

Royal Burgh of Forfar Community Council Inaugural meeting
Minutes of meeting on Mon 23rd Jan 2023 at 7 pm at Forfar community campus.

Present:

Community Councillors: - T. O'Brien (Tob), Graeme Clark (GC), Marley Laurie(ML) Eleanor Feltham (EF) Ian Dickson (ID), Angela Gillies (AG), Jacqui Garvin (JG), and Dave Gardner (DG).

Minute Secretary: - None

Angus Councillors: -

Others; - Gordon Grewar (GG) Angus council communities officer (Interim Chairperson)

1. Welcome and Apologies – The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies from James Gray-Cheape (JGC), Kathryn Patullo (KP) and Robin Wardhaugh (RW).

2. Chairperson's Report: Interim chairperson Gordon Grewar welcomed everyone to the meeting of the new Royal Burgh of Forfar community council and accepted the apologies given. GG thanked all those who had put themselves forward as community councillors and said it was a good to see, as community council was a worthwhile and needed organisation. GG said that the council were there to provide help, training and guidance when needed. GG gave out information on the role of the community councils and councillors and a copy of the constitution to be signed. GG said that all members should be treated with respect and goodwill. GG then asked for nominations for the office bearers.

3. Election of office bearers: GG conducted the election of office bearers the results are as follows.

Chairperson – No nominations, it was agreed that an option to have a rotating chair from the members was the best option until such time someone was happy to take on the role full time.

Secretary – T. O'Brien Nominated by Marley Laurie seconded by Jacqui Garvin

Treasurer – TBC

Planning officer – Eleanor Feltham Nominated by Tom O'Brien seconded by Ian Dickson.

GG handed the meeting over to Graeme Clark who agreed to chair this meeting. GC thanked GG and said it was good to see a community council in Forfar once again. GC said that community council was an important role in local government as it was the main link between the public and the local officers and elected councillors of the council. Community council should provide a vital link to give the opinions of the public to the council and it was important that community council achieved this. GC said he looked forward to the future working with fellow community councillors on any projects or issues that may arise.

4. Minutes from previous Meeting: None

5. Matters Arising from previous Meeting: None

6. Secretary Correspondence/Report: None

7. Treasurer's Report: None

8. Police & Fire Service Report: None

9. Local Councillor Update: None

10. AOCB: Introductions were made round the table from each community councillor. A discussion took place on what the community council should do moving forward. ML suggested that the council pick up to 5 items to work on in the coming year. This was agreed to be put on the agenda for the next meeting. TOB mentioned the proposal of the friends of the loch and the running of the toilets at the loch during the winter

months. JG said that the council should provide this service and a discussion followed on how the council budget system works. It was agreed that the meeting in future would be held at the community campus if a room was available.

11. Subgroup updates: None

12. Planning Applications: The Mark Guild application was mentioned and CC will need to make a comment on this going forward. The same is for the development at Westfield by Scotia and Muir homes. EF talked about the new National planning 4 and the role that communities should have going forward. The use of more brownfield sites was suggested and maybe using disused building/shops to turn into housing especially for families.

13. Date and time of next meeting: The next meeting will be on Thurs 17th Feb 2023 at 7 pm (19.00) unless advised otherwise. Venue to be finalised.