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| **MINUTES**  **Community and Sports Centre and Zoom**  **Tuesday 19th April 2022**  **at 7.00 pm** | |  |
| **Present**: James Adams (Chair)  Seamus Logan (Vice-Chair)  Ashley Mackie (Social Secretary)  Ken Watt (Planning Secretary)  Alison Wymes (Minutes Secretary)    John Anderson  Helena Gilbert  Sylvia Harper  Kenny Harper  Fiona May  Mary Regan  Dionne Whyte    **Councillors**: Councillor Charles Buchan (on Zoom)  Councillor Andy Kille (on Zoom)  Councillor Doreen Mair  Councillor Brian Topping (on Zoom)    Angela Keith (Area Manager of Banff & Buchan)  Alastair Rhind (Aberdeenshire Regeneration)  Cheryl Roberts (in charge of Public Realm project) (on Zoom)    Members of the public – Julie Wiseman, Lyn Bain, Judith Cardno,  Sam Masson, Dr Gayle Noble, George Watt, Jamie Bain | | |
| **1.** | **Apologies & Declaration of Interest** | |
|  | Steven Rollo, Ken Watt | |
| **2.** | **Minutes of last meeting** | |
|  | March Minutes  Proposed – Dionne Whyte Seconded – Mary Regan | |
| **3.** | **Matters Arising and Action Sheet Updates** | |
|  | **Action Updates**   1. Library Opening Hours – A.Kille had sent an email to J.Adams on 19th November   Forward that to CC members. **J.Adams**  Still to share the cleaning plan of the gullies to the CC **J.Adams**  Organise a group to visit Elgin Youth Club in the summer **H.Gilbert**  12. Get a 4th quote for the proposed 3rd Lighthouse near the Tesco roundabout - ongoing **S.Logan**  Still to send a link to CC members for writing a letter of support to Invercairn CC **J.Adams**  **Succession Planning & Membership**  If **J.Adams** and **S.Logan** are successful at the May local elections, a new chairperson and vice-chairperson will need to be co-opted on till the AGM in June  **FCC AGM** will take place on **Tuesday 21st June** from **6.30–7pm** in the **Community and Sports** **Centre**, followed by the **Ordinary Meeting** from **7-9pm** | |
| **4.** | **Police Scotland/Community Warden Reports** | |
|  | Police Scotland Community Wardens  None received from either | |
| **5.** | **Urgent Items of Business** | |
|  | **None** | |
| **6.** | **Treasurer’s Report** | |
|  | **K.Harper** hasn’t received all the Treasurer’s paperwork, so an update isn’t available | |
| **7.** | **Alastair Rhind - Beach Regeneration** | |
|  | Following Alastair’s presentation, there was a lot of discussion and questions.  **M.R** Why is there not a bus service to the beach for those people who don’t have cars or have limited access? When approached, Stagecoach claimed there wasn’t the demand, as there were no houses in that area!  **J.Anderson** Said it shouldn’t need houses to warrant a bus service!  **S.L** Stated that when the consultant is chosen for the Masterplan, that he/she should meet the FCC.  **K.H** For the town centre regeneration, the money was upfront, but because of the delays, due to Covid and other issues, the Public Realm works round the OPC have had to be reduced. Can A.Rhind guarantee that this will not happen to the Beach Masterplan?  **A.Rhind** – There is no budget upfront for the Beach regeneration. £35,000 has been allocated to the consultancy process which should take approx. a year. After that, it will be up to the interested parties to apply for funding independently.  **A.W** A concern is the beach area needs to be more disability friendly – better access to the beach itself – at present the ramped paths to the beach are overgrown or are too narrow for wheelchair/mobility scooter access. This was brought up at an event 3 years ago when members of the public met to give their opinions on what improvements could be made at the beach – hopefully these comments and suggestions are still available!  **D.M** Had approached beach users, as they would be an integral part of the consultation process, but they would need to come under the umbrella of the CC, in order that proper governance was followed.  **Dr G.N** An upgrade of the beach area would be beneficial for improving Health and Well-Being, but there needs to be more **communication**, so that all interested parties have a part to play – beach-users, local groups, children and young adults, health services etc.  **A.Rhind** The Consultation process should begin early Autumn.  **J.E** This meeting is a ‘Statement of Intent’ – just the starting point for the process. There are lots of different funds available for community projects, one being the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund.  **M.R** Mentioned the Coastal Community Fund (in its 3rd year now).  **A,Keith** All being well, the above fund should run for at least 2 more years.  **B.T** The Community Council will play its part, but it is up to the whole community to get involved and have its say in improving the beach area for locals and visitors alike.  **A.Keith** Once the CC has had its AGM in June and new office-bearers have been chosen, she will contact other groups to form a sub-group to progress with the process and report back to the CC regularly.  **J.Adams** thanked **A.Rhind** for attending the meeting and giving his presentation for the Beach Masterplan. | |
| **8.** | **Cheryl Roberts – Update on Public Realm Project** | |
|  | The main areas of the Fraserburgh Regeneration are nearly complete. The Temperance Fountain has been moved across the road and has been completed – there are still barriers round about it till the Public Realm works outside OPC and Kirk Brae are completed. This was due to be completed by the end of April/beginning of May, however there were issues round accessing materials, so it is now due to be finished by the end of May/beginning of June. The Mausoleum was completed, but green algae has been detected, so they are waiting on a contractor to remove that. The whole Fraserburgh 20/21 Regeneration should be completed by the end of July, but all the building work should be finished by end of June. It is hoped to have a launch event, principally for the funders, but also to celebrate what has been achieved in Fraserburgh over the last few years and to get feedback from the public on what has been done. This also includes 5 other areas – the buildings which are getting new windows and snagging done – round about Dyga’s shop in Broad Street, Anderson House and 3 properties in High Street – they should all be completed in June.  The project has won a SURF award for regeneration, The Faithlie Centre won a commendation from the Aberdeen Society of Architecture in their recent awards and the whole scheme has been put forward for the Royal Town Planning Institute, the results of this should be known in May. All these awards are national, so whenever an award is won, Fraserburgh is being highlighted in a positive way nationally.  Some discussion and questions followed Cheryl’s update.  **A.W** The area round the Faithlie Centre/Kirk Brae/OPC will look fresh and clean once it’s all finished. Unfortunately the other areas will look even more shabby and untidy! What can be done?  **H.G** Another area which is looking shabby and untidy is the underpass beside Nickel & Dime – the walls are all chipped and it is looking very dilapidated. A few years ago, the Art Department at the Academy was involved in making a mosaic display & painting the walls blue there – could something not be done to brighten up this area?  **J.Adams** What about the Trail’s building and Clydesdale Bank Regeneration? It would be a shame if the work done there to make it into a hotel is wasted and the building lies vacant, due to an operator for the hotel not being found yet.  **A.Keith**, **A.Rhind** and **D.M** responded to the first 2 questions – obviously there is not a maintenance budget to keep all the areas in the town spick and span! Historically, a greater emphasis would have been put on street cleaning and local businesses took pride in the pavements outside their shops/businesses etc. and would clean them regularly, but that doesn’t seem to be the case these days. Some businesses do keep the area outside clean, but that is something the CC could work with BBT to encourage shops etc. to take a pride in the outside of their properties as well as the inside. There are regular street cleaners, but they can’t be everywhere! If the CC wanted more street cleaning to be done, they could apply to the AIF for funding to carry that out. **A.Kille** suggested that if the CC wanted a maintenance budget, they could have one by applying to the Participatory Budget – Landscape Services are being put out to Participatory Budgeting. **M.R** stated that if schools got involved again in refreshing the underpass, there would need to be safety taken into consideration.  **A.Rhind** noted that the Trail’s/Clydesdale Bank had been advertised with Christie & Co, a well-known marketing hotels business. He seemed to think there were 2 interested parties, so hopefully something positive will come from that. He also said that the 2 buildings were designed, so they could be operated as 2 separate businesses. Obviously the owners, North-East Preservation Trust, would prefer it to be leased soon, in order that they get an income from it – if it were left vacant for a number of years, they would have to look at an alternative use for the buildings. | |
| **9.** | **Sub-Committees** | |
|  | * **Resilience**   **J.Anderson** He distributed copies of income and expenditure of the Resilience Group, which has 3 groups – Resilience, Community Larder and Snow-Clearing Groups. There are now 79 members. There are 20 shelves in the Food Larder which will have to be replaced, as the hardboard is getting damp**.**  **S.L Are the individuals who have given donations happy for their names to be on the finance sheets?**  **J.Anderson** He would bring that point forward at the next F.L. Committee meeting, but he said they were happy enough for their photo to be on FB!   * **Flower Fairies**   **S.H** We received 50 perennial plants from the Greenspace Team. We are a bit disappointed at the quality of the plants. We expect 30 to have some impact! We did speak to Elizabeth Stanyer about perhaps having a bit more communication when delivering of plants etc, as we often only have a small window to collect them and we are all busy people!  We, as a group, discussed at length J.Anderson’s suggestion of moving old planters and placing them into position on certain street corners to stop lorries mounting the pavements to unload goods, but as we are a relatively small group, we have decided to concentrate on the town centre and entrances to the town. The further out of the town centre would cause more issues with the watering. Therefore we think this is a matter for Roads Dept/Alistair Millar which we will bring up at the next Environmental Planning Meeting – perhaps bollards would be a more ideal answer to this problem. Alistair Millar had sent an email to say they would be willing to paint the town centre seating, but it would be 2022/23 before this could be done. Would contacting the Community Payback be another option – they could maybe get it done in a shorter timescale? He had also put out to tender the painting of the lamp-posts.  **A.Keith** Seemed to think both jobs could be done by the Roads Department, but asked S.H to get clarification of the time-scale and get back to her.  **A.Kille** You can’t really ask Community Payback to do tasks that you would normally pay someone to do.  **S.H** Contact Alistair Millar for clarification of the time-scale for painting the seating and lamp-posts.  **H.G** Contact Polly in Asda re getting donations of plants/compost, but explain they would be used in the town centre and not at the Asda entrance to the town, as first explained.   * **Community Awards**   **A.M** The awards will now take place at the end of May/start of June, possibly in the Lighthouse Museum. She will contact the people on the judging panel to discuss the short list of nominations for the awards. She will also contact Linda McGuigan at the Lighthouse Museum for the availability of dates.  **A.M** Contact the judging panel to discuss the short list. Contact the Lighthouse Museum for available dates for the award ceremony.   * **Litter-Picking Group**   **H.G** A litter-pick was done with the Skate Club and J.Adams on 3rd April.There are Litter Picks being arranged with the Boys Brigade this week and Tesco in the near future. The group has signed up to the Macdonald’s Litter App ‘LitterLotto’ whereby customers will be able to win prizes from £5 to £10,000 just by binning their litter and downloading a selfie on the App with their litter. The Community Payback are intending doing a Litter-pick on the bypass and Watermill Road soon.  **S.L** Had intended doing a Litter-pick with Lorna Davidson in the Broadsea area during April, but there seems to be a lot of marine litter washed up by the tide there and some of the items are too large to be uplifted by 2 people. Would H.G be able to organise a Litter-pick there with some more people involved?  **C.B** The Harbour are very good at providing a forklift to pick up marine litter e.g. heavy nets etc., so keep them in mind for future beach cleans etc. **A.Keith** Landscape Services would also help with heavy items to be picked up.  **A.Keith** asked if the Men’s Shed were involved in any of the groups – either Litter-picking or Flower Fairies? It would be an ideal group to help with some of the activities.  **J.E** Had been in touch with the Men’s Shed on various occasions throughout the year about different projects which she thought they would be capable of helping with, but there hadn’t been much response. They seemed to think that they were limited in what they could do, because they didn’t have premises. She didn’t think they were a particularly ‘active’ group, even although she had offered them help.  **M.R** Has been involved with the Men’s Shed since they started. There were technical teething problems at the start, but once they were overcome, they did a lot of work in Sandhaven. The problem arose when they had to vacate their premises at the harbour, so they had nowhere to keep their tools/machinery. They are now sharing Grampian House with the Sea Cadets and are doing some work there to make it a better place for both the Sea Cadets and the Men’s Shed. Mary is on their WhatsApp group, so can keep in touch with them on behalf of the CC.  **J.E** Stated the last time she had been in touch with Ralph Grantham, he told her they had received planning permission for a portacabin to be sited at the back of Grampian House, which will be their workshop, so once that’s in place, they’ll be able to do a lot more. | |
| **10.** | **Questions for Aberdeenshire Councillors** | |
|  | **J.Anderson** The lorry park has been taken over by Moray North East for staff parking, so there is no place for other lorries to park overnight now. He notices there are 3 lorry tails and 2 lorries parked in the road leading down to the beach, unattended. Are they insured to be parked there unattended and if there is an accident, who is responsible? He gave an example of a similar situation a few years ago of a lorry being parked in Albert Street, where a motorcyclist was killed on a dark, rainy day – he had his head down and crashed into the parked lorry!!  **D.M** Following another complaint, she was told that the lorries are delivering items to Gray & Adams. She has contacted them, but still has to hear back from them. The old lorry park was unfit for use by lorries – lorry parks these days require showers and toilets and she doesn’t think there is a big enough turnover of lorries in this area to warrant spending money on upgrading the old lorry park. **A.Kille** had had a similar complaint from one of his constituents and he contacted Alistair Millar of the Roads Dept and the police for advice. He had received a reply from them and has forwarded on the reply to the CC.  **J.Adams** Share the legal advice from the police regarding this matter with the CC members.  **A.W** A couple of weeks ago, a vehicle crashed into the wall at the old swimming pool on Alexandra Terrace – who should be contacted about it? The neighbours, who live on Alexandra Terrace directly opposite where the crash took place, had looked out after, but all debris had been removed and the vehicle was not on site.  **A.Keith** Will take an action to enquire about the knocked down wall, as it’s on Council property.  **S.L** Would like it recorded in the minutes the CC’s thanks to the 4 local councillors for their support over the last few years and answering all the questions put to them and for taking points forward on behalf of the FCC.  **J.Adams** Also thanked the 4 councillors and especially Cllr Charles Buchan and Cllr Andy Kille, who are not standing again in the local elections in May. He hoped that Cllr Brian Topping and Cllr Doreen Mair would return as councillors in the May election. The CC appreciated all the work they have done over the last few years. | |
| **11.** | **Questions from Members of the Public** | |
|  | There was a question from a member of the public on FB about the old railway on the bents.  **D.M** This will be taken into consideration at the Beach Regeneration consultation.  **A.M** Is wondering when all the scaffolding is being taken down in the town centre – manoeuvring a pram round these areas can be awkward and it’s not very safe taking a pram onto the road.  **A.Keith** With all the building work due to be completed by the end of June, as Cheryl said, hopefully they’ll all be removed by then, if not by the end of July.  **F.M** Asked about the play park in James Ramsey Park – there is a padlock on one of the gates – is it there for a purpose – is it a genuine padlock or a ‘prank’ padlock? There had been issues with the other entrance in the past as it used to get flooded, but there has been gravel put down to prevent it flooding, so maybe there is going to be something similar put down at the padlocked gate entrance?  **D.M** Take an action to check with someone about this issue. | |
| **12.** | **Correspondence** | |
|  | None | |
| **13.** | **Planning Applications** | |
|  | **J.Adams** thanked **K.W** for continuing to send out the planning applications | |
| **14.** | **AOB** | |
|  | **A.M** Had been speaking to Linda McGuigan at the Lighthouse Museum – they are organising a Jubilee event at the lighthouse, involving the Boys Brigade and the Sea Cadets, to which the CC are invited. She wonders whether the CC could do a promotion for a picnic-style event in James Ramsey Park.  **J.Adams** He had been speaking to Ainsley Dyga - the BBT and Rotary Club are organising something at the Vintage Car Rally e.g. a stall with vintage items/royal memorabilia and said she would contact the CC if she wanted help with that or if the CC wanted to be involved.  Further discussion took place about other jubilee events taking place – concerts in schools, the Beacon lighting on the Thursday (applications had closed for this), planting trees (the time for planting trees is past now and will restart in October/November)  **A.Keith** Thought it was too late to start organising anything big, as time was running out. Events should have been planned at the start of the year. The CC could contact other groups to see if they needed help.  **A.K** Can there be academy pupils/college students on the CC?  **J.Adams** Yes, there have been representatives from the academy before – proved quite successful and the 2 who attended a couple of meetings put forward some good suggestions about liaising with the Academy. Covid happened, so it’s a suggestion to be taken forward in the summer. The young people would be like co-opted members – they can speak at a meeting, but cannot vote in any decision making. They would be a good asset to have on the CC, especially with the Beach Masterplan – they can put forward their own suggestions of what they would like to see happening, not what adults think they would like to see happening!  **H.G** There used to be Liquor Licence Applications, similar to planning applications. Are these still being sent out?  **B.T** Is Convener of the Licencing Board and he’s never heard of the CC being an official consultee, as in planning. It is a legal obligation for extensions to licencing hours to be advertised and any individual or group can put in an objection or support for this happening. If there was a planning application for a new pub to be built, then that would be brought before the CC for comment.  **A.Keith** Informed the CC members that the Active Travel Path Phase 2 connecting the Leisure Centre to the beach and crossing into James Ramsey Park will be starting and is expected to take 12 weeks to be completed.  **J.Adams** closed the meeting by congratulating Fraserburgh Football Club on winning the 2021/22 Breedon Highland League and wishing them all the best in their future games. | |
| **14.** | **Date & Time of Next Meeting** | |
|  | **Tuesday 17th May 2022 at 7pm in the Community and Sports Centre (Hybrid to allow CC members to meet face-to-face or join on Zoom)** | |