

Royal Burgh of Forfar Community Council
Minutes of meeting on Thurs 16th Nov 2023 at 7 pm at the meeting room The Cross Forfar.

Present:

Community Councillors: - T. O'Brien (Tob), Graeme Clark (GC), Eleanor Feltham (EF), Dave Gardner (DG).

Minute Secretary: - None

Angus Councillors: - Cllr Lynne Devine (Cllr LD) and Cllr Ian McLaren (Cllr IM)

Others; - Sgt Vicki Crichton (VC) Police Scotland and members of the public Jane Cooper and Rena Norman.

1. Welcome and Apologies – TOB welcomed all to the meeting and thanked all for attending. Apologies from Ian Dickson, Robin Wardhaugh, Kathryn Pattullo, James Gray-Cheape, Jacqui Garvin, Marley Hunter, and Angela Gillies.

2. Minutes from previous Meeting: Agreed and proposed by EF and seconded by DG.

3. Matters Arising from previous Meeting: GC mentioned the ongoing issues at Fiskens and Aldi due to flooding. Cllr Devine said that Fiskens had a lot of issues with water damage to their property and that Scottish water and SEPA were looking at potential causes, one maybe a broken culvert underground. Meeting with Scottish water, SEPA and the council to take place. GC mentioned that they must be a blockage outside Aldi as the entrance there gets full of water very quickly.

4. Chairperson's Report: No report.

5. Secretary Correspondence/Report: Details of webinar in Jan sent out about open university training for community councils. Dealt with correspondence re pylon upgrades and solar farms. Details sent out of webinar on NP4 and place plans. Attended the bi-annual meeting and held 2 public meetings with other members about the Lochlands junction closure. Helped with organising sandbags for the town and Pitrechuie place during the storm.

6. Treasurer's Report: Issue with bank should be sorted by time of next meeting.

7. Police & Fire Service Report: No fire service report. **Police report** - Sgt Vicki Crichton gave an update on the team and confirmed the new Inspector for the community is Inspector Paul Haig and the new Chief Inspector is Ross Fitzgerald. The team also comprises PC Anderson and Vicki. The area covers Forfar and Kirriemuir and is a large area for the small team. Speeding issues were raised, and VC said that the areas will be looked at but over issues may take priority. GC raised the issue of the new "parking on pavements law" and how it will be enforced. VC said that it will be a traffic warden issue to deal with, but the Police maybe involved if an obstruction takes place etc. EF mentioned the issue of closing the Lochlands junction, but VC said this was not a Police matter to decide. Jane Cooper mentioned the issues with the road closure between Aberlemno and Lunanhead and the issues this caused when the A90 was closed as well, VC said they were aware of the problems but there was nothing the Police could do due to the nature of the storm all they could do was advise people not to go out and stay at home. GC mentioned tactile crossing points used by guide dogs and other partially sighted people being blocked, VC said that this issue could be looked at by the traffic wardens and appropriate action taken. Parking issues are now down to the council and not the Police anymore to enforce.

8. Local Councillor Update: Cllr Devine: During the storm there were issues with Pitrechuie place and flooding from the fields, Lairds from the quarry were very helpful in trying to divert some of the water and putting out sandbags, the council were very busy with Brechin and other areas. Attending the event about the witches in Forfar at the Canmore room and the work done by the council and local volunteers to get the plaque etc sorted out. Been having meetings with partner agencies about the youths in the town , involving drink and drug issues. Attending children and learning committee and the work done with the “Brave lassies blether group” to get resources for schools to help with the issues of violence against woman and girls.

Cllr McLaren: Update on the work at Lour Road, this has gone well and has helped with the flooding in the town centre. Ongoing issues with the Arbroath rd. and the mud and water that is getting onto the road, council workers have cleared the road edges and gully’s, but the issue may get worse if the rain carries on in the future. Issues with fly tipping at Balgavies loch car park and the viewpoint car park, about 6 bags of mess from the dog kennels (this has happened twice before) been cleared away again, the warden has been told to report any more issues. Issues in other areas as well. This may be due to changes at the recycling centre and vans and pick-up trucks are not allowed without booking in via online system. There are parking issues at Market muir, cars are parking on the double yellow lines down Don St. and drives are getting blocked. Issue passed to wardens to look at as not a Police matter. EF raised the issue of the booking system at the recycling centre for small vans etc. how do people book if not online, could it be possible to book through the Access line.? GC mentioned the number of bins that may be being added to the doorstep collections, he said how will people be able to store them, and this will cause even more issues with pavements being blocked by bins.

9. AOCB: EF brought up the consultation on Monikie and Crombie parks possibly getting upgrades but not Forfar loch. A discussion followed on the lack of facilities for locals and visitors to Forfar loch, It was mentioned that the transport links to Monikie and Crombie are not the best and it can be difficult for families to access the facilities at these parks already.

A discussion took place with members of the public about the Lochlands junction and the proposed closure by Scotia homes. Various ideas were put forward which will be put to Scotia homes at the meeting the Community council has later in the month. The use of the old road down to the Kinettles junc and reducing the speed limit on this stretch of road similar to the junc at Fettercain were a couple of ideas. Over 150 people responded to the 2 meetings we held along with social media contact and email about this proposal with over 98% of respondents against the closure.

10. Subgroup updates:

- I. **Quarry Group (Lairds):** No update, but thanks to them for the help during the recent storm.
- II.

11. Planning Applications: See appendix A

12. Date and time of next meeting: The next meeting will be on Thurs 18th January 2024 at the Cross-meeting room Forfar at 7 pm (19.00) unless advised otherwise.

Appendix A

Planning applications status at meeting date Thursday 16th November 2023.

22/00859/FULM	216 Houses east of Garth Farm	Appeal
23/00304/FULL	Lour Road 44 Units 44 units	Pending
2/00870/FULM	Suttieside solar farm	Pending
23/00393/FULM	Cotton of Lownie Solar Farm	Pending
23/00389/FULM	Scotia Homes Westfield Loan 117 Units	Pending FCC
		submitted objection 14/11/23
23/00649/FULL	1 Arbroath Road 1 flat into 2	Pending
23/00563/FULL	27 Craig o'Loch Road 2 flats into 1	Pending
23/00621/FULL	Unit Halfpenny burn for Dog Daycare	Pending
23/00643/ADV	97/99 North Street Sign	APPROVED
23/00654/FULL	Erect house Wellcroft Lownie	Pending
23/00657/PRIORN	Agri building Wardmill	APPROVED
23/00707/FULL	14 Queenswell Road Gym	Pending
23/00717/ADV	67/69 Castle Street Fascia Sign	APPROVED
23/00469/FULL	Closure northbound Lochland Junction	Pending FCC
		Submitted interim response 15/11/23
		Subject to meeting with Scotia Homes 22/11/23
23/00726/LBC	51/53 West High Street Conversion	Pending
23/00727/FULL	25 Dunnichen Road Extension	APPROVED
23/00759/FULL	5 Lintie Croft Extension	Pending
23/00481/FULL	Canmore Lour Steading to residential	Pending
23/00616/FULL	17 Muir Place Extension	Pending
23/00764/FULL	30 Lilybank Crescent Patio Doors	Pending
23/00776/MSC	2 Westfield Loan (Approval of matters)	Pending

Any comment please contact planning contact.