



**Royal Burgh of Falkland & Newton of Falkland Community Council**

**Minute of Meeting – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2024  
held at 7pm in The Craig Room, Falkland Church  
(public invited to attend)**

**Welcome from Acting Chair: Roz Esslemont ,**

**Present:** Jim Brown, Roz Esslemont (Acting Chair), Tara O’Leary, Doug Young, David Anderson  
Minutes – Tara O’Leary

**Councillors:** None                      **Police:** nil                      **Residents:** 2

**Apologies for absence:**, Rod Crawford, Gavin Lawson, Lauren Ballantine, Jack Reekie, Stuart Knowles, Cllr Lothian

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
3 Declarations of new Interest	None	
4 Minute of Previous Meeting	Minutes of Mtg Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May DY proposed agreed as true record. <b>Note; meeting scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> June was cancelled due to lack of quorum.</b>	Approved.
5 Police update	Police Report circulated to CC members. Police Report for May2024, 28 calls, 3 recorded crimes.	Noted.
6 Falkland Flood Action Group	No report.	
7 Correspondence	Mail Received from Fife Council Planning Policy and Place team giving advance notice of call for inputs ( <i>Place Matters</i> ) for the next update of the Fife Local Development Plan (Fifeplan). Official call for inputs will be in August with a 12 week period for response.	
8 Matters arising (since the last meeting not otherwise on the agenda)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Jim Brown has agreed to remain on the Community Council until at least the September meeting and continue as Secretary to allow an orderly transition.</li><li>ii. Additional meeting held re Church future on 06/6/24, JB attended for CC. Meeting was mainly focussed on informing the members of the Falkland Kirk session about the current status of progress towards the local churches ‘cluster’ with no further clarification of the situation regarding the disposal of the church building. Local CoS ‘cluster’ still leading on the issue rather than handing over to</li></ol>	

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	<p>any community led group. Attendees were invited to submit their names if they were interested in forming such a group.</p> <p>iii. Alex Simpson, Chair of Community Development Trust outlined plans for Falkland Festival events which will happen over the week starting on 20<sup>th</sup> July with 80's night, village tour, duck race on Thursday, culminating in the Festival Day on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> Jul7 at Tyndall Bruce Park including the hill race with approx 120 runners registered,. Traffic and parking arrangements will be in place for the Festival day.</p> <p>iv. The Polish consulate will be organising events in Falkland on 25<sup>th</sup> August to commemorate anniversary of Operation 'Market Garden' (Arnhem – Bridge too far) and involvement of Polish Paratroops based in Falkland with chapel service, wreath laying ceremony and hill race planned.</p> <p>v. 40<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for the village hall planned for 28<sup>th</sup> Sept by the Community Development Trust. Social will be held in the hall for organisers of groups that use or are involved with the hall. By invitation.</p>	
<p>9 Residents Issues</p>	<p>Resident (Betty Gilchrist) reported that a derelict chicken shed had been set on fire at Balmbrae apparently by youths using it as a meeting place. This was not the first occurrence, Action: Report to community police</p> <p>Also raised concern about rubble and silt that has built up under stone bridge on Mill Wynd. Flood action group are following up with Fife Council and Utilities.</p>	
<p>10 Planning, Listed Building, Conservation Issues (excluding major developments)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No significant planning applications in village since last meeting.</li> <li>2. 'Whinstone' short term let licence application (Air BnB). JB attended Regulation and Licensing committee meeting on behalf of CC to follow up CC objection. Committee disregarded objections from community and CC and granted three year License for short term let but reduced permitted occuoants to eight people. Councillors accepted position of the applicants that they were victims of an orchestrated 'Nimby' campaign and considered a number of community objections as not competent or irrelevant.</li> <li>3. JB noted that previous suggestion that CC should submit complaint to the Public Services ombudsman regarding the actions of Fife Planning Department re Whinstone was probably not viable with regard to the effort required and proposed this should not be pursued. Agreed unanimously not to proceed.</li> <li>4. Correspondence received from Scottish Power Networks planning consultants regarding Pre Application Notification (PAN) for construction of a HV grid sub station near Glasslie farm as part of the Tealing – Kincardine grid upgrade. Location is on border of Community Council area. This will also include upgrade of Pylon lines crossing the shoulder of East Lomond to 400kV although that would be a separate planning application. This is a strategic national project and any local objections are likely to be disregarded.</li> </ol>	

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<p>11 Falklands Future</p>	<p>Sustrans Project update – no feedback from Sustrans. Our Sustrans contact is going on a three month career break but has briefed her line manager to follow up.</p>	
<p>12 Other Community Council Issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Playpark refurbishment at Back Dykes terrace; on hold due to access issue across land owned by Fife Council Housing Dept. Discussion ongoing and matter has been referred to Willie Rennie MSP to help find a resolution.</li> <li>ii) Nursery playhouse at primary school, nursery are investigating possibility of fire-retardant application after delivery. CC might consider donating money towards new smart boards for the school instead but parent council have applied to War Memorial Trust for white board funding.</li> <li>iii) Power supply distribution boxes for Christmas Lights on Brunton Green need to be inspected and upgraded to fix tripping problem. JB to contact local electrician to review and advise.</li> <li>iv) Fife Community Councils Association. Still maintaining watching brief but no decision on FNFCC participation, To be discussed at next meeting.</li> <li>v) No progress on new website from Digital Fife. Current website incurring excessive costs due to volume of file backups. These files are not visible. DY to follow up with Fasthosts and delete files. JB to arrange cancellation of excess charges.</li> <li>vi) Input to Local Development Plan update. This is possibly a more appropriate alternative to preparation of a Falkland Local place Plan. CC to hold internal workshop to review proposed way forward.</li> </ul>	
<p>14 Elected Members Issues</p>	<p>No elected members present. NTR.</p>	
<p>A.O.C.B</p>	<p>NTR</p>	

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August – Venue T.B.C**