

Minutes of JCC Meeting held on Thursday 10th May 2018

Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin

Present:

Name	Community Council	Name	Community Council
Alastair Kennedy	Chair	Eleanor Hayward	Forres
Ann Mitchell	Buckie & District	Lesley Edwards	Forres
Morag Stewart	Buckie & District	David Parker	Forres
Bill Davidson	Burghead & Cummington	Jim Mountford	Heldon
Les Taylor	Burghead & Cummington	Colin Hanover	Lennox
Joan Nicol	Dufftown & District	Donald Cameron	Lennox
Jim Nicol	Dufftown & District	Mike Reid	Lennox
Eddie Wallace	Elgin	Carolle Ralph	Lossiemouth
David Chapman	Elgin	Maureen Garden	Lossiemouth
Iain Catto	Elgin	Marion Ross	Speyside
Sheila Urquhart	Findhorn and Kinloss	Jean Richardson	Speyside
Diane Anderson	Findhorn and Kinloss	Karen Pryce-Iddon	Strathisla
Graham Murdoch	Forres	Iain Lax	Strathisla

In attendance:

Jane Martin, Community Council Liaison Officer, Catherine Sinclair (minutes), Cllr J Divers, Cllr Lorna Creswell

Force 9 – Nick Mackay, Steven Park, Andrew Smith

Moray Council Licensing - Margaret Forest, Sean Hoath

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone. Apologies were noted from Christine Allan, Buckie & District Community Council; Mary Evan, Heldon Community Council; Cllr Aaron Mclean; Cllr Donald Gatt; Cllr James Allan; Cllr Maria McLean; Cllr Claire Feaver; Cllr Amy Patience; Cllr Derek Ross; Cllr George Alexander; Cllr Graham Leadbitter; Cllr John Cowe; Cllr Louise Laing; Cllr Ryan Edwards; Cllr Shona Morrison; Cllr Tim Eale.

2. Presentations:

Licensing, Moray Council – Margaret Forest, Sean Hoath

Information was given on the role of Community Councils including how to make representation about or object to a license, how to submit complaints, and how decisions are made. Licensing Boards and committees do have discretion i.e. if a license cannot be refused on specific, regulatory grounds, it must be granted. Presentation slides will be circulated via email and Jane Martin can pass on any questions to Licensing.

A consultation on licensing policy will be circulated shortly. Community Councils are asked to respond encourage the public to respond by July. It was suggested we should

at least respond to sections on numbers of premises, licensing hours, outdoor drinking facilities, and access to licensed premises for children and young people. The new policy has a requirement for an overprovision statement.

Clash Gour update – Force 9 – Nick Mackay

Information was given about the proposed site, reasons for the scale and turbine height (potential up to 175m), consultation to date, and community ownership. Slides will be circulated and a handout was circulated. Local Energy Scotland has information on support available to communities, potential sources of funding/loans and successful examples of Community Ownership. Abundance (Independent Financial Advisors) also has creative ideas about how communities can raise finance.

Scottish Government aspires that by 2020, half of newly consented renewables projects will have a meaningful element of Community Ownership. Community Ownership is separate from Community Benefit and EDF, the developer, is publically committed to providing Scottish Government's recommended level of Community Benefit of £5,000/MW.

Community ownership is an investment in a legal right to a share of profits, rather than a share of a physical asset. If communities are interested, the next step would be to review, possibly amend, and sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) The MoU preserves the option to buy in but does not contain a financial obligation. Discussion was held and it seems there is an appetite to explore Community Ownership. It was agreed the Chair would talk to Local Energy Scotland again and arrange to take this forward. Force 9 would like an early meeting with interested groups and are happy to attend individual Community Council meetings on request.

3. Approval of minutes February 2018

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Mike Reid, seconded by Graeme Murdoch.

4. Matters arising

Police attendance at Community Council meetings – Burghead & Cummingston reported there had been no improvement. **ACTION: Chair to pass this to Chief Inspector Millar**

Budget consultation – a consultation on the next Moray Council Budget is about to begin. There will evening meetings in local areas and day time pop-ups. All are asked to put up posters and circulate information to the community. Information and poster to be circulated.

Registering with the Information Commissioners Office – a majority agreed that the Joint Community Council should also register as a data controller. **ACTION: Catherine**

5. Treasurer's Report

The current balance is £12,427.14 after the award of £59,995.94 of Participatory Budgeting grants in March. This breaks down as: JCC Grant Balance of £1,806.64

Participatory Budget round 1 balance of £408.93 Participatory Budget round 2 balance of £3,345.69.

Participatory Budget rounds 3 and 4 have expenses still to be paid and balances will then be finalised.

6. Community Council Liaison Officer Update

Venue Hire - It may be that Joint Community Council may have to pay in future – there were no objections.

GDPR – training was good, very well attended and feedback was positive. Some felt it would have been useful to have some information ahead of the training.

Planning training – was well attended. Further training was requested by Community Councillors and Jane Martin has arranged training from Planning Aid Scotland on a Saturday.

Community Council Grant payments - should be paid in by the end of next week.

7. Group updates

- i. **LEADER** – £1.4million has now been committed. Outcome 3 (tourism) is over-represented so it is not likely more funding will be allocated here unless an exception application with collaboration at its heart is received. A grant of £360,000 has been awarded, towards the costs of creation of a new distillery in The Cabrach – this is the single biggest award from Moray LEADER to date. Last applications must be signed off by March 2019.

- ii. **Participatory Budgeting Update – Money for Moray**

The last round had the theme Health and Wellbeing and was held on 18th March in Grant Hall, Rothes. Thirty-seven groups attended and 25 were successful. Approximately 300 people attended and there was a great buzz on the day. Participatory Budgeting (PB) is going from strength to strength due to the efforts of the 15 volunteers.

A PB conference is planned for 7th September to help bring PB into the mainstream. Scottish Government aims that 1% of public money will be allocated using PB. The PB group is inviting representatives from Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire and Highland Councils and other Community Planning Partners e.g. NHS

- iii. **Community Engagement Group (CEG)**

The Money for Moray group arranged a development day for Moray Community Engagement Group and Community Planning partners, which was well attended and received good feedback.

8. Information Sharing

Buckie & District

The 'Bucks for Buckie' participatory budgeting event saw 13 community groups applying for £20,000 on the themes of Economic Development and Improving Buckie. Two groups pulled out and the remainder all received grant money. There was a great atmosphere and the networking was felt to be as valuable as the funding.

Three young mums have planned to raise funds for a play park in Well Road Park. After careful planning they have now raised £60,000 in about 6 months.

Burghead and Cummington

There have been issues of anti-social behaviour and fire setting.

The defibrillator project is going well. Les Taylor contacted local firms for donations and approximately £6,500 has been raised since November. To date funds have been raised for 4, almost 5 defibrillators and 2 have been fitted.

Dufftown and District

The community centre is to be closed and 2 groups are working separately to form a group for community asset transfer. The Rifle Club and Cabin nursery/day care cannot jointly form a group as the Cabin's constitution precludes it from sharing premises with a rifle club.

The Community Council got agreement from Moray Council that they would pay the clock's electricity bill if repair could be arranged. The clock has not worked for about a year. Work on this brought several community groups together in common purpose and they learned more about the work each was doing and some work that was being duplicated.

Elgin

A significant amount of time has been spent working on and submitting responses to the Local Development Plan and Main Issues Report, Bilbohall and Findrassie development plans and the Core Path plan as well as the proposed A96 route. It is calculated the man hours spent on a single consultation response cost more than Elgin's grant if members were paid at the Living Wage rate.

Findhorn and Kinloss Community Council

This is a newly reformed Community Council with a lot of first time Community Councillors. They have been dealing with parking and speeding issues. They wish to be a proactive Community Council and plan to get a defibrillator for Findhorn and update their community resilience plan.

Forres

A discussion has been held with NHS Grampian about the possible closure of Leancoil Hospital and potential for Community Asset Transfer. This would be a new model for NHS Grampian and could be of use at other locations. It is widely believed the hospital is a common good asset but it is not. Graeme Murdoch also raised concerns about the long term financial viability and maintenance costs of buildings acquired through Community Asset Transfer.

A meeting was held with BEAR and Transport Scotland re proposed routes of the A96 bypass. Members of the public have asked about cycle lane provision. This will form part of the detailed planning of the road but there is no obligation or commitment to provide cycle paths and in fact parts of the route will be dangerous to cyclists.

A pop-up day information and meet the public day is planned for May 19th in the Tollbooth. It is hoped this will be a useful way to recruit Community Councillors. It is planned to repeat this every 2.5-3 months to keep in touch with members of the public.

Heldon

There are lots of small communities in Heldon with different issues. The main common and ongoing issue is that of flooding upstream from Elgin – no satisfactory response has been received from Moray Council as yet and solution has not been found.

Keith

NHS Grampian attended a Community Council meeting to update on the potential for a new Health Centre in Keith. Community Councillors are still busy with their decision-making roles in 3 Community Benefit Funds. There are plans to hear from Tourism Scotland about potential opportunities from 'Moray Speyside'.

Lennox

There have been 2 resignations leaving 8 Community Councillors and 6 vacancies. It is challenging to recruit new Community Councillors from such a large and rural area.

A GDPR training meeting is planned for next week.

A small Planning Committee and an SSEN Grants Committee have been formed within the Community Council.

Lossie

The Community Council has all seats filled but is still seeking a secretary.

Meetings have been held with Tarmac as they want to develop a quarry opposite the cemetery. The Community Council has secured an extension to the consultation period to allow submission of comments.

Although delighted to have a new School and Community Centre approved, loss of space means some groups that currently use the school will not have a place within the new school. Discussions ongoing.

The Community Council plans to fight the closure of the Station Park toilets.

Following the work with Lower Speed Communities, a pedestrian crossing and traffic calming measures will be put in places. This has been a good project to be involved in, with great community involvement.

Three defibrillators have been fitted and more are planned and training in CPR has been delivered.

A planned anti dog fouling action is planned, spraying dog mess with biodegradable fluorescent spray.

The Community Council held a small civic reception to honour the achievements of Don Ritchie, ultra-marathon runner and world record holder.

A meeting was held on the RAF base to discuss the new runway, planes and the NPA strategic facility being developed over the next 6 years. A lot of investment and personnel are due to come into the areas.

Speyside

This is a recently formed Community Council and has recently co-opted 2 members to bring their total to 8. The Community Council is keen to engage younger people and represent their views, and have made plans to speak with Speyside High School pupils and see how best to liaise with them.

There are many active community groups in Speyside, several with common interests and activities. The Community Council is convening a group including several community organisations and Dufftown Community Council in order to work together on common issues including transport and rural isolation.

Strathisla

The Community Council are looking to recruit members from Newmill and Grange. Recent work includes sitting on the Beatrice BOWL funding panel and it is hoped this will be a recruitment tool as it will help communities see the benefits of Community Councils.

There have been issues of speeding in Rothiemay.

Wi-Fi Scotland have just started work fitting Wi-fi Broadband in Mulben and there has been interest from other areas.

9. AOCB

100th Anniversary of Suffragettes

Cllr Creswell advised a successful event was held at Forres theme day. Funding has been applied for so women from Moray can attend an event in Glasgow or Edinburgh later this year, bringing women of all ages together. A follow on event in Moray in September is proposed for women to meet and talk about the offices they hold, how important the vote is, and what changes have been made in the last 100 years.

Forres Area Credit Union

The Credit Union covers Moray and Nairnshire and can offer help to people who may be facing difficulties due to the closure of North East Scotland Credit Union or the onset of Universal Credit.

Defibrillators and CPR

Discussion was held on how best to raise awareness of the locations of defibrillators across Moray, explain their use - as well as the importance of starting CPR to members of the public. All are encouraged to submit thoughts and discussion about how to take this forward e.g. website/app/person to co-ordinate

10. Date of next meeting 9th August 2018

The RAF will speak at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.34pm

ACTIONS

Chair to contact Chief Inspector Millar about Police attendance at meetings

Catherine to register JCC with Information Commissioners Office