



Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

**Minute of Meeting – Tuesday 13th August, 2024
held at 7pm, Newton of Falkland Village Hall
(public invited to attend)**

Welcome from Chair: Rod Crawford

Present: Rod Crawford, Jim Brown, Roz Esslemont, Doug Young, David Anderson, Tara O’Leary, Stuart Knowles
Minutes – Tara O’Leary

Councillors: Cllr McDiarmid

Police: nil

Residents: 4

Apologies for absence: Gavin Lawson, Lauren Ballantine, Jack Reekie, Cllr Lothian

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
3 Declarations of new Interest	No new declarations of interest	
4 Minute of Previous Meeting	Minutes of Mtg Tuesday 9 th July approved with date correction for main Falkland Festival event.	Approved.
5 Community Police report	July police report circulated to CC members. There were 18 calls to the police over the past month with 2 recorded crimes, 4 road traffic matters, remainder relating to noise and anti-social behavior.	Noted.
6 Falkland Flood Action Group	FFAG Meeting held on the 9 th July . Confirmed that Company has been appointed by Fife Council for installation of new ‘leaky barrier’ further upstream in the estate. CCTV work is currently underway by Fife Council on drains at Cross Wynd to investigate cracks in pipe work and identify repairs required. Fife Council flood officer is currently identifying ownership of utility pipes under the road bridge at Mill Wynd to see if obstructions to flow in the Burn can be removed. JS reported that there is a leak believed to be foul water coming out of a garden wall on the Pleasance; this is residents responsibility and understood that resident has repair in hand. Next meeting of FFAG is in October.	

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<p>7 Correspondence</p>	<p>Notification of changes to bus services (Stagecoach 36) to Falkland and surrounding areas. Also Fife Council have issued survey request for completion by individuals and groups regarding supported bus services</p>	
<p>8 Matters arising (since the last meeting not otherwise on the agenda)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Bus Consultations (see correspondence above) Actions ; RC to post on residents page on Facebook to encourage people to fill out consultation survey. SK to review consultation from Fife Council and make recommendations for CC response. ii. Instances of vandalism ; Fire setting reported to last meeting has been raised with community police. Mark Lowe, replying on behalf of community police said door to door enquiries and more foot patrols have been carried out in response and extra patrols will continue. Four cars have been keyed in Westport in recent months. This has also been reported. Residents urged to be vigilant as several people have been observed scouting gardens and trying to open doors in different areas of the village. Action: RC to discuss with community police. 	
<p>9 Residents Issues</p>	<p>Resident reported a large rise in unsuitable large vehicles using the Backdykes lane to Back Dykes Terrace /East Loan. It appears that Sat Nav's are directing them along this route. Resident's walls and gates have been damaged.</p> <p>CC discussed the need for a sign to deter drivers. This is an unadopted road so not direct responsibility of Fife Council . Action: Cllr McDiarmid to contact Fife Council roads and transportation department to request appropriate signage e.g. "no vehicles except for access "</p> <p>Resident JS reported that a decision has now been confirmed by the Estate to connect the sewage / waste pipes from the Stables to the main public sewer. This should remove the smell issue in the vicinity. Scottish Water has approved the plans for discharge into the sewer. Fife Environment Trust and Falkland Stewardship Trust will fund the work. No timescale for completion at the moment but CC will be notified in due course.</p>	
<p>10 Planning, Listed Building, and Conservation Issues</p>	<p>No significant planning applications in village since last meeting.</p>	
<p>11 Falklands Future</p>	<p>a) Sustrans Project update – SK reported that 'Places for Everyone' funding is being phased out. Remainder of Stage 2 survey work and an arboricultural survey may still be funded awaiting Sustrans confirmation. If the scheme proceeds, Stage 3 funding will be routed through Fife Council however this will not be taken forward by Falkland CC until there is a better understanding of the traffic flows likely to be generated by new developments at factory site and elsewhere.</p>	

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	<p>b) Call for revised Local Development Plan Input ; JB reported that advance notice has been received of a call for input into the next Fife Plan. Evidence gathering stage is happening at the moment. Communities will be given a 12 week schedule to prepare and submit input.</p> <p>It was agreed that Falkland CC would input into this process and the way forward will be discussed at special CC workshop in the coming weeks.</p>	
<p>12 Other Community Council Issues</p>	<p>i) Backdykes Playpark redevelopment. No progress from last meeting. Development still halted due to lack of agreement on project between Housing Dept and Parks and Recreation Dept over access. Action: Roz E to email for further updates from Willie Rennie MSP and others involved</p> <p>ii) Nursery playhouse at Primary School, school are investigating possibility of fire-retardant application after delivery. No progress on this until schools return later in August.</p> <p>iii) Active White Boards for school, War Memorial Trust has made a significant donation towards new interactive white-boards for all classes in the school. The parents council has also raised £3000 towards this but further funding of around £3000 is required to cover remaining classes, CC might consider donating money towards the new white boards instead if nursery playhouse proposal not viable.</p> <p>iv) Power supply distribution boxes for Christmas Lights on Brunton Green. JB undertook inspection with local electrician to get a quote for work to install waterproof and lockable electrical supply boxes.</p> <p>v) Community Newsletter, no progress to report.</p> <p>vi) Fife Community Councils Association. Still maintaining watching brief but no decision on FNFCC participation,.</p> <p>vii) Website; No progress on new website from Digital Fife. DY deleted the surplus files on current website which will bring down monthly charges. JB to arrange cancellation of excess charges.</p> <p>viii) Village interpretation / notice boards DY obtained a quote for new notice boards to replace those in car park and by Fayre Earth. These were felt to be expensive, alternative quotes to be obtained.</p> <p>ix) Event with Polish Community on 25th August; Everyone is encouraged to attend events organised by the Polish Consulate to commemorate the 80th anniversary of Operation Market Garden. This World War 2 Operation, at Arnhem in September 1944, involved a Polish parachute Brigade, stationed at Falkland, Commemorations will involve staff from the Polish Consulate, scouts and polish community members in a series of events including: 9am: Service in chapel 10am: Tea/coffee 11am: Wreath laying at War Memorial (afternoon) Memorial Run in Falkland Estate (7K run for adults; 1.5K youth event)</p>	<p>RE</p> <p>DY</p>

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<p>14 Elected Members Issues</p>	<p>Cllr Macdairmids reports:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Two of the Walker Trust Houses are currently being reroofed and remaining two will be reroofed next spring.○ The wall in corner of the main car park is not owned by Fife Council but will be repaired by them to make location safe.○ Memorial bench to Mike Watson funded by his family is in place on High Street○ Car park toilets have been repaired and are open but a recurring issue with locks has been identified which may need further work in future.○ Overhanging hedges at West Port footpath leading to estate have been cut back by Fife Council at Cllr McDiarmid's request.○ Cllr McDiarmid noted that funding cuts are likely to impact grass cutting in cemetery and that maintenance may require volunteer input from village in future.○ Replacement trees on East Loan green space will be planted by Gardening group.	
<p>A.O.C.B</p>	<p>NTR</p>	

Next Meeting: Tuesday 10th September – Falkland Community Hall