



Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

**Minute of Meeting – Monday 13th May 2024
held at 7pm in The Craig Room, Falkland Church
(public invited to attend)**

Welcome from Chair,

Present: Rod Crawford, Jim Brown, Roz Esslemont, Tara O’Leary, Doug Young, Jack Reekie
Minutes – Lauren Ballantine

Councillors: Cllr McDiarmid (arrived late) **Police:** nil **Residents:** 2

Apologies for absence: Cllr Lothian, Stuart Knowles, Cllr Holt (post mtg due to urgent work matter)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
3 Declarations of new Interest	None	
4 Minute of Previous Meeting	Agreed as true record.	Approved.
5 Police update	Police Report circulated to CC members. Police Report from April 25 calls, 3 recorded crimes.	Noted.
6 Falkland Flood Action Group Feedback	Update – Exhibition for home flood protection held at the Stables in conjunction the Scottish Flood forum. Successful event, attended by residents from surrounding area including Strathmiglo, Dunshalt, Freuchie, Cardenden, useful tips for residents liable to flooding. News of a new grant in Fife for Property Level Protection, £500 available for properties which have been affected by flooding. Next meeting will be on 9/7/24 online.	
7 Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Whinstone application will be looked at again. ii) Email regarding an action group following cuts to Elmwood college. iii) Notice of planning appeals training, will look at environmental appeals which could be interesting. CC’s invited to online training. 	

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<p>8 Matters arising (since the last meeting not otherwise on the agenda)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Jim Brown has given notice of intent to stand down from the Community Council after the June meeting due to personal reasons. ii. Additional meeting re Church future on 12/4/24 feedback. A successful meeting, split into three groups and looked at amongst other things the Heritage of Falkland, and what could be done with the church. No conclusion to the end of the meeting. Next meeting will be held on Thursday 23rd May and hopefully the feedback will be pulled together. iii. Public Engagement for proposed Community ownership of estate feedback. Church event – laid out diagrams of what the Estate is and all the different parts of it. Evening event looked at steps to Community Ownership. First step is roughly what the Stewardship Trust have just now, second step would add some forestry, the last step would then include farming and housing leases. The lack of movement from the first meeting in February at The Palace was noted. iv. Whinstone House short term let licence, notice to say that it was likely to be reconsidered at the next Regulation and licencing committee meeting on the 11th June. Process for public objections is being rerun as initial notices defective. JB will put together a supplementary complaint. 	
<p>9 Residents Issues</p>	<p>Resident brought forward complaint on behalf of shop owners that the card reader on the public toilet doesn't work, and they are being inundated with people asking for change. Resident also brought to attention two very big potholes in the village. Cllr McD will report.</p>	
<p>10 Planning, Listed Building, Conservation Issues (excluding major developments)</p>	<p>No significant applications since last meeting.</p>	
<p>11 Falklands Future</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Sustrans Project update – waiting for feedback from Sustrans contact re carry over of funding she is currently on holiday. ii) Local Place Plan discussion, most of other local communities have produced a LPP, at the time Falkland decided not to take one forward as there was consultations with the National Trust and Scotch Whisky. RC suggests forming smaller groups to take forward ideas. Starting with one for the playpark. iii) SWI Development update was shared on their social media pages 	
<p>12 Other Community Council Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Community Council Action Plan will link to the LPP. CC members are keen to take this forward and will use documents from a previous meeting with PAS and hopefully inspiration from other local communities, notably Auchtermuchty and Lower Largo. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) Nursery playhouse, struggling to source a fire-retardant option. CC might look at donating money towards new smart boards for the school instead. iii) Proposed Community newsletter will benefit from a small group to take it forward. JR will make a 'mock-up' for the next meeting. iv) Custody of Common Good items, RC has written to Antonia Laurence Allen of The National Trust asking for clarification about the transfer document which was to signed, she replied to say that to her knowledge it had been signed at the time. v) New CC website from Digital Fife. RC, JB, DY and TO'L joined the online training. Self-explanatory, not too technical. DY will start with the first mock up page and then show others. 	
14 Elected Members Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Trees on South Field – owner has said that he will take the work forward after the birds have finished nesting. ii) Commemoration of Falkland based Polish Paratroop involvement in Operation Market Garden (Arnhem), 80th anniversary celebrations will be between 23 – 25th August and the community want to be involved. iii) Old Back Dykes potholes, residents are happy to pay for the repair if FC will not. iv) Mike Watson memorial bench, family want to add a QR code of him singing. CC have no objections. v) Walker Trust are re-roofing two properties so might cause congestion. vi) Bridges are badly damaged near West Loan (Balmblae) play park, will ask community pay back team to repair. 	
A.O.C.B	DY reported that the Gardening Group volunteers are refurbishing the heather bed across from the primary school, The group have paid for a base to be provided and will install a seating bench.	

Next Meeting: Tuesday 11th June – Venue T.B.C