

Minutes of JCC Meeting held on 10th September 2020 at 7pm by Zoom

Present:			
Name	Community Council	Name	Community Council
Alastair Kennedy	Chair	Shaun Moat	Forres
Jim Patterson	Burghhead & Cummington	Graeme Murdoch	Forres
James Wiseman	Elgin	Steve Hickin	Keith
Eddie Wallace	Elgin	Paul McPherson	Lennox
Howard Davenport	Finderne	Mike Reid	Lennox
Anne Sken	Finhorn & Kinloss	Karen Pryce-Idon	Strathisla
Lesley Edwards	Forres	Jim Mackie	Innes
David Parker	Forres	Jo Lenihan	Forres (Minute Taker)

In attendance:

Jane Martin (Community Council Liaison Office), Rhona Gunn (Deputy Chief Exec), Dave Moreton (Project Manager), Chief Inspector Norman Stevenson (Police Scotland), George McIntyre (Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Moray), Cllr Graham Leadbitter (Leader), Cllr Shona Morrison (Convenor), Cllr George Alexander, Cllr James Allan, Cllr Laura Powell

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from Marion Ross (Speyside), Pringle George (Lennox), Angela Mair (Portknockie), Carolle Ralph (Lossiemouth), Marion Ross (Speyside), Cllr Tim Eagle, Cllr John Divers, Cllr Theresa Coull. Change of minute taker as Catherine away until further notice. Best wishes sent to her and her mother.

2. Moray Growth Deal

Rhona Gunn gave a presentation on the Moray Growth Deal. Heads of Terms were signed on 21 August 2020; the culmination of several years' work and which had experienced several interruptions most lately due to Covid crisis. The Deal is a long term (10-15 years) programme that will fund innovative projects and cannot be used to support existing projects or balance the Council budget.

Strategic outline business cases have been developed for a range of projects, although each is at a different stage. Details of the projects can be found on MyMoray website and include:

- Bus revolution
- Early Years STEM
- Moray Aerospace, Advanced Technology and Innovation Campus (MAATIC)
- Manufacturing and Innovation for Moray (MIM)
- Business Enterprise Hub
- Housing Mix Delivery Project
- Digital Health
- Cultural Quarter in Elgin

Next step is signing the full deal which requires an outline business case for all projects and the aim is to get to this stage by the end of the calendar year. Both UK and Scottish Government have made a commitment that if these business cases are approved then funding will be expedited to allow full business cases to be prepared. There will be another round of public engagement on each project and community councils and other public forums will be used to support this. In response to questions the following was clarified:

- The focus of the MAATIC project is maintenance as there is a world-wide shortage of aircraft engineers and Boeing are looking to train the next generation using Moray as a centre of excellence to train people from around the world and then take expertise back to their countries.
- Accommodation for students: some will be in student blocks in Elgin. It is acknowledged that this needs to be part of the package especially for overseas students.
- Bus revolution will use fleet of electric vehicles that will be informed by consultation to identify 'pinch points'. Technology will be used to direct buses to where people are ensuring bus journeys carry more passengers. It is not planned to be a comprehensive service based on traditional routes.
- The STEM project is aimed at 3-8 year olds and getting them engaged in STEM projects in their own community. Buildings that are part of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) expansion programme will provide opportunities to develop STEM on site. There will also possibly be a mobile unit to take the activities across Moray. Graham wondered if consideration had been given to using the Leancoil site in Forres. Jane will forward Graham's contact details to David to arrange a meeting.

- Green technology will be woven into all projects. MAATIC will work with Orkney project looking at carbon-free propulsion for aviation, but in terms of establishing a centre of excellence around windfarm technology this currently doesn't form a theme of Growth Deal.

Rhona wanted to emphasise that the team had worked hard to make sure projects spanned the whole of Moray and were not just about Elgin. Maybe this needs to be communicated more effectively.

The Chair thanked Rhona and Dave for the presentation. Rhona will be attending the meeting in October to discuss the 2 current public consultations on the recovery/renewal strategy and climate change strategy which are both important pieces of work for the Council.

