

Royal Burgh of Forfar Community Council
Minutes of meeting on Thurs 19th May 2022 at 7 pm at The Stag Forfar

Present:

Community Councillors: - T. O'Brien (Tob), Linda Clark (LC), Graeme Clark (GC), Jim McMilian (JM) Eleanor Feltham (EF), Kathryn Patullo and Dave Gardner (DG).

Minute Secretary: - None

Angus Councillors: - Cllr Lynne Devine and Cllr Linda Clark

Others; - Marley Hunter and from Coaching in the community J. Foote, K. Moore, Z. Harvey, D. Balfour and M. Yates.

1. Welcome and Apologies – Brian Batson (BB) Robin Wardhaugh (RW), James Gray-Cheape (JGC), Cllr Greig and Cllr McLaren.

2. Minutes from previous Meeting: Proposed by KP and seconded by EF

3. Matters Arising from previous Meeting: EF has contacted the farmers market again to ask for a stall.

4. Chairperson's Report: The advised that she would be stepping down from community council having been elected as a local councillor for Forfar ward. Chair said it had been a pleasure to serve as both a community councillor and chair of Forfar community council and would like to thank colleagues for their time and effort while chair. She stressed that the role of a community council was important and hoped more people would join in the upcoming elections. She also said it was interesting with various things to get involved in. Everyone gave a vote of thanks to the chair and wished her well in her new role. Election of a new chair will take place at the next meeting in June.

5. Coaching in the community presentation: Coaching in the community was liaised with the pitstop in Forfar. However due to COVID-19 and other problems the pitstop had to close and all activities cancelled. The use of the building was lost in Academy St. Coaching in the community came about from a group of staff and parents willing to take on the role of the old pit stop. The kids are involved in running the group and organising activities, the group feel this is important. To help in starting up, an open day with activities took place at Reid park which included various trips to take part in activities at Belmont. There was also cooking taking place outside. There will be an opening event held at Reid park on the 3rd of June 12 to 3:00 PM. for the group launch. The group wants Forfar to be a safe location for all children to take part in activities and trips. Funding was donated from local businesses for the event. The group hopes to cater for most age groups between 8 to 16 years of age. The group will be applying for funding now that the group has got started hoping to get funding from Angus Council that pit stop used to get now looking to get further funding going forward. councillor Devine said the group might be able to get help from social enterprise at Angus Council. The group is looking at trying to get the pavilion in Reid park reopened. The group has a good partnership with Belmont, they are trying to get the kids to know each other and to deal with each other and children with ADHD to integrate with others so they are all one group. GC commented glad to see that they are using outdoor activities and maybe they could look at the Duke of Edinburgh award. The group are looking at making photo books with pictures taken by the kids and also scrapbooks. Might be an idea for the group to contact Tony Walker about the Skiff project as this might be something the group could be interested in. GC said great that kids are being involved in the running of the group

6. Secretary Correspondence/Report: No new correspondence.

7. Treasurer's Report: Audit of accounts now taking place. *It was agreed by all community councillors that the secretary Thomas O'Brien would have the authority to act as the sole signatory on the bank account due to issues with previous signatories being unavailable. There had also been issues getting new signatories on the account so to alleviate this Thomas O'Brien can act as sole signatory for the community council until new signatories are in place.*

8. Police & Fire Service Report: None

9. Local Councillor Update: Cllr LD- New caravan signs up giving direction to entrance, hopefully this will help with people going the wrong way. It has now gone through the courts to demolish the old leisure centre, tender notices have gone out for prices. A new council administration has been formed and full meetings will take place at Angus house. Smaller meetings will be held at town and county hall.

10. AOCB: LC said there is still a need to look for an area for the Polish toilet, it was mentioned that the garage at the rear of the VAA could possibly be used if the provosts car is no longer there. EF said there is an issue with gp's not being able to take new patients and how would this affect new housing developments. EF said comments can be made on the planning application however the comments must meet the criteria. GC said Can education and the NH S cope with big new developments, the public should be allowed to put their concerns forward the issue where surgery was closed at Friockheim shows what problems can arise. Discussion followed about health service provision and big developments being built. LC Elsie said children should have a say in what happens on developments for example about play parks etc. need events where public can consult on local plans and local policies. The local plan will change once new NP4 comes in. Public consultation events are still only allowed online; this is not helpful in engaging with planners or developers.

EF mentioned there was no sign to show where the new toilets at Forfar loch are .EF The Laird aggregates liaison group was about to start having meetings again with the public and the company. EF and RW will still be the community council reps on this group. KP asked if Lairds might be able to help with granite dust to fix the paths at Forfar loch. KP raised concerns about bins on the pavement at the osnaburg bar. The bars are leaving the bins outside this causes issues with the path being blocked and problems for disabled access.

10. Subgroup updates:

i. Forfar Loch. GC mentioned the need for a "friends of Forfar loch" group, it can be set up to help do up the lock paths and other facilities to encourage more people to come and use the lock. There are still problems with trees and disabled access around the loch; the paths are not good enough. EF said a new or upgraded path is going in at the Ranger centre, GC said there is an issue with the roadway from the West End to the old leisure centre. We need to do the paths as soon as possible. EF said a police presence had been increased but at the wrong times the police should be there when the kids come out of school. GC said we need to start up a steering group and speak to other groups and Angus Alive et cetera. We need to speak to the Ranger and speak to community learning and development to help get organised. We also need to see what the future is for the crazy golf and pitch putt. EF asked what's happening with the tennis courts. Is this still happening and is the CAT still in force? TOB said the CAT may run out at the end of May. There might be a need for more car parking spaces however we should be encouraging people to walk or cycle

ii. Quarry sub-group: This group is about to start back up, RW and EF still reps for community council.

12. Planning Applications: See appendix A for request from EF re planning moving forward. Also

EF said there are still issues with SEPA and roads in relation to the Westfield development.

13. Date and time of next meeting: The next meeting will be on Thurs 16th June 2022 at The Stag Forfar at 7 pm (19.00) unless advised otherwise.

Appendix A.

EF NOTE FOR MEETING 19TH May 2022 at stag Hotel Forfar

The Scottish Government Planning Advice Note No.47 guidance for Community Council advice to limit their attention to proposals which raise issues of genuine community interest.

Householder applications will rarely involve issues of this kind.
I therefore request members approval to distribute only major and community interest applications as per the guidance. e.g. Housing developments, renewable energy or infrastructure projects,
Approval of my request will enable me to target resources more effectively.
Members and Public still have access to all Planning applications via Angus Council Planning Portal and local press advertisements.

This was agreed by the community council.

COVID — Planning -public consultation events

These are still restricted until a review around September 2022.

LOCHSIDE TOILETS

I would like to propose signage be placed at the north car park directing to Ranger's station/toilets.

This was agreed by the community council.