

What has worked well in your CC and the JCC?

Community Council

Table 2:

A cohesive group, working together
Forming good relationships with other Community Councils
Fighting for communities
Trying to plug gaps where Moray Council cannot because of budget cuts

Table 3:

Involvement in Community Asset Transfers has been good – has led to more connections with the community
Looking at Planning applications
Being involved in Buckie LOIP was good – good for the community
Fundraising e.g. Lossiemouth for traffic island crossing patrollers lost
Innes – purchased a phone box and had defibrillator installed, working with Fisheries Trust re mouth of Spey river
Community buy-in – public attending CC meetings and public perception of CCs
Presence of elected members can be helpful (or sometimes not!)
Presence of Police at meetings is helpful

Table 4:

Budget response
Planning
Local networking
Able to provide a formal identity to commence projects such as toilet groups, crossing patroller solutions
Provides an opportunity for self-development for individuals
The support of local elected members is generally good
Feedback up and down between Moray Council and public
Buckie school forum is about to start reporting to the Community Council – this sounded interesting to several other community councils

Joint Community Council

Table 2:

Money for Moray
Visiting speakers
Training sessions
Bringing communities together and proactive in organising communities

Table 3:

Needs to continue
Provides continuity across the board
Money for Moray

Table 4:

The quality of the forum is good for networking, sharing information, putting faces to names, the minutes are well done, presentations and guest speakers are good. Moray Council disseminating information is good to us – more meaningful than a bland email.
The support of the Community Council Liaison Officer is invaluable

What could have been done better in your CC and the JCC?

Community Council

Table 2:

Participation of members is variable – some members enjoy being on the Community Council but don't take actions on things

Attracting more and younger members is difficult

Community Councils are treated like the Public when putting in Planning applications

Table 3:

More notice is required for consultations and surveys, Moray Council expects too much at times

Some CC members can't be bothered with consultations

There are not good links with some community groups

Table 4:

Sometimes where Community Councils with 2 parts e.g. Cullen & Deskford, the more rural or peripheral parts are less to the fore – we need to pay attention to that

Could the number of members for Community Councils have been reviewed – are numbers right or not?

At a minority of Community Councils, elected members hog meetings

More representatives from Community Councils and Joint Community Council need to pick up more responsibilities or there needs to be more delegation

Joint Community Council

Table 2:

The organisation of Energising Communities, how it has changed, does it fit with Joint Community Council

Information sharing sessions were a bit long but there is a time limit on them now

Table 3:

Meetings can be intimidating and long for new members

Table 4:

Try to encourage different Community Council members to attend. It tends to be the 'same faces' and the same people doing more of the work of the Community Council and the Joint Community Council

Looking forward what your CC and the JCC do differently – operationally and for the communities of Moray?

Community Council

Table 2:

market and brand ourselves better 'blow our own trumpets'

make more use of social media

build better relationships with community groups – some are already good, some less good (some have a fear that Community Councils are going to take something away from them but all they want to do is add to it)

use a 3 minute bell system to stop long windedness in meetings

change the election system

- Have an interview process with new members
- Probationary period for new start (some Community Councils have new members as associates for 3 months)
- Work on recruitment

Table 3:

Can Planning work more smoothly for Community Councils making community Planning applications? At present, have to go through same process as individuals, during which time grant funding deadlines may run out

Table 4:

Find more ways to get young people involved

Joint Community Council

Table 3: Have Joint Community Council at other locations in summer months and make them a value-added meeting – see what's happening in the host location

Consider moving the quarterly meeting dates to avoid lower attendance in August (summer holidays)

Table 4:

Hold meetings around the areas

Have a full committee rather than 3 office bearers

Trial Saturday meetings