3. Approval of minutes – 8th August 2020

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting; proposed by Shaun Moat, seconded by Paul MacPherson.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

5. Treasurer's Report

There was no Treasurer's report due to Catherine's absence however it is likely to be similar to last month as below:

The balance at 13th August is £162,526.71 (£40 honorarium to Minute Secretary since the last meeting)

£153,000 is for Money for Moray (participatory budgeting)

£6,620.71 remains from previous rounds of participatory budgeting funding and is being spent down

£1,000 SSEN resilience funding

£1,906.00 Joint Community Council admin grant balance

6. Chief Inspector Norman Stevenson

The latest report had been circulated. There was a broad breadth of crime across whole area which had not returned to pre-Covid levels but is rising. The dark nights likely to bring a bit more anti-social behaviour but due to lack of big events taking place this will probably be different to previous years.

There has been a series of break-ins to commercial premises from Forres to Elgin to Peterhead by a very organised group.

There is a continuing upward trend of online fraud but stretches across any media platform. Prevention information is available. Chief Inspector Stevenson asked everyone to keep in mind that any call you're not expecting is suspicious until confirmed it's safe. Also keep in mind family and friends and advise them. The effect of this type of fraud can have a devastating effect on people.

Another area of concern is the tourism trade and effect on community experienced through current crisis. Coastal areas have been hardest hit with large numbers of holiday makers and parking overnight. There is a lot of work to be done to help prevent a repeat next year. Rural Tourism fund might be able to help. Issues include rubbish, road safety issues, wild camping, and tourists being where they shouldn't and causing issues for local communities.

There was discussion about digital crime and how to report it, for example, telephone numbers. Chief Inspector Stevenson advised everyone to continue to report as this allows assessment to be made by officers and will send an email to Jane with information on how to report for circulation to CCs.

Chief Inspector Stevenson talked about the digital support that officers now have and how it has saved officer time. Any statement taken is immediately visible and can be shared. This is so much better for officers who can be more visible on street. There is a way to go yet as systems are streamlined with new apps, hand-held devices, accessibility, and how to deliver. He is happy to give an update to JCC if this would be useful.

A link to survey on how police have done during the pandemic had been circulated but Chief Inspector Stevenson will share the link again

7. Working Group – scheme review and actions from February meeting

Agreed at the last meeting to set up a working group. Jane will send out email next week to all CCs. The scheme is going to committee on 24th September. Consultation will begin on 29th September for 8 weeks. Alistair is keen to get this up and running ASAP. Jane would like a representative from every CC to be involved.

8. Community Council Liaison Officer Update

Jane sends condolences for Neil McLeod (Heldon) family. Thoughts with Mike Mullholland who is very poorly in hospital in Aberdeen.

Regarding the scheme review, think about how we can do things differently, e.g., boundaries, make bigger CC's.

SVQ – first piece of work submitted with evidence. Next piece of work should complete this as so much evidence already submitted, and she's really encouraged by response.

Lennox CC are up and running with virtual meetings.

Jane encouraged all to take part in the corporate recovery delivery plan and climate change consultations, both as individuals and CCs, to ensure voice of community heard.

9. Community Councils Updates

Forres Community Council – There had been a meeting with Moray Council, Roads department, FACT and Insp Rigg staff to discuss how the town centre can be improved for all. Shaun is having monthly catch ups with Inspector Kerry Rigg. The CC have had initial discussions on creating a 'Visit Forres' website.

Lennox Community Council – There continues to be an issue with 'young people' messing about in the Parlour and taking items. 24/7 access has been removed temporarily and moved into hall which will open a few days a week. The refurbishment of Dallachie war memorial is just about finished just a small amount of painting outstanding – thanks to all involved.

Keith Community Council - First zoom meeting was held on Monday with help from CCLO so trying to get up and running again. Dennis Shepherd, previous member of CC, passed away and P&J are doing obituary.

Strathisla Community Council – Bridge at Rothiemay– vehicle has damaged the bridge. Been trying to get it rectified but can't find out who it belongs to. Been in touch with Keith/Dufftown railway who said TMC repaired it previously but not sure they will again due to funding. Theresa Coull has offered to help. There is still no one from Grange – a defib has been given to them. Rothiemay now has 3 defibs. They have had 2 zoom meetings and going to try and have one every month apart from January. Everyone seems to like them so hopefully more people will become involved.

Elgin Community Council – Struggling for members. Thanks to bus companies for keeping the bus station open in recent months. They have complained about Tