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| **MINUTES**  **Online Zoom Meeting**  **Tuesday 19th January 2021**  **at 7.00pm** | |  |
| **Present**: James Adams (Chair)  Ron Morrice (Treasurer)  Alison Wymes (Minute Secretary)  John Anderson  Amy Bellany  Lorna Davidson  Helena Gilbert  Ken Harper  Sylvia Harper  Seamus Logan  Ashley Mackie  Fiona May  Sarah Simpson  Dionne Whyte  **Councillors**: Councillor Charles Buchan  Councillor Andy Kille  Councillor Doreen Mair  Councillor Brian Topping | | |
| **1.** | **Apologies** | |
|  | Angela Keith  Ken Watt | |
| **2.** | **Minute of last meeting – Tuesday 17th November 2020** | |
|  | Proposed – John Anderson  Seconded – Ron Morrice | |
| **3.** | **Matters Arising** | |
|  | * Welcome to New Members   **J.Adams** welcomed 5 of the new members – Amy, Ashley, Dionne, Fiona and Seamus  He also reminded all members to check their junk emails, as the CC Minutes were going into some members’ spam folders.   * Website/Coms   **J.Adams** mentioned he had been looking at other CCs’ websites over the festive season – a website would be another tool available to the public to find out what was going on, view dates of CC meetings, read agendas and minutes etc. He mentioned that Ashley had approached him with view to setting up a website for the Fraserburgh CC. He handed over to Ashley to put forward some idea of setting up a website, cost etc.  **A.M.** has been looking at 2 options for setting up a website, one being with GoDaddy, the other being Weebly. GoDaddy would cost £100 a year – this would cover building & designing of the website, its domain (fraserburghcommunitycouncil.com), security and any add-ons. The website would have its own email address. It would need to be managed on a daily/weekly basis. Weebly would cost approx. £80 a year, but it doesn’t include the security or the 24/7 service that GoDaddy provides.  **J.Adams** asked the members if they had any questions, comments etc.  **F.M.** said since she was a photographer, she would be happy to take members’ photos to put on the website and also be involved in putting posts on Facebook.  **S.S**. asked if the other CCs used GoDaddy as an agent.  **H.G.** asked who would manage the website.  **K.H**. asked if members could see the website before it was published.  **D.M.** suggested that each sub-group could have a section to post in, with an update of what they’ve been doing etc. including photos.  **C.B**. also suggested contacting Linda McGuigan at Discover Fraserburgh, as she would have a lot of recent professionally done photos of Fraserburgh to use on the website.  **A.M.** answered all the questions.  **J.Adams** asked if everyone was happy to go ahead with setting up the website and if they were happy to use GoDaddy. All agreed and he suggested he, Ashley and Fiona could set up a sub-group to deal with the social media side of the CC.  **J.Anderson** asked if there was a list of members’ contact details. **A.W.** has email addresses, but no other details.  **J.Adams will send out a spreadsheet to all members to add their contact details if they wish and this will be circulated to all members.**  **Ashley Mackie to start setting up the website and show it to all members before it is published** | |
| **4.** | **Police Scotland Report/Community Wardens’ Report** | |
|  | Police Scotland Report Community Wardens Report – none sent | |
| **5.** | **Treasurer’s Report** | |
|  | **R.M**. Will send out the balance sheet to the new members, now he has received their email addresses from A.W.  **L.D.** asked if the Flower Fairies had to spend any money by the end of March.  **R.M**. said it was the Resilience Group who had to spend the grant awarded by Aberdeenshire Council for the Foodbank by the end of March.  **R.M. to send out the balance sheet to all the new members** | |
| **6.** | **Sub Committees - Updates** | |
|  | * **Resilience**   **J.Anderson** The water is in the premises. There is still no meter in for the electric, but they’ve been assured this should be put in in the next couple of weeks. All the food has been moved from Maitland’s store and has been sorted by date on the shelving. The premises has been cleaned and painted. There are 3 areas – waiting room, shop and storeroom. The waiting room and shop have been carpet tiled and there should be enough tiles left to carpet the toilet, corridor and storeroom. A fridge and freezer has been bought from Roger’s and this would be delivered when there is power. The cost of these is approx. £1,150 which will come out of the £2,000 grant from Aberdeenshire Council. There are 12 people doing the Food Hygiene Course Level 2.  **H.G**. Is the Resilience Foodbank working alongside the Salvation Army and Aberdeenshire North Foodbanks and Fairshare? The Aberdeenshire North Foodbank (Trussell Trust) is by referral only, but can be referred from a number of Social Care Partnerships. Helena volunteers at it. The Salvation Army Foodbank is a walk-in facility, but at present people have to phone in a request for a food pack, as it is a delivery only facility, due to the current restrictions. It’s a sad reality that there are at least 3 foodbanks in the town, all are in demand!!   * **Flower Fairies**   **L.D.** We can now report that on the 24th November, with the help of two of the landscape squad, Colin and Scott, we laid both the membrane and the chuckies at the Tesco roundabout. It involved a lot of work but we were all pleased with the outcome, making the entrance to the town more attractive. We also had a surprising email in November from Alan Anderson, Landscape Officer. He said a decision had been made to provide bedding plants for Community Councils, so we will receive 1,500 plants, the number supplied in 2019. As we had been warned earlier not to expect any, we had already planned to use some of our budget and had organised approx 500 bedding plants to be grown by a contact. This means there will be plenty flowers in the town this year.  We also spoke further with the landscape squad and they moved the two containers outside Semi-Chem to a new position away from the offending lamppost! **F.M.** asked if there were specific areas where we had been working and has volunteered to take photos any time we are out planting in the future.   * **Phoenix Fund**   **J.Adams** introduced the sub-group (himself, John, Helena and Alison) and said there was to be a meeting on Monday 25th January with the BBT and Rotary representatives to move forward in spending some of the money the group had been awarded to improve the town centre following Covid. £5,000 has already been received. He had received an email from the Doric Board to say the group’s application for funding for an art project in the town had been unsuccessful.  **H.G**. found out on FB the previous week that the group had been unsuccessful. Surely the unsuccessful applicants should have been informed before anything was put on FB?  There were 15 groups who had been successful. | |
| **7.** | **Updates from Councillors** | |
|  | * **Councillor Topping**   Some of the council budgets have been frozen, but some projects are still on-going, such as the Beach Area Signage Project.  Some council employees have been transferred from their normal duties to priority services, due to some employees having to shield or self-isolate.  Has also been very busy with constituents’ requests/complaints, due to the Call Centre phones being exceedingly busy and people having to wait a long time to be connected.   * **Councillor Buchan**   Is very impressed with the way the FCC is developing – full of active members wanting to do their best for the town.  The 4 councillors were involved in the decision to remove most of the barriers put in place for Spaces for People during the Covid. There’s not much that can be changed in Mid Street, while building works are going on.  The Council and NHS will use the Community Centre for a mass vaccine centre.  The Mobile Testing unit takes place in the JIC car park twice a week now.  Had a meeting with the FCC former Chairperson Paul Greenall who set up the charity ‘Y Suffer in Silence’ in Fraserburgh. He is now a paid co-manager of the charity, which is now based in Aberdeen, but counselling is still ongoing in Fraserburgh.  There is to be a public consultation online about promoting the Coastal Path from Peterhead to Cullen, which of course Fraserburgh and the surrounding villages are part of. There is a press release tomorrow.  He too has been busy with neighbours’ disputes, dog issues etc, possibly because people are having to stay indoors!  Good news about the predicted timescale of the rollout of vaccines – over 80s by the end of January, over 70s by the middle of February and over 65s by the end of March   * **Councillor Mair**   Agreed that constituency work had increased.  Has been working with the Surf Club in recent weeks – they are hoping to take over the former Seashore Centre. There has been a surge in Surf Club members over the last 8 months.  Has opened a shop! Unfortunately all the non-essential shops are now closed!!  In the press release on the Coastal Path, there will be a link to a Survey Monkey, so please take part in it as a CC or individually.  Has a meeting on the 3rd February with CLAN about the Lighthouse Trail – it was due to start in March, but this may be changed.  As of the 15th December 2020, Doreen is now the Chair of Banff/Buchan Area Committee – the first ever female to be Chairperson.   * **Councillor Kille**   Like Charles, he is very pleased to have more active Community Councillors.  He still hasn’t heard back from the Managers at Home Bargains or McDonalds re the proposal to improve the entrance to the town near their stores, but will chase them up.  He is a bit concerned about the Police Report stats going up – house break-ins and shopliftings especially.  Participatory Budgeting – the Scottish Government has introduced a rule that councils give their communities a say in what they would like to see being done with 1% of the revenue budget. The whole of Aberdeenshire will have a budget of £4 - £4.5 million. If anyone has ideas of what areas they would like to be involved in, please let the Chair know.  **Members to think of ideas of projects they would like to be involved in and let James know.** | |
| **8.** | **Questions to the Councillors** | |
|  | **A.M.** brought up about the Sea Cadets wanting to purchase the listed building in Victoria Street, which used to be Buchanan House, a care home.  **A.Kille** – there are grants available and the Sea Cadets had already applied in the past and they were given a minibus. There is no reason why they can’t apply again.  **B.T.** It’s a very worthy cause, as their numbers are going up, even having a waiting list, but they still have to raise a lot of money. They have approx. £50,000, but would need to raise approx. £150,000 more.  **A.M**. Mentioned the M&Co store, now closed and very much an eyesore in a prime location in the town centre. Is there any way fascias could be attached to the frontage of vacant shops to make them more attractive?  **B.T**. This has been discussed many times going back 20 years, but unless there is a Health and Safety issue, the council can’t do very much about vacant properties if they are owned privately. It is up to shops and businesses to apply for grants to improve their shop fronts e.g.  Nooks&Crannies, S&J’s, the Polish shop at the bottom of High Street have all been successful. He mentioned what used to be Murison’s in Cross Street – it is such a mess!!  **D.M.** Knows the owner of the above mentioned shop – he has rejected 2 offers already!! He may change his mind come April 2021, when he will have to start paying rates!  **S.L.** Suggested putting photos of ‘eyesores’ onto the website with links to grants which are available to improve the shop fronts. **J.Adams** wondered if this would appear as a witch hunt!  **F.M**. Are there local by-laws to encourage people to tidy up their businesses, otherwise they could lose their rights to have a business?  **A.Kille** The council can only step in if a building becomes dangerous. Suggested that the Sea Cadets get in touch with the North-East Preservation Trust who may be able to help them with information on what grants are available.  **C.B**. as far as he knows, there are no by-laws in Fraserburgh as such. There are strict rules if new buildings are being put up in a conservation area. You would also be taking away the business owner’s rights, as in Scottish Law, once a business owner has purchased a property, it is theirs to do what they like with it.  **A.W**. could the CC give a donation to the Sea Cadets?  **A.Kille** Said to check with Jan Emery, as if you give a donation to one project, you’ll be asked to give to others! Also the CC money is to be used on CC projects, rather than other organisations’ projects.  **J.Adams** Suggested writing an email supporting the Sea Cadets in their project, as the CC did with the Skate Park and also the Robertson Road Respite Facility.  **A.B.** Suggested an Art Trail and involve local artists, college, schools to design boards to go up on the vacant shop fronts. They would need to get permission from the shop owners.  **H.G**. This is already being looked at through the Phoenix Fund Project and some money has been put aside for an Art project There are 3 areas been pinpointed for the boards already and contact has been made with Alison Simpson and Sean Norman, Environmental Planner, who cannot see any problem, as long as it is a temporary plan.  **J.Adams to get advice from Jan Emery about the CC donating to other organisations’ projects.**  **J.Adams to write an email on behalf of the CC supporting the Sea Cadets in their cause.**  **S.S**. In Union Street in Aberdeen there are professional graphic displays on vacant premises, advertising places of interest and events, much more attractive then boarded up properties.  **C.B**. Some of the properties are leased by large offshore companies and absent landlords who have no interest whatsoever in the town.  **J.Anderson.** Asked when was part of Fraserburgh made a conservation area and why, as it was always just Fraserburgh?  **C.B**. Peterhead and Banff had conservation areas dating back to the 1970s and were getting plenty money coming into the towns from capital grants. From 2013, the Fraserburgh councillors realised they were missing out on a lot of funding and the idea of conservation area was discussed and it was decided to go ahead with it, so after extensive consultation with shopkeepers and residents, the councillors decided to apply for funding from Historic Environment Scotland and the Heritage Lottery Fund to upgrade the town centre. They were very successful and £5.7 million has been ploughed into the town for the Fraserburgh 2021 Regeneration Project.  **K.H**. Asked about the Cross Street Housing Development – when was it due to be started and could it be tidied up until such time as building is commenced, as it is another eyesore!!  **D.M**. There are major sewer works needed, so hopefully in the 2nd half of the year, it will be started. Because of limited budgeting, all the money will go into the building, rather than tidying up the site or putting up temporary boarding. | |
| **9.** | **Correspondence** | |
|  | None | |
| **10.** | **AOB** | |
|  | * Problem of Gulls. **J.Adams** read out an email from **A.Keith** which was the same response that she gave at the last meeting. * A query from **S.H.** to Jan Emery about the unsightly recycling bins outside Iceland. She wasn’t sure what the issue was or where the bins were situated, so **J,Adams** will give **S.H.** Jan’s details and she can contact her directly. Jan also mentioned the Painted Stones Project which Doreen was also involved in. It has been decided to install a permanent display at the beach with them and she wondered if the CC could take this on and apply for the necessary funding when the time arrives for them to be installed, using the AIF. No-one objected to this. **R.M.** voiced his agreement.   **S.H.to contact Jan Emery again re the recycling bins in the Broadgate**   * A query from A.W. re the Saltoun Surgery. She feels the patients have not been notified about the present situation in the surgery since there was a post on FB in late August about the partners leaving the surgery and it would be taken over by GHB – lack of doctors, patients not managing to access appointments with a doctor, lack of communication etc.   **C.B**. said he had been involved in this about 5 months ago, as he was also worried about what would happen to the surgery. There is better news – instead of the 1½ doctor allocation, there is now an additional one, but is unsure if this is a permanent post. A practice manager has been appointed and is due to start in March. They are also actively advertising for more nurse practitioners. The surgery is now under direct control of NHS.  **D.M, A.Kille & B.T.** all agreed that it was a concern, due to a large per capita ratio of patients.  **S.L**. feels the patients have been extremely short-changed as far as communication is concerned and suggested another sub-group of the CC could be set up to discuss and address health and social care issues within the community.  **J.Adams** said he will put this on the agenda for the next meeting and if **C.B**. could give him details, he would send an email on behalf of the CC voicing their concerns to Mark Simpson, Manager of North Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care.  **J.Adams to send an email to Mark Simpson on behalf of the CC voicing their concerns**  **F.M**. asked that details of who to write to should be shared with the members and put on FB, as she felt a number of people would be willing to write individually about the problem and put pressure on the surgery to send communication to all the patients.  **H.G**. on hearing of all the problems at Saltoun Surgery, she is glad she is at Finlayson Street Surgery, where she has had excellent service.   * **J.Anderson** - Constitution and Insurance Update?   **A.Keith** was supposed to be updating the CC if she had been present.  **R.M** has been in touch with Zurich Insurance Company - they need to know what assets the CC has before they can get back to us. The list of assets has to be in by the end of March. **J.Anderson** has provided the list of assets which the Resilience group has.  **J.Adams** will speak to **A.Keith** to find out if there are updates and report back at the next meeting.   * **A.W**. commented that the Robertson Road Centre Respite Bungalow was unsuccessful in keeping the facility open.   **A.Kille** said that it is not closing, but adults who use the bungalow for respite will now have to go to the Peterhead facility and Robertson Road Respite Bungalow will be used as a youth facility.  **C.B**. said they got a slight concession – if any of the Fraserburgh or Banff carers felt strongly about going to Peterhead, there would be alternative provision made somewhere in Fraserburgh, but this was not fixed.   * **K.H**. any response from Paul Hendry re the plaques which were ordered for the planters?   **J.Adams** had contacted Paul again on FB, but there was no reply. Should the CC just cut their losses and move on? To be decided at the next meeting.  **J.Adams to contact A.Keith about the constitution and insurance updates**  **J.Adams to share with members details of Mark Simpson’s address** | |
| **11.** | **Date & Time of next meeting** | |
|  | **Tuesday 16th February 2021 at 7pm on Zoom** | |

**Action Sheet**

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|  | **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 | **Angela** |
| 3. | Matters Arising | Send out a spreadsheet to all members to add their contact details if they wish and this will be circulated to all members  Start setting up the website and show it to all members before it is published | **James**  **Ashley** |
| 5. | Treasurer’s Report | Send out the balance sheet to all the new members | **Ron** |
| 7. | Updates from Councillors | Think of ideas of projects they would like to be involved in for the Participatory Budgeting and let James know | **All CC Members** |
| 8. | Questions to the Councillors | Get advice from Jan Emery about the CC donating to other organisations’ projects  Write an email on behalf of the CC supporting the Sea Cadets in their cause? | **James**  **James** |
| 9. | AOB | Contact Jan Emery again re the recycling bins in the Broadgate  Send an email to Mark Simpson on behalf of the CC voicing their concerns  Contact A.Keith again about the Constitution and insurance updates  Share with members details of Mark Simpson’s address | **Sylvia**  **James**  **James**  **James** |