



The summary report of the key development of the Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) and the Folkestone Nepalese Community Centre (FNCC) since Dec 2019 to Jan 2022

27 March 2022

1. The Folkestone Nepalese community was formed in 2005 mainly by the retired Gurkha Veterans, residing in Folkestone and its area.
2. Currently, the FNC is run by the 7th Executive Committee formed on 07 December 2019 - General Convention under the Chair of Tika Singh Thakuri with the following Executive Committee Members (ECM):

Chairman	Tika Singh Thakuri
Vice Chairman	Bhaskar Rai
Vice Chairman	Jhapindra Thapa
General Secretary	Maha Rai, PhD
Secretary	Chitra Tamang
Treasurer	Bikram Rai
Assistant Treasurer	Kaji Rai
Media Secretary	Hari Rai
Assistant Media Secretary	Jitbhan Pun
Cultural Secretary	Indira Rai
Assistant Cultural Security	Sushma Thapa
Sports Secretary	Gamsher Rai
Assistant Sports Secretary	Yadav Rai
Property Member	Rachhebahadur Gurung resigned in 15 September 2020 due posting to Winchester and later committee nominated Lalit Limbu
Assistant Property Member	Manbahadur Rai
Ladies Coordinator	Jyoti Rai
Assistant Ladies Coordinator	Hangma Limbu
Senior citizen Coordinator	Sumanchandra Rai
Youth Coordinator	Abesh Rai



3. On 22 December 2019, the 7th Executive Committee, first ECM nominated and requested the following personnel as the Advisory body for 2019 – 2021 (later extended to March 2022):

- a. Mr Chandra Gurung
- b. Capt. (Retd) Ram bahadur Pun
- c. Mr Harka Rai
- d. Mr Gopal Giri
- e. Mr Tek Loktam
- f. Capt. (Retd) Bishnu Singh
- g. Mr Amar Gurung

4. FNC Valentine Event which was held on 15 Feb 2020 at The Harvey Grammar School under the coordination of Vice Chairman Mr Bhaskar Rai. The post meeting for the FNC Valentine Party on 23 Feb 2020 reported the following financial statement:

Income:

Tickets:	£2120.00
Drinks & Bingo:	£646.55
Rose Flower:	£21.00

Total Income: £2787.55

Expenditure:

Food:	£1160.00
Hall Room:	£496.00
Drinks:	£387.49
Decoration:	£193.72
Titbits:	£57.50

Total Expenditure: £2444.71

Hence, we have a **total Surplus = £342.84.**

5. On 25 October 2020, the FNC held the "Special General Meeting" under the FNC Constitution 2010, Article 12 to process to register the FNC as a Charity organisation. The reason and necessity of FNC to register as a charity organisation and the decisions of the FNC are explained in the agenda background and the minutes of the FNC "Special General Meeting" that was held on 25 October 2020.

6. The project mentioned on 4 was headed by the FNC current trustee, then advisor Capt. (Retd) Ram Pun and the FNC was successfully registered with the Charity Commission for the England and Wales on 18 January 2021 with **charity number 1193139** under the **Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)** model. **The constitution is drafted by Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun and approved by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.**

Also, the following personnel were nominated as the Board of Trustees (details can be found in the minutes of the "Special General Meeting"- 25 Oct 2020):



- I. Tika Singh Thakuri – Chairman
- II. Maha Rai – Secretary
- III. Bikram Rai – Treasurer
- IV. Ram Pun – Trustee member
- V. Chandra Gurung – Trustee member
- VI. Nabin Siwa – Trustee member
- VII. Bishnu Singh – Trustee member

7. The FNC Chair and executive committee successfully signed the **LEASE** with the Kent County Council on 30 July 2021 relating to the ground floor, Cheriton Library Building for the Folkestone Community Centre under the lead of Project Officer / Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun. The FNC legal representative was Premier Solicitors (Premier House, Lurke Street, Bedford, MK40 3HU) from 16 November 2020 until completion date, 30 July 2021.

8. Since the FNC is registered as the Charity Organisation, we are obliged by the following objectives from 18 January 2021:

a. To promote for the benefit of the Nepalese and Gurkha veterans residing in Folkestone and the surrounding area by:

- a. The advancement of education and training;
- b. The relief of poverty, sickness and distress;
- c. The promotion of good health; and
- d. The provision of recreational facilities in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving their conditions of life.

b. To advance the education of the public on all aspects of Nepalese history and culture.

c. The relief of financial need and suffering among victims of natural or other kinds of disaster in Nepal in the form of money (or other means deemed suitable) for persons, bodies, and organisations.

9. Therefore, to achieve these objectives mentioned in 7 and to run the Community centre, the FNC started to have conversation with other professional organisation, particularly with the **Kent Cost Volunteering (KCV)**, 3 Park Street, Deal, Kent, CT14 6AG. [The KCV charity number is 1111800 and Company Limited by Guarantee: 5392093.](#)

10. On 29 October 2020, KCV applied for Armed Forces Covent Fund for **£69,800** with the help of Alex Sansom, FHDC Community Officer. The main aim of request for funding was to employ a Senior Project Coordinator and set up the FNC – Community Centre to develop the activities to tackle the loneliness within the FNC veteran community. The bid was successful, and the project duration is from April 2021 – April 2023. It's also called Armed Forces Tackling Loneliness Grant.

11. After the series of formal talk between the FNC and KCV on 18 March 2021, 15 April 2021, and 20 May 2021, led by **the FNC Executive Representative (Trustee) Capt (Retd) Ram Pun**, the FNC Chair Tika Singh Thakuri and KCV CEO Kerry Smith signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 14 June 2021. **Please note the (MOU) will be provided to the FNC members at their request. Also, the MOU is the working procedure between the FNC and KCV at the FNCC until 30 April 2023.**



12. KCV also applied for the Digital Inclusion (forces for change) project of £19,826.00 to support the FNC Veterans and their families and adults dependents. Trustee Nabin Siwa and FHDH Community Officer Alex Sansom provide the advice and support. The funding was successful and project dates are 28 February 2021 to 01 March 2022. The main aim of the project was to employ Digital Champion Tutors and volunteers to provide the digital learning courses for the veteran and their families.

13. After the series of discussion between the KCV, FNC and the FNC senior citizen group, KCV applied for the further funding with Kent Community Foundation for £5,000.00 on 28 May 2021 to employ the part-time activity coordinator to assist the FNC senior citizen for their digital activities (housing benefits, GP appointments, job seeker allowances etc) under Elderly & Isolated Themed Programme. The bid was successful, and project is up running since November 2021.

14. While the series of formal talk between FNC and KCV was going on as mentioned on 10 and the Armed Forces Covent Fund Tackling loneliness mentioned on 9, to facilitate the activities, again on 01 June 2021, KCV applied for the funding of £65,00.00 for the Folkestone Nepalese Community Centre to run the activities and to employ a Senior Activity Coordinator to assist the Senior Project Coordinator. The funding was successful, and the project will run for two years from January 2022.

15. On the side of the FNC, Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun successfully led the set-up funding for the FNCC through grants, which are as follows:

a. KCC Combined Grant – Jan 2021 =	£2000.00
b. FHDC Ward Grant – Jan/Feb 2021 =	£2500.00
c. FHDC Addl Grant – Aug 2021 =	£2500.00
d. KCC Covid 19 safe Opening – Nov 2021 =	£3198.42
e. Veteran Drop In Session 2020 =	£680.00

Total = £10,878.42

16. On 07th Oct 2021, the FNC formally inaugurated the Folkestone Nepalese Community Centre (FNCC). Between 30 July 2021 and 06 Oct 2021, the FNCC went through renovation under the coordination of **Trustee Chandra Gurung** and **Vice Chairman Jhapindra Thapa. Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun** lead the budgeting of purchases and finance matter with the KCV.

17. To achieve the criteria and objectives of these restricted grants mentioned on 9, 11, 12 and 13 the KCV and the FNC employed the following personnel:

1.	Armed Forces Covenant Fund – Tackling Loneliness	Maha Rai – from 11 Oct 2021 until April 2023 – 30 hrs per week	Senior Project Coordinator & the FNCC Manager
2.	National Lottery Community Fund - FNCC	Kanchan Roka – from 17 Jan 2022 – Jan 2024 – 25 hrs per week	Senior Activity Coordinator



3.	Kent Community Foundation – Elderly & Isolated	Sarita Rana – from 04 Nov 2021 to Nov 2022 – 6 hrs per week	Activity Coordinator
4	Armed Forces Covent Fund – Forces for Change	Abesh Rai and Kumar Rai – from March 2021 – March 2022 – 8 hrs per week per each	Digital Champion Tutor

18. All the **human resources** (HR) matter of these above employees mentioned in 16 and the final reporting of these grants to the providers mentioned on 9, 11, 12, and 13 are managed and looked after by the KCV, whereas it is the responsibilities of Senior Project Coordinator to liaise with the FNC Executive Committee, Advisors and Board of Trustees to make sure the FNC is achieving its charitable objectives mentioned on 7. He or she is also responsible to follow the procedure of MOU mentioned on 10 and look for the sustainability of the FNCC.

19. Since the signing of the MOU between the FNC and KCV and the formal opening of the FNCC mentioned on 10 and 15, both partners are obliged to have at least one monthly partnership meeting to scrutinize the budgets, plans and review whether FNC and KCV are meeting the criteria of funders mentioned on 9, 11, 12 and 13. The **FNC is represented by the Executive Representative, Trustee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun** on the behalf of the Executive Committee, Advisors and Board of Trustees. The KCV is represented by the **Senior Project Manager Mark Connorton**. It's the duty of Senior Project Coordinator / the FNCC Manager to facilitate and provide agenda, minutes/reports at the partnership meeting. So far, we had three partnership meeting on 2nd September 2021, 11 November 2021, and 16 December 2021. However, these initial meetings were chaired and facilitated by the KCV CEO Kerry Smith to keep the ball rolling.

20. On the day-to-day basis, the FNC is run by the Chair and their Executive Committee with advice and coordination of Advisors, and the Board of Trustees (who are ultimately answerable to the Charity Commission) for the benefits of the Folkestone Community Members and the wider community as mentioned in 7, however the following key personnel and volunteers have come forward to help us run the FNCC to achieve our goals:

S. N	Name	Description
1	Capt (Retd) Ram Pun	Trustee and FNC Executive Representative for the FNCC
2	Chandra Gurung	Trustee FNCC Lead Maintenance & Building, and First Aider
3	Bhaskar Rai	FNCC Lead Executive Committee
4	Jhapindra Thapa	FNCC Lead Executive Committee and First Aider
5	Gamsher Rai	FNCC IT Technical - Executive Committee
6	Capt (Retd) Bishnu Singh	FNCC Lead Digital Champion Volunteer
7	Capt Ram Gurung	FNCC Health & Safety Policy
8	Capt (Retd) Purna Gurung	FNCC Volunteer - Heating & Plumbing
9	Hari Rai	FNCC Volunteer - First Aider , Executive Committee
10	Dev Pun	FNCC Senior Citizen Lead Volunteer
11	Shiva Dhan Rai	FNCC Senior Citizen Lead Volunteer, and First Aider
12	Phista Bahadur Rai	FNCC Senior Citizen Volunteer
13	Kaji Man Rai	FNCC Senior Citizen Volunteer
14	Chitra Bahadur Gurung	FNCC Senior Citizen Volunteer



15	Bhakta Shestha	FNCC Volunteer - Electrician
16	Martine McGimpsey	FNCC Volunteer - DIY
17	Kuiehnng Limbu	FNCC Youth Volunteer
18	Kalpana Rai	Nepalese Handicraft Volunteer
19	Pad Maya Limbu	Nepalese Handicraft Volunteer
20	Anga Kumari Limbu	Nepalese Handicraft Volunteer
21	Janet Johnson	Stich & Chat Volunteer
22	Jenny Rivers	Stich & Chat Volunteer
23	Wendy Lodge	Stich & Chat Volunteer
24	Duane Poppe	Digital Champion Volunteer
25	Tikaram Rai	Digital Champion Volunteer
26	Tej Tamang	FNCC Senior Citizen Volunteer Transport – Jan 2022
27	Sneha Rai	Student Volunteer applied 23 rd July 2021 through KCV
28	Katie Lee -Sang	Volunteer applied 06 th May 2021 through KCV
29	Julius Farrand	KCV Apprentices – FNCC Since Oct 2021 until Mar 2022
27	David Keningale	Community Officer - First Aider Volunteer
28	Rupa Rana	BFBS Gurkha Radio
29	Mani Kumar Rai	FNC Senior Citizens

21. Since the FNC has its own community centre, FNCC, which was successful on getting the grants mentioned on 9, 11, 12, 13 and 14, and to run effectively there is now additional bank account for the FNCC which is open under the additional account of the FNC. That is both have the same sort code but different account number.

- FNC Account No: 47138327
- FNCC Account No: 563171707. Both has the same sort code: 52414

22. As per report on **FNC Office Space Project** presented by the Project Officer, Turstee Capt (Retd) Ram Pun on the FNC "Special General Meeting", the FNC has **liabilites** of around £800 to £900. **Please note this is a true reflection to the FNC in runing the FNCC which includes rent, utialities, broadband, building & employers labiality insurance, waste management and non-domestic rates.**

23. The total revenue that the FNCC has managed during the period of its opening from 07 October to 27 March is approximately **£7,696.04**. These revenues are generated from the hiring of the meeting/conference room and main hall, running activities, collaborating the projects with other organisations, donation from the pots collection and other charities, and Omicron grant.

24. The balance of the main **FNC account** is approximately **£17,355**. However, Treasure Bikram Rai will update the final figure on upcoming Quarterly Meeting and the General Convention.

25. Obviously the COVID 19 pandemic has affected all of us, also the FNC member lost their loved ones during these pandemics, and this has also hampered us to fully run the FNCC to achieve the FNC objectives mentioned in 7. However, the FNCC has managed to run the following activities during 15 October 2021 – March 2022:

- Digital Inclusion Programme
- Community Day - Includes many Senior Citizen Activates
- Nepalese Traditional Handicraft
- The Armed Forces Veteran support group
- Stitch and chat



- Arts and Crafts
- Digital Arts
- Film making

26. Senior Project Coordinator has realised that the FNCC has not been able to cater **all the veteran age group** their **spouses** and **dependents** (young & adults), but the employment of Senior Activity Coordinator from January 2022 has brought the resources. Hence, now the FNCC paid officers are fully consulting with all the beneficiaries (FNC members) to plan and discuss the activities coordinating with the FNC Executive Committee, Advisors, and the Board of Trustees. Please find the FNCC activities schedule for February 2022 and some are still in consultation and development phases and not to mention the hampering of the project by the latest Omicron.

Folkestone Nepalese Community Centre

Weekly Schedule
Manager Office: Mon - Fri 10:00 - 16:00
Tel : 01303 398055

Integration to wider community and preserve our original Nepalese culture, tradition, ethos and community identity. Serve to combat loneliness and promote wellbeing through education, training and recreational activities

Day/Time	9:00 - 10:00 AM	10:00 - 11:00 AM	11:00 - 12:00 AM	12:00 - 13:00PM	13:00 - 14:00 PM	14:00 - 15:00 PM	15:00 - 16:00 PM	15:30-16:30 PM	16:00-17:00 PM
Monday	Cleaning		Seated Exercise			Seated Exercise			
Tuesday	Digital Inclusion - Kumar			FNC Senior Citizens Chatter Box, Bingo, Quizzes & Games - Sarita, Julius					
Wednesday		FNC Nepalese Traditional Handicrafts - Padmaya, Angh, Kalpana & Martine	Library Day						
Thursday	Digital Inclusion - Duane			2nd Thursday of each month - Armed Forces Veterans Support Group					
Friday				FNC Senior Citizens Chatter Box					
Saturday	Digital Inclusion - Abesh								
Sunday									FNC

27. Projects in consultation and developing for adult and senior veterans, their spouses and dependents, and for the wider community are:

- FNC Digital Champion Programme – for adult veterans and spouses
- FNC Veterans Gathering Monthly
- FNC Health Talks on Alzheimer, Dementia and Mental health
- FNC Talks and Seminar on Originality of Culture & Tradition
- Kent County Council & FNC Digital Champion training – young & adults veterans' children to enhance IT skills
- FNC Arts Project for School & College students

To run these above projects, the FNC is working with other professional and charity organisation which are KCV, Age UK, South Enterprise Kent, ShivaNova/Equatorial, South Kent Mind, Cheriton Library, Kent Adult Education, Folkestone Town Council, Folkestone & Hythe District Council and Kent County Council.



Please note, on weekly basis from the first week of February 2022, the Senior Activity Coordinator will provide the FNC with the activity schedule through emails, vibers, FNCC Facebook and FNC website.

28. Beside the above projects, The FNC has conducted other community projects in order to support the other community such as participating in Medical Survey (Trustee Ram Pun), Beach Cleaning and Castle Hill and Cheritonward Cleaning

29. In summary:

- a) The FNC and FNCC will provide the activities that are educational and help in enhancement of the skills of the FNC members, their families, and dependents.
- b) The FNC and FNCC will survey all age veterans (their families) and will try their best to run the activities according to their needs and good well being
- c) The FNC and FNCC will works towards integration to wider community by preserving our original diverse Nepalese culture, tradition, ethos, and community identity**
- d) The FNC and FNCC will work towards combating loneliness by promoting wellbeing through education, training, and recreational activities
- e) The FNC and FNCC will generate fund to achieve a, b, c, d and run the FNCC for a foreseeable future and achieve our objectives mentioned in 7.

30. Finally, for the progress and development of our community one cannot do it by themselves, but the whole community must come together. Therefore, on behalf of the current Executive Committee Members, Advisors, and the Board of Trustees may I humbly request you all to be an active FNC members and participate on the FNC and FNCC projects and its activities.

Also, may I request you all not to hesitate to come forward to us and provide your criticism, your voice, your feedback and visit us at the Community Centre. All the FNC members, friends and families are welcome at the FNCC. Please do not hesitate to constructively scrutinize us and help us to plan the existence of FNC for many, many years to come.

We are here to serve you!

But we need your participants and your annual member suscription to help us to serve you and the wider community, and importantly to keep the FNC legacy for generartion to come.

Yours faithfully

Maha Rai, PhD
General Secretary

Tika Singh Thakuri
Chairma

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