

Royal burgh of Forfar Community Council Notes of meeting Thursday 18th Nov. 2021 at The Stag Forfar.

Present: Community Councillors: - Graeme Clark (GC), Linda Clark (LC), Kathryn Patullo (KP), Jim McMillan (JM), Eleanor Feltham (EF) and Robin Wardhaugh (RW).

Minute Secretary: - None (Chair LC taking notes as secretary not present due to working nightshift. It was agreed that these truncated notes would be accepted and considered for accuracy in the usual way).

Angus Councillors: - Cllr Lynne Devine (Cllr. Devine to send her report to the secretary for inclusion in papers at next meeting).

1. Welcome & Apologies: Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies from J. Gray-Cheape, Brian Batson and Tom O'Brien (Secretary).

2. Minutes from previous Meeting: All ok proposed by BB seconded by JM. Secretary advised that these minutes had been overseen by Ian Cochrane senior Officer at Angus Council who had been in attendance at the meeting and some agreed changes had been made.

3. Matters arising: Jim McMillan explained issues at the entrance and exit to the Guild site at Turfbeg Rod coming through to the Kirrie Rd. **Action: Member to write to Planning Officer Alan Hunter to ask about site application constraints and compliance issues.**

4. Chairs Report: The chair (LC) advised group that Secretary had requested a decision be made as to giving £150 to each of the following charitable organisations: S Supermarket in the town, The Angus Toy Appeal and the Forfar Foodbank. These donations would come from historic monies in the FCC account and not the current grant-funding from the council. Decisions were granted by those members in attendance. **There had been a further action taken to meet with two of these organisations on Friday 3rd Dec. when Sec. and Chair would hand over donations to the two of the recipients in the town. However, the third organisation operates out of Arbroath, therefore the Secretary would visit them on route to his workplace on 3rd Dec. NB RW asked that a consideration be made that if there were any such funds next year, that a donation be given to the town's Christmas lights funds in 2022. This was agreed.**

5. Secretary's Correspondence/Report: Tom O'Brien had reminded everyone (via the chair) of the various consultations etc. Tom also update on the Lochside Scottish Water issue where there is a collection of used and broken fencing and indeed a very expensive piece of equipment which appears to have been abandoned??

6. Treasurer Report: No report, new treasurer to start shortly.

7. Police and Fire Service report: No report, Police informed that we are now doing face to face meetings.

8. Local Councillor updates: As stated earlier Cllr. Devine to send in her report. Agreed by all in light of the chair taking notes and chairing the meeting. See appendix A.

9. AOCB: EF advised the group should meet by Zoom to discuss the new boundary changes. Action meeting to be arranged asap.

10. Subgroup updates: No subgroups currently

11. Planning Applications: None at present. Usual ones which are sent out to members and which they advise planning member EF of their comments.

12. Date and time of next meeting: Next meeting Thurs 20th January 2022 at 7pm via Zoom

Appendix A.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2021 – Cllr Lynne Devine

As an ANGUS alive Board member, I attended our first face-to-face development day in the Webster's theatre where we discussed quite a few of the potential service improvements, particularly the partnership working with VAA and the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership (AHSCP) in terms of social prescribing. ANGUS alive was awarded a substantial sum at full Council out of the Covid recovery money from the Scottish Government, particularly for cardio recovery and respiratory diseases classes.

At the full Council meeting I had invited a senior respiratory nurse to address us as we had two agenda items on climate change. We are hopeful that a member of the AHSCP (Angus Health & Social Care Partnership) will be able to join our new SECAP (Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures) Steering Group which will drive forward the action plans for Angus. When a new member of staff is recruited with the remit of co-ordinating activities, including citizens' forums, I hope people will get involved.

Tom O'Brien of the Community Council along with a member of the Newtyle CC spoke about the difficulties they have encountered with the latest Participatory Budgeting exercise. We can only hope that their criticisms will be taken on board.

Christmas at the Cross organised by FAN is on 27th November from 12 to 4pm with stalls, music, entertainment and Santa (from the Rotary) all day.

There is increased concern about anti-social behaviour with a lot of neighbour problems and also speeding and traffic noise. I have asked an officer to investigate the possibility of banning HGVs from the town centre, as cities are taking positive action to improve their centres – decreased air pollution and more pleasant for active travel.

The Council officers and schools are doing a lot of work to help our most vulnerable children and families, but are really up against it, with the £20 decrease in Universal Credit, huge fuel and inflation increases as well as the pension triple lock being suspended. So, from the youngest to the oldest, everyone is very likely to suffer this winter.