|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **MINUTES**  **Online Zoom Meeting**  **Tuesday 20th April 2021**  **at 7.00pm** | |  |
| **Present**: James Adams (Chair)  Ron Morrice (Treasurer)  Ken Watt (Planning Secretary)  Alison Wymes (Minute Secretary)  John Anderson  Lorna Davidson  Helena Gilbert  Kenny Harper  Sylvia Harper  Seamus Logan  Ashley Mackie  Fiona May  Dionne Whyte  **Councillors**: Councillor Charles Buchan  Councillor Andy Kille  Councillor Doreen Mair    Debra Campbell (Community Planning Officer)  David McClennan (Acting Area Manager) | | |
| **1.** | **Apologies** | |
|  | Community Wardens – Alia Gatt & Alex Scrimgeour  Charlie Reid  Sarah Simpson  Councillor Brian Topping | |
| **2.** | **Minute of last meeting – Tuesday 16th February 2021** | |
|  | Proposed – Seamus Logan  Seconded – Helena Gilbert | |
| **3.** | **Matters Arising** | |
|  | * **AGM and Election Process**   **J.Adams –** The AGM is on 15th June and if a ballot is needed, it will take place on 1st June. Application Forms have been sent to those people who need them and should be returned by 25th May 2021.   * **Painted Stones**   **J.Adams** has spoken to Jan Emery & Doreen Mair. The installation of the painted stones has been delayed, due to the resin which the stonemason is using not being suitable.  **D.M** is hoping to meet Jan Emery on Tuesday 27th April to look at possible sites for the stones which will be placed in cairns, rather than a line along the lower walkway at the prom. She also said the Fish Statue, which is at present in the Broadgate, will be moved down to the beach area.   * **Litter-Picking Campaign**   **J.Adams -** Suggested the CC should get more involved in the campaign which Doreen instigated in the previous couple of weeks. A huge amount of work has already been done by volunteers and this could be continued on a more regular basis to keep the Broch clean.  **D.M -** 12 Members of Aberdeenshire Council Office Staff are out litter-picking tonight and Thursday evenings. The Academy is also going to do a litter-pick. She has met with the Manager of the local McDonalds to see if they would help with the campaign & donate equipment for the volunteers. They have regular litter-picking squads who tidy up round their premises. She has also been in touch with the Roads Dept and Bear Scotland who said they would charge for setting up traffic control measures on the main road into the Broch to do a litter-pick!! They are to get back to Doreen about this.  **J.Adams - H.G, F.M and D.W** have volunteered to set up a sub-group to liaise with **D.M** to arrange regular litter picks and events in the town.  **H.G** – What are the by-laws in the Broch for dropping litter – fines & penalties?  **D.M** – People have to be caught doing it, but there isn’t the man power to do so. Has contacted the police too and they will use unmarked police cars to keep an eye out for offenders dropping litter. The local authority needs to do more about the problem, as should the Scottish government – it’s wasting a resource and endangering wildlife. At the end of this week, she will give a total of numbers of bags of rubbish collected. She will ask on social media for people who would be willing to pick up rubbish on a regular basis, to give their names to her and then the sub-group could co-ordinate the information and take it from there.  **H.G** – Do the Community Wardens have powers to issue fines?  **D.M** – Yes, if they see it. They have been patrolling more. Has been in touch with Irene Sharp, H.T at the Academy and at a whole school assembly on Monday, she announced that the amount of litter in the town was unacceptable.  **D.W** – Her son is at the Academy and he was saying there are not enough bins on the way from the town centre to the Academy for kids to get rid of their rubbish.  **D.M** - Will be meeting with the Waste team next week to see where there are areas where there are no bins.  **J.Anderson** – Has there been a reduction in road sweepers and the use of the machine with brushes?  **D.M –** The use of the machine was curtailed during the lockdown. When she meets the Waste Officer, she will ask for the road sweepers to concentrate on the problem areas, rather than go to areas where there is next to no litter, also they need to re-schedule their routes, so that the road sweeper is not going along the same route that the machine has done the previous day!!  **H.G, F.M and D.W to set up a sub-group to liaise with D.M to arrange regular litter picks and events in the town.**  **D.M to meet Waste Management Team to discuss the Litter problem & where new bins could be positioned.**   * **Website**   **A.M –** Has spoken to J.Adams and agreed the website will be launched on 1st May. All the rebranding will go ahead on that date too. She thanked all the members who had given her feedback on the site. She has also set up a Linked-In page as there are a lot of Aberdeenshire Council posts on there and it’s good to see all the good projects that are being shared. There has been a 15% increase in FCC FB page engagement this month. A PayPal account will be set up for the quarterly causes on the website and a postal address is required for this. There is a new email account been set up – [hellofraserburgh@gmail.com](mailto:hellofraserburgh@gmail.com) which she is happy to manage.  **J.Adams** – As Chair, he is willing for his address to be used on the PayPal account and on Google.  **H.G** – Has A.M put up the photos and blurb about the Tree-Planting? Both she and L.D had sent photos to J.Adams on WhatsApp and email, but A.M hasn’t received any.  **J.Adams to send his address details to A.M.**  **J.Adams to find the Tree-Planting photos and send to A.M for putting on the website/FB**   * **Phoenix Group**   **J.Adams** - The BBT, Rotary Club and FDT are now handling the provision of the Christmas Lights and the Town Banners. The Rotary Club has been allocated half the money needed for the banners from Aberdeenshire Council and the Phoenix Fund will match that funding. The Phoenix Fund cannot be used for Christmas Lights (a stipulation given by the council), so it’s been suggested that the CC provide £1000 for the lights.  **R.M** – Has received an email from John Bruce with details of costs - £1500 for lights, £542 for banners? He needs clarification on paying out £1000 from the Phoenix Fund for the banners and £1000 from the CC for the lights. A discussion took place about the quality of lights to be purchased, with the CC saying if they were donating £1000 to them, they should also have a say in what was purchased – they didn’t want trashy looking lights!  **F.M –** Asked about the events which had gone on the past few years. These had been undertaken by Frozen Fraserburgh and as **D.M** pointed out they were free for the public, but were not free to put on with **C.B** saying they cost £10,000, which had been come from Aberdeenshire Area Committee. Frozen Fraserburgh disbanded in 2019 after putting on events for a few years. **D.M** said it wasn’t financially sustainable and with less funding in the coffers in future years, the money wouldn’t be available for these kinds of events.  **J.Anderson** – Is on the Committee for the banners and lights and it is hoping to provide a Christmas tree shaped light, rather than a real tree with lights, and other lights for the lamp-posts. Obviously, it will depend on the cost of the lights as to what the quality is!  **J.Adams to get clarification from Ainsley Dyga and John Bruce on the amounts.**  A vote was taken by all full CC members present and the majority agreed to give a donation of £1000 from the CC for the Christmas lights.  **R.M to write a cheque for £1000 to the Committee for the lights, once clarification has been given** | |
| **4.** | **Police Scotland Report/Community Wardens’ Report** | |
|  | Police Scotland Report Community Wardens Report | |
| **5.** | **Urgent Items of Business** | |
|  | None | |
| **6.** | **Treasurer’s Report** | |
|  |  | |
| **7.** | **Sub Committees - Updates** | |
|  | * **Resilience**   **J.Anderson –** Gave a presentation on the Food Larder which is now open. There was an Open Day on 6th April. Open Tuesdays 10am – 12noon and Thursdays 2 – 4pm. Membership is £2 a year and each visit is £1. At present, there are 24 members. They can choose 5 items – 2 high-end (orange) & 3 low-end (green) items. They can also choose 2 free items from a table, where items have been donated or where they are near the sell-by date. There is also a table where they can choose 1 item of clothing (donated by PomPrint). There are 20 volunteers who are on duty every 2nd week.  **A.M –** Would use some of John’s photos for the website? There are supermarkets which are opening their donation schemes to community projects, so it would be worthwhile looking at them to see if the Larder could get some funding from them. J.Anderson would pass on that information to the person who’s in charge of looking for funding. Phone number of the Larder? 07518622926  **S.L** – Can people who are on low wages come to the Larder? **J.A** – Anyone can join, no referrals are needed.  **F.M** – Could the Food Larder accept good, used clothes**? J.A –** No**.**  The Rotary Club in Ellon – Ythanvale, has started a clothes bank and is asking for donations and volunteers. It may be something that could start in Fraserburgh in the future.  **H.G** – Stella’s Voice is opening soon where M&Co used to be in the Broadgate, so they would take clothes etc.  **J.Anderson to send photos of the Food Larder to A.M for the website.**   * **Flower Fairies**   **L.D –** You will have read Alison’s mail about the successful planting of 120 trees that took place at James Ramsey Park on the 2nd and 3rd of April and many thanks to all who participated. Alison must also be thanked for her organisation of volunteers at such short notice. Further thanks are due to Cllr Charles Buchan for his skills as our tree champion and undertaking to water all the trees, no mean feat it must be said.  Cllr Doreen Mair put us in touch with Jacqueline Winton, the Fraserburgh Co-op Member Pioneer. We took up her offer of free bags of compost and plant food and collected them on the 16th April. She can also try to arrange for volunteers from their staff, if she is given three weeks’ notice before planting is due so we are very grateful for her help and enthusiasm.  John Glover, from Inverurie Environmental Improvement Group, who has given us so much support since our visit with Cllr Doreen Mair in August 2019, has sent on information for us to register as a group for Beautiful Scotland. We will enter the non-judged category for this year as we are in a state of flux with the town regeneration but we will be sent a newsletter and links to resources as well as free wild flowers seed balls.  **S.L** – Did the residents who voiced complaints have any legal right to do so? Did they have any grounds for asking for the trees to be moved? Was there any consultation process carried out before the trees were planted?  **C.B** – Procedures were not carried out as they should have been done, because of the short notice that trees were available for planting. The residents who complained had no legal right to a view. The Rangers were quite happy shifting the trees further back, which allowed the residents still to have a view of the sea! Was happy enough with the compromise that was achieved.   * **Phoenix Group**   **J.Adams** – The group has engaged the services of a marketing/PR specialist who will work with the BBT to come up with some exciting proposals to increase footfall into the town centre. They are donating £1000 to the BBT, Rotary Club and FDT for the purchase of banners to promote the events at the entrances to the town. They are working alongside the college on the 3 Doric Murals which will be put up in the town centre. | |
| **8.** | **Questions to Councillors** | |
|  | **J.Anderson –** Who provides the flags in the Broadgate? They are looking tattered & torn and what order should they be flying in? He thinks the Union Jack should be in the middle, but at present, it is on one side. Emailed **D.M** to ask if they would be flying half-mast after the news of the Duke of Edinburgh’s death? Who is in charge of taking down the flags to half-mast on such an occasion?  **A.Kille** – Had also received an email from someone regarding the flags. A new Union Jack flag has been ordered and the protocol is being checked as to what order they should be placed in.  **D.McL** – Can confirm that a new flag had been ordered for some time and it is being chased up to have it put in position. He is unsure of who stores the flags and who would be responsible for taking them down to half-mast.  **H.G** – Are there any further developments with the retailers on contributing to improvements on the Asda entrance to the town?  **A.Kille** - Did go in again to Asda to speak to the Community Champion/Manager and left a message, but has not heard from them yet.  **H.G** – May have to go to higher management to get any response? Would there be any specific funding that is available to start doing something to improve that area?  **A.Kille** – If no success with local management at Asda, next step would be to go to higher management. It’s a new financial year, so there would be pots of money available for groups to bid for funding.  **S.H** – Had spoken to Jan Emery again, as nothing had been done about the unsightly recycling bins outside Iceland. Jan had contacted Darren Fryer from the Waste Management Team to contact the CC, but he had forgotten to do that, so if **D.M** is meeting him next week, could she mention about moving the bins and finding an alternative site for them?  **D.M** – Yes, she will speak to him about them. She also mentioned the defunct information board beside the bus stop in the Broadgate would be removed. The AIF is now open, so if there were any projects people needed funding for, to apply to the AIF.  **D.M to meet with Waste Management Team regarding the recycling bins and the possibility of moving them elsewhere.**  **A.Kille** – Next Thursday is the Full Council Meeting and after that there will be a Special Council Meeting to discuss the new Community Council rules. Papers will be released in the following few days for anyone who is interested.  **C.B** – He praised the enthusiasm of the CC and the PSYV at the tree-planting event and said they could have planted double the amount of trees in the allotted time, so set up a meeting with the Environmental Planners to acquire more funding for trees. Unfortunately their funding has been used up, but would he have the CC backing to look for funding from other resources? Yes.  **F.M** – Would it be possible for local gardeners or the Community Garden to plant seeds and propagate them for planting out later? Could be something to think of in the future?  **C.B** – Was thinking more of applying directly to wildlife charities for rooted trees in the same way people can apply for wild flower seeds to encourage bees. But he will speak to Bill Matthews at the Community Garden about planting seeds to be propagated, then given to groups to plant in public land, if the CC were willing to take on the responsibility of organising it.  **A.Kille** – It will be the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in 2022 and tree-planting is to be a big part of the celebrations.  **H.G** – The Woodland Trust will be opening for tree applications soon – she has spoken to Elizabeth Stanyer (Greenspace Officer) about planting more trees next Spring and the PSYV are keen to do this as a youth group, but you need to have a 6 digit grid reference for land where you want to plant trees, but perhaps they could collaborate with the CC to apply for funding?  **D.M/A.Kille** – Suggest getting in touch with Jan Emery as she is organising events for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – It’s called the Queen’s Green Canopy 2022.  **D.McL** – The Queen’s Green Canopy is a project being done in 2022 to create a canopy of over 3 million trees being planted across the UK. He is meeting with the Lord Lieutenant of Banffshire next week and will be happy to put forward that FCC would be very keen to participate in this initiative. | |
| **9.** | **Questions from Members of the Public** | |
|  | **A.M –** On FB**,** Traci Mutch had brought up the problem of cars parking at the entrance to the Academy on Alexandra Terrace and the potential danger of kids crossing in between parked cars. Would there be a possibility of some kind of crossing patrol put in place?  **C.B/A.Kille** – That has been a problem area in the past, highlighted by the school itself, but at the time it was raised, there were technical reasons as to why a crossing system could not be placed there. Perhaps the issue could be looked into again?  **D.McL** – Will get in touch with the Roads Team and find out what the technical reasons were at the time – possibly a Road Safety Audit – perhaps it’s the time to look at the problem again.  **D.McL to get in touch with the Roads Team with regard to the entrance to the Academy at Alexandra Terrace**.  **A.M** – The manager of Shirley’s Space asked a question with regard to the staff at Fraserburgh and Peterhead Job Centres using Shirley’s Space as a resource to help some of their recipients of Universal Credit get help with their mental health issues. It’s amounting to about a day that a member of S.S’s staff is out of the centre between the 2 Job Centres. Would the councillors know of any funding resources to cover the charity for the loss of a staff member to go to the job centres? Shirley’s Space is seeing a rise in potential people coming forward with mental health issues, because they get bigger benefits if they have mental health issues and it’s difficult for the staff to vett if they are legitimate cases.  **A.Kille** – In the budget in March, a sizeable reserve was put aside to specifically be used for mental health and tackling poverty and inequality. There is money there that potentially you could bid for - it’s a bidding system and they can look at funding a project, but not funding a member of staff’s wages!  **A.M** – A member of the public asked about Remembrance Bench plots in James Ramsey Park and the beach area – is that something that is still being done in the town?  **D.M** – if someone would like to put a Remembrance Bench in a specific place, they need to get in touch with Alan Anderson from Landscape Services. There are quite a lot of benches in James Ramsey Park and a bench would need to be put in a suitable place, probably beside a path.  **K.W** – Instead of a bench, could they not plant a Memorial Tree – more environmentally friendly than a wooden bench which would need to be maintained?  **A.M** – Could the idea of a Memorial Tree be promoted on Social Media? Yes | |
| **10.** | **Correspondence** | |
|  | None | |
| **11.** | **Planning Applications** | |
|  | **K.Watt** has sent out the recent planning applications | |
| **12.** | **AOB** | |
|  | **J.Adams** – Councillor Brian Topping has recently been unwell and in hospital, so the FCC would like to wish him a speedy recovery.  **J.Adams –** Received an email from Alistair Miller (Infrastructure Services Dept) about the Grit Bins, brought up at a previous meeting. These should be topped up routinely by the Roads Team at no cost to the Snow Wardens. In the last week of February, the grit bins were running low, so the Roads Dept took the decision not to fill them up to save resources for the priority routes. They should now be getting topped up again when the road staff are out and about, but if there are any not filled up, to contact him directly. He also attached a plan of the snow-clearing routes covered by the local council staff in the town, so all other routes could be cleared by the Snow Wardens. With reference to the repositioning of planters, the CC should contact him directly and Ken Regan should also be consulted. Also received an email from Ken Regan about putting a bin on Links Road?  **J.Adams to send the plan of snow-clearing routes to whoever needs one.**  **J.Anderson** – There should be a bin put in the hammerhead area at the end of Links Road, at the top of the path going down to the beach area.  **D.M** – Had been chasing up the Waste team about it, but had noticed while out walking, that the bin had been put at the start of Links Road, rather than at the end!  **D.McL** – There seems to have been a crossover of issues, as the Waste team and Landscape Services had been querying where the litter problem area was and were going to get in touch with the CC to get clarification.  **J. Anderson** – Does anyone know what has happened to the gate at James Ramsay Park? Half of it is missing!  **D.M** – It is being fixed and hopefully Landscape Services will put on a certain kind of hinge, so that people can’t lift them off, as that was what was reported to her – that someone had stolen the gate!!  **H.G** – Is the CC still looking for projects that could use the Participatory Budget? If so, the idea of an outdoor gym would be beneficial and would tick a lot of boxes – Promoting Health and Well-Being, Better Mental Health, Outdoor Environment, Social Inclusion, Inter-Generational Activities etc. It would be using gym equipment similar to what is in indoor gyms. It would help people who could not afford expensive gym memberships. The equipment could be placed in existing children’s play areas. She had spoken to Elizabeth Stanyer, who was keen on the idea and she said to contact Jan Emery for costing and maintenance, which she hadn’t done yet, as she was wanting to run the idea past the CC first.  **A.Kille** – This idea wouldn’t come under Participatory Budgeting, but could be applied for from the AIF or other funds. PB is where you want to spend a certain sum of money on something, but you wouldn’t be able to apply for any more funding.  **J.Anderson/C.B** – Great idea!  **K.W** – Ellon has one – it’s great fun! If Ellon has one, there’s no reason why Fraserburgh can’t have one!  **D.M** – There was one in James Ramsay Park near the Swimming Pool – dark green?  Everyone agreed it was a good idea and J.Adams said to go ahead and contact Jan Emery re costing and maintenance.  **H.G to contact Jan Emery re siting, costing and maintenance of an outdoor gym.**  **F.M** – Does anyone know about the swings down at the beach? The swing seems to have gone missing and the bar along the top – has it been pinched or is it away being maintained?  **D.McL** – Will look to see if any maintenance is going on at the beach swing park at present. With regard to the equipment in an outdoor gym, most of the ones in Aberdeenshire are where people use their own weight as a sort of resistance, but the ones **H.G** is referring to would be more a green gym concept and would be more up-to-date and would be less common in the shire.  **D.McL to find out if there is any maintenance being carried out at the beach swing park.**  **A.Kille** – The maximum amount that the AIF would award an application is £5000 or if it’s in a Community Action Plan, it would be £10,000, but as FCC doesn’t have a CAP, it would be £5000.  **A.W** – Asked for these items to be included in AOB.  Could the spreadsheet that was started months ago be completed and shared to all members? It would have been beneficial to have members’ phone numbers at the time of the tree-planting in case we had to cancel the event.  Regarding photos to be used on the website or on FB, permission needs to be given before they can be used.  **J.Adams** – Just a reminder that permission needs to be given by all CC Members and anyone outside the CC before photos can be used. | |
| **11.** | **Date & Time of next meeting into the email.** | |
|  | **Tuesday 18th May 2021 at 7pm on Zoom** | |

**Action Sheet**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Item** | **Action** | **Responsible** |
| 1. | Outstanding Actions | Clarify whether the Temperance Fountain in front of the Mausoleum will be fully functional when it is moved across the road to near the Fish statue  Think of ideas of projects they would like to be involved in for the Participatory Budgeting and let James know  Send out spreadsheet again to members to fill in their contact details and share with all members | **still to be confirmed by Ross McLeary of F2021 Project**  **All CC members**  **James** |
| 3. | Matters Arising | Set up a sub-group to liaise with Doreen to arrange regular litter picks and events in the town.  Meet Waste Management Team to discuss the Litter problem & where new bins could be positioned.  Send address details to A.M for using on PayPal account and Google  Find the Tree-Planting photos and send to A.M for putting on the website/FB  Get clarification from Ainsley Dyga and John Bruce on the amounts asked for the Banners/Lights from the CC  Write a cheque for £1000 to the Committee for the lights, once clarification has been given | **Helena, Fiona and Dionne**  **Doreen**  **James**  **James**  **James**  **Ron** |
| 6, | Treasurer’s Report | Get a finance update to the accountant for the AGM in June | **Ron** |
| 7. | Sub Groups | Send photos of the Food Larder to A.M for the website. | **John** |
| 8. | Questions to Councillors | Meet with Waste Management Team regarding the recycling bins and the possibility of moving them elsewhere. | **Doreen** |
| 9. | Questions from Members of the Public | Get in touch with the Roads Team with regard to the entrance to the Academy at Alexandra Terrace | **David** |
| 12. | AOB | Send the plan of snow-clearing routes to whoever needs one  Contact Jan Emery re siting, costing and maintenance of an outdoor gym  Find out if there is any maintenance being carried out at the beach swing park | **James**  **Helena**  **David** |