



Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council

**Minute of Meeting – 9th April 2024
held at 7pm in The Craig Room, Falkland Church
(public invited to attend)**

Welcome from Chair,

Present: Rod Crawford, Jim Brown, Roz Esslemont, Stuart Knowles, Doug Young, Jack Reekie
Minutes – Lauren Ballantine

Councillors: Cllr McDiarmid, Cllr Holt

Police: nil

Residents: 4

Apologies for absence: David Anderson, Gavin Lawson, Tara O’Leary

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
3 Declarations of new Interest	None	
4 Minute of Previous Meeting	Agreed as true record.	Approved.
5 Police update	Police Report circulated to CC members. Police Report from February – 23 Calls, 1 recorded crime. March - 20 calls, 0 recorded crimes. Community Officers visited Falkland Primary School for the Good Citizen Award ceremony and Falkland Estate for a ‘Take the Lead’ Initiative for dogs being kept on lead .	Noted.
6 Falkland Flood Action Group Feedback	Zoom meeting held on 8/4/24, nothing of significance to report. Reminder about the drop-in event being held at The Stables on Friday 27 th April, 9am – 6pm covering flood defence equipment for householders etc. Councillor Holt noted that Fife Council are making funds available for grants to householders who have been directly affected by flooding. Balmbrae Resident expressed thanks for help received from Fife Council for repairs to access track after recent flooding event.	
7 Correspondence	Notice from Fife Council Regulation and Licensing committee of Whinstone short term let hearing held on 9/4/24. CC attended to clarify objections.	

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<p>8 Matters arising since the last meeting not otherwise on the agenda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Additional meeting re Church future on 25/3/24 feedback – unfounded criticism of the CC about responsibility for meeting on social media. Well attended, although called at short notice by Church due to a ‘facilitator’ coming from Sussex. Fairly positive, strong feeling of keeping the church as a community facility. Falkland Society have drawn up papers with suggestions of use. The next meeting will be held on Friday 12/4/24, CC will be attending. ii. Public Engagement for proposed Community ownership of estate – meeting on Tuesday 16/4/24 drop in at the Church 2.30-5pm followed by a presentation at the Stables from 7.30-9pm. iii. Whinstone letting application. CC invited to attend Committee because they objected to licensing. Applicant spoke out at meeting and admitted to illegally letting and will now cancel future bookings. Applicant has been offered the option to defer and will seek further legal advice. 	
<p>9 Residents Issues</p>	<p>Resident very unhappy that CC have not been given priority for use of Community hall and feels like they have been pushed out of the hall for the monthly meeting to allow pipe band booking. CC stated they had agreed alternative venue in the Library with Development Trust and that this was satisfactory from noise viewpoint. Meeting now being switched to Craig room in Parish church for increased space and layout.</p>	
<p>10 Planning, Listed Building, Conservation Issues (excluding major developments)</p>	<p>No significant applications since last meeting.</p>	
<p>11 Falklands Future</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Sustrans Project update – small amount of funds yet to spend, submitted application for a change request to extend schedule. Letter received which listed ways that Sustrans funding will be allocated. Two activities left to do to complete stage 2 are to do an arboriculture survey and topographic survey for land at the bottom of the Leslie Road for proposed resident parking and a revised footpath and green space. ii) Charette Report Outcomes/Local Place Plan workshop review, difficult to make progress as there were only a few councillors in attendance. iii) SWI Development update, there will be an update given on social media in the next few days. 	
<p>12 Other Community Council Issues</p>	<p><i>The Chair left the meeting at this point and Roz Esslemont, Vice Chair took the chair for the remainder of the meeting.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Community Council Action Plan, priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bruce Fountain – connecting raw water from unused boreholes could be an option, JB will contact Scottish Water to investigate feasibility. b) Proposals have been put forward by various bodies for an additional Car park at edge of village, probably at the ‘Wee Bank’ field off Castle Shotts. CC are discussing possible 	

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	<p>Community Meeting jointly with the Community Development Trust to gauge community opinion on this as it has been a controversial issue in the past.</p> <p>c) Take down Christmas lights on Brunton Green trees and Fountain, they need to be tested by an electrician and trees need to be inspected.</p> <p>d) Investigate way forward for resilient, accessible, access path to West Loan playpark, Possibility of a 'Combined Use' Footpath allowing limited authorised vehicle access. Look at funding possibilities- 'Paths for All', might be an option. All agreed to take this forward.</p> <p>ii) Back Dykes Playpark revamp – no update. RE will contact Scotch Whisky International to check status of access issues raised by Fife Council.</p> <p>iii) Nursery playhouse, Primary School will attempt to source a playhouse that complies with FC requirements for Fire Resistance.</p> <p>iv) Proposed Community newsletter, CC will wait to see what the Library Group put out.</p> <p>v) Proposed Fife Community Councils Association, proposal made by other CC's in Fife to form a Community Councils Association so that Fife CC's can be represented properly with Fife Council. Falkland CC will monitor updates but have no plans to join for the moment. Will also monitor status of proposed Scottish Community Councils Association</p> <p>vi) Custody of Falkland Common Good 'Regalia' items; currently in a glass cabinet in the library and will be held there for the moment. There was an agreement made about 5 years ago with Fife Council and NTS that custody would be given to the Community Development Trust. Still waiting for confirmation.</p> <p>vii) New CC website from Digital Fife, training will be held on Tuesday 23rd or 30th April at 2pm, looking for volunteers.</p>	
<p>14 Elected Members Issues Cllr. McD's Report</p>	<p>i) CCTV contractor did not turn up to meeting regarding stormwater drainage pipe at Cross Wynd. Cllr. McD will follow up.</p> <p>ii) Walk round with Flood Action Group identified over 3 dozen blocked gully's, contacted relevant FC officer who said they would be cleared in April, unfortunately not all of them have been cleared. They will be re-reported.</p> <p>iii) Leslie Road will be closed until 12th April due to bad weather.</p> <p>iv) Complaint from resident about Old Back Dykes track to Millfield being in bad condition, looking for funding from FC from unadopted roads budget.</p> <p>v) Road at Newton breaking up has been reported.</p> <p>vi) Southfield at Meadowfield boundary, overhanging trees - Tree surgeon has been in touch with the owners.</p> <p>vii) Commemorative Bench for Mike Watson, waiting on the dedication the family would like on plaque. Family will fund bench.</p> <p>viii) Contacted owners of the Stag and Bruce re unsatisfactory state of bins etc. but heard nothing back.</p>	

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Other Elected Member issues	<p>ix) Road signage for 20mph coming into and out of village has nearly been completed.</p> <p>x) Disabled bays in the car park needing refreshed.</p> <p>xi) Henry McLeish has raised safety issues regarding West Port traffic.</p> <p>xii) Still to contact the Polish Consulate regarding proposed Operation 'Market Garden' commemorative events</p> <p>Cllr. Holt noted a number of recent Vandalism issues in local communities mainly involving graffiti, asking for anyone who sees anything suspicious or witnesses the graffiti to make contact with the police immediately for crime recording purposes</p> <p>.</p>	
A.O.C.B	NTR	

Next Meeting: Tuesday 14th May – Venue T.B.C

DATE CHANGE – Monday 13th May – Venue, Craig Room, Falkland Church at 7:00 pm

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