a response from Fife Council. iii) Nursery playhouse – school are trying to source an replacement acceptable to Fife Council. iv) Community Newsletter, CC will hold off action until details of the newsletter being proposed by the Library group are known and hopefully can feed into this proposal. 	

Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

Minute of Meeting 12th March 2024

<p>13 Elected Cllr. Issues Cllr. McDiarmid's Report Elected Cllr. Issues Cllr. McDiarmid's Report (cont'd)</p>	<p>i) Cross Wynd drainage investigation with CCTV as noted above</p> <p>ii) Pleasance build out – painting on road surface still to be done.</p> <p>iii) Trees at Meadowfield, Tree officer has been out again, now looking at getting an Arborist to give recommendations.</p> <p>iv) Cllr McD happy to be asked to present a Good Citizen Award at the primary school.</p> <p>v) Hall car park, Development Trust have asked for the disabled parking bays to be repainted.</p> <p>vi) Fife Council are buying back no 3 County Place in Newton of Falkland for social letting.</p> <p>vii) FC to finish ditching work along the A912 at High Road.</p> <p>viii)</p>	
<p>14 A.O.C.B</p>	<p>Container in the Car Park is still there. Occupying three parking spaces. Cllr. McD to report.</p> <p>DY - Gardening group are getting updated village map and guide leaflet reprinted and propose to display large scale version on Notice boards at Fayre Earth and Car Park. SWI are supporting printing of new tourist leaflets. New frames required at notice boards . CC will support.</p>	

Next Meeting: Tuesday 9 April, 7pm, Craig Room, Falkland Church

NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE