

CHAIR REPORT MAY 2023

Hello everyone

It has been another busy year for FCC. I would like to thank all the FCC representatives for their efforts and continuing support of the work which the community council carries out. We are fortunate to have a full cohort of councillors representing all the FCC area.

We are now holding our meetings face to face and it is good to be able to see and hear people in the same room. Thanks to Ferintosh and Mulbuie Hall committees who continue to allow us to meet in their halls. Well done to Ferintosh Hall for obtaining major funding for their roof works and the improvements made to the hall.

This year the projects which we were focusing on were reduced as the requests for us to take on extra workload had increased greatly over the last year. We have continued to work on those projects which was felt would benefit all our residents, and this is a brief update.

Ferintosh Community Bus – the “wee bus” has gone from strength to strength and continues to provide regular transportation for residents both during the day and in the evening. We have also started to involve our school residents. We are now able to provide some extra journeys within our area. None of this would be possible, of course, without our wonderful team of volunteer drivers. A huge thanks to Bruce, Alison and Becky for the time and effort put into expanding this service for our residents, and their ongoing efforts to ensure that the service continues to improve. Thanks also to all the leaflet distributors who have done an amazing job delivering the leaflets which explains all about the service and has all the contact information required to book the service.

Stagecoach bus services – there were discussions with representatives from Stagecoach on behalf of Culbokie residents regarding removal of one of the scheduled services to Inverness. Thanks to Bruce and Alison for their efforts in discussions and meetings to bring this to a positive conclusion and a morning service has now been reinstated.

Black Isle Area Committee – we would like to thank all the Councillors for their support. We are fortunate to have another year when Councillor Johnston will be joining our monthly meetings. Having a Councillor at each meeting enables us to share information from the area, but also gives us the opportunity to ask questions and get advice and support from our committee members.

We have also been joining with the other Community Councils from the Black Isle area to discuss and share ideas to improve and expand services in the Black Isle.

Our volunteer group continues to work within the community doing some fabulous work. Thanks to them for continuing to provide residents with help and support.

Pothole hunters – this group continues to report on the condition of the roads within our area. A big thank you to them for continuing to provide this very important information which is being shared with THC which has enabled them to repair the most critical areas. We shall continue with this project and communications with THC.

There have been many consultations over the year, and we have shared these with our residents via our email distribution list. We will continue to share these as we are able with all our residents as it is important that everyone gets a say in what happens in the area. If you would like to be included in our email list for sharing information and updates, and a copy of our monthly minutes Bruce will be happy to hear from you.

We have had several discussions around the Noticeboard and the most suitable alternative to provide a copy of this which is available to all our residents. Becky continues to work on this and produce the copies. A leaflet will be issued to all residents with further information of the options which will be in place.

We have expanded the use of our website and our facebook page. Check this for updates and information. Thanks to Becky for helping with this.

Our next meeting will be our AGM on Wednesday 10th May at 7.15pm in Culbokie Primary School. This will be followed by our usual monthly meeting.

Best wishes to you all.

Karen Harcus

Chair
Ferintosh Community Council.

