



Fortrose and Rosemarkie Community Council

Minutes

Meeting: Wednesday 8th February 2017. Gordon Memorial Hall, Rosemarkie

CC members present: Sarah Atkin (SA), Anne Phillips (AP), Iain A Brown (IACB), Tom Heath (TH), Archie MacLeod (AM), Lucy Tonkin (LT), Gareth Phillips (GP).

Highland Councillors: Craig Fraser (CF) (Highland Council = HC)

Apologies: Emma Dalseme (ED), Douglas Stuart, Cllr Jennifer Barclay (JB), PC John Murphy (Police Scotland)

1.0 Welcome and apologies

2.0 Minutes of last meeting.

Proposed IACB. Seconded TH.

3.0 Matters arising (if not elsewhere in the agenda)

3.1 Grit bins: JB not present at meeting. CF to liaise with JB. **Action: CF**

3.2 Fisherman's Path: SA contacted Broomhill Riding School. TH to also speak to another local horse owner. **Action: TH**

3.3 Road Visibility for cyclists on Avoch – Fortrose main road. FB post needed. **Action: TH**
Signage to direct cyclists to Railway Path. TH in contact with HC. **Action: TH**
Road visibility for pupils at bus stops. Ongoing. JB taking forward **Action: JB**

3.4 Speeding on Fortrose to Rosemarkie straight: SA contacted police.
Ness Road turning safety: C/F DS. **Action: DS**

3.5 Academy Street lights. Fixed.

3.6 FB piece on Russian geese on Rosemarkie beach. Done.

3.7 Bench – Rodger Court: SA not heard back from Academy pupils. Forwarded link to JB for benches to purchase. JB not present. SA will follow up with her. **Action: SA/JB**

4.0 Correspondence

- Letter from resident re: extension of license at Tavern & query on Black Isle Education Centre consultation. SA replied.
- Letter from resident re: our position on any new care home application in Fortrose. Also, flooding in the Co-Op car park (see planning). His suggestion was that the village needs both a care home and a larger site for a new Co-Op (possibly at the same location.) SA to reply. FRCC position on any new care home application re-confirmed. New applications are treated 'as new'. **Action: SA**
- Resident wrote with an idea of turning the Phone Box into a book borrowing facility. Suggested he take this on as a personal project. Coming back in March with a plan.
- Black Isle Landscape Partnership: asking CC's for opinions. Postpone response to March 2016.

- Resident contacted with congratulations on Dog Poo Bag initiative. Querying lack of waste bins in Rosemarkie and how quickly the bins fill up. SA replied that we're conducting an audit on bins for dog waste. **Action: SA.**
- Letter from Kate Forbes MSP directing constituents to Scottish Government's consultation document 'Scotland's Place In Europe'. Should the CC publicise this? Discussion followed. Majority voted against publicising. A Community Council should remain politically non-aligned.
- Black Isle Education Centre Closure Consultation (Final Report): in short the proposal is to change its status from school to outreach services; close the centre at Raddery and re-locate to the former Children 1st facility at Killen. FRCC will respond. **Action: SA**
- Letter in praise of the Senior Citizens Lunch.
- Verity Walker: seeking Community Council support for her 'Walking Trail around early Fortrose' project and the children's book that will accompany it. SA to liaise with Verity re: dates for a power point presentation. **Action: SA**

4.2 Points from the public

- David Macintyre (resident) attended and is keen to be part of a volunteer group for Fortrose (rather than lead at this stage.) Suggested fixed locations to co-ordinate tidy-ups around the village.

Response: AP suggested using the Beach Clean to generate interest. AP will also contact Guides, Brownies and Sea Scouts. SA also suggested contact the Rosemarkie group to see how they managed to get a group going.

SA noted that Fortrose Academy are engaging with HC on a schools litter initiative. This could 'dove tail'. SA to inform CC about this. **Action: SA**

4.3 Secretaries Report (not required. Issues raised at other points in the meeting.)

5.0 Treasurer's Report (no income or expenditure transactions since previous meeting in January)

6.0 Police Report (reproduced as presented to us)

Ward and Local Policing

Plan Priorities. Activities conducted over the reporting period to support those priorities.

1. Road Safety
2. Antisocial Behaviour
3. Alcohol/Drug Abuse

The following are the crimes, offences and antisocial behaviour and other incidents of note dealt with between 10/01/2017 and 08/02/2017:

- 2 x Road Traffic Collision
- 3 x Speeding Canonbury Terrace
- 1 x Careless Driving Rosemarkie
- 1 x Domestic incident.
- 1 x Noise call to Union Tavern
- 1 x Disorder Fortrose
- 2 x Parking issues Cathedral Square

Speed checks will continue in the area when duties allow including the 40 zone between Fortrose/Rosemarkie.

Foot patrols have been carried out in Rosemarkie and Fortrose.

During the past month Dingwall Police have received 579 calls with 37 being in this area.

7.0 Planning

- 7.1 TH has written to Erica MacArthur regarding clarification on consultees for major applications.
- 7.2 Tree Felling: issue across the Black Isle. Discussion followed. TH asked whether we need more TPOs (Tree Protection Orders). Action: none agreed at this stage.

7.3 Greenside Farm

Expected to be determined at the HC Planning Committee on Tuesday February 21st 2017.

- TH submitted FRCC objections to Kate Forbes MSP (upon request)
- Further response from Jane Bridge. Transport Scotland (TS) has removed problems raised and their decision has been made on a previous report found to be inaccurate by FRCC. TS ignores speeding and dangers to the public, especially school pupils. TH contacted by resident as report ignores local knowledge of problems that was submitted.
- General discussion saying that development without improved infrastructure is counter productive.

Action: TH to write again to Erica MacArthur to express disappointment that local responses have been ignored. **Action: TH**

- 7.3 Care Home: TH composed letter to send to 7 leading care home providers to encourage them to think of the Black Isle as a location, listing the sites recommended by HC as suitable. Agreement that this initiative should be publicised. *(Please note: this was prior to Parklands subsequent publicity re: their re-application.)* **Action: TH**

8.0 Licensing: nothing new to report (See correspondence for a resident's concerns over a historic license application.)

9.0 Update from Ward 10 Councillor (Craig Fraser)

9.1 Ship-to-Ship Oil Transfer at Sea

- The current application has been withdrawn. Campaigners do expect the CFPA to re-submit at some stage.
- Petitions against: 38 degrees petition has 94,726 signatures (as of 18.2.17). Scottish Government: 1,932. Note: if a petition reaches 100,000 signatures it will be considered for debate in the UK parliament.
- 27 Community Councils around the Moray Firth opposed the withdrawn application. Majority of Black Isle Councils opposed.
- Any subsequent application will be debated and determined by full Highland Council.
- Suggestion of joint submission by Black Isle Community Councils opposed by FRCC as a) they are not a constituted body speaking with a single voice and b) the number of opposing submissions matters.
- Cllr Fraser asks that awareness is maintained and that local Councillors are contacted directly by the public in the event of a re-submission.

9.2 Fortrose Academy – state of the building

CF had facilitated a meeting with Kate Forbes staffer to meet Fortrose Academy management to discuss the poor repair of the building. Kate Forbes MSP is due to attend a Parent Council meeting in March.

10.0 Communication

10.1 Notice Boards: AP noted space available on Amenities board for minutes in A5 format. Issue of size raised as A5 was complained about in Fortrose. Majority agreed to implement.

Action: AP

Lack of 2nd key to access Amenities Board in Rosemarkie also raised as an issue.

Organise Rosemarkie Notice board or facility to display info. **Action: SA**

Replacement notice board at Fortrose – ongoing. **Action: IACB**

10.2 Minute Secretary: notice for a senior aged volunteer with an honorarium going up at Fortrose Academy. **Action: SA**

11.0 Community Issues

11.1 **Senior Citizens' Lunch:** thanks to AP from the CC for her fantastic effort. Over 90 senior citizens enjoyed a superb event. Thanks also to Wanda Mackay & Fortrose Academy pupils + the Amenities volunteers. Certificates for school helpers to be signed by SA. AP to produce report on this year – the good, the not so good - ahead of 2018. **Action: SA/AP**

11.2 Common Good Assets

Thanks to IACB and DS for their research. A summary was circulated for the purposes of discussion. There remains a number of points for clarification for a full picture of what is – and isn't – common good land. Discussion of this and whether or not assets can be managed and/or leased to a community company or community group followed. AP again reiterated that efforts to set up a community company were ongoing. Another point raised referenced the need for a variety of 'models' of voluntary/community input dependent upon the asset or activity.

Priorities to focus upon for the next year were agreed. These are:

- That the Town Hall is run as a community facility in the same way as others across the Black Isle. Action: To see whether it currently operates at capacity. **Action: SA**
- That the picnic area at the bottom on Academy Street (opposite Lumsden Gardens) is repaired and 'refurbished' ahead of this summer.
- Castle Street corner: issue raised that this piece of land was once a public space. Clarification needed from Trustees. No action until this is secured.

N.B. FRCC is also working with Common Good Trustees on improving coastal protection (Rosemarkie Caravan Park) and leading the Chanonry Point Stakeholder efforts for Traffic Management. FRCC Associate on these two issues is Bill Taylor. (See 12.0)

11.3 Community Engagement Day: two events. Rosemarkie – Saturday 25th February 10 – 12 noon at the Plough Inn. Fortrose: Sunday 26th February 2 – 4pm, Seaforth Lodge. Posters to go up at the week-end. VT leading. **Action: VT**

11.4 Dog Poo bag campaign: Tavern has agreed to take the bags. LT to provide them with bags, a poster and a sticker for the bin. Poster competition running at Avoch PS. LT to liaise. Dog bin audit / map for Fortrose and Rosemarkie: ongoing. **Action: LT**

11.5 Xmas Lights 2017: C/F to March 2017 meeting.

11.6 Ship-to-Ship Oil Transfer at Sea (see Ward Councillors update)

12.0 Chanonry Point (CP) and Coastal Protection

CP Stakeholder meeting with Iain Moncrieff, Chaired by Cllr Alston to be held on Friday 17th February 2017, Fortrose Library Open Learning Room. A plan to better manage CP traffic for the 2017 season will emerge from that. SA to inform FRCC of outcome at March meeting. Medium and longer term plans may require public input. **Action: SA**

13.0 AOCB

- 13.1 Black Isle Swimming Pool Fund: the issue of this fund has been raised by a number of residents. If there is to be no swimming pool, what happens to it? To be discussed in March.
- 13.2 Permanent Parking in Rosemarkie High Street: noticed by CC member. It's now frequently difficult to find a parking space to pop into the SPAR.

Date of next meeting Wednesday March 8th 2017. Fortrose Leisure Centre 7pm.

Closed session from 6.30 – 7pm. The monthly public surgery will run on Tuesday 7th March at 2pm, Fortrose Leisure Centre foyer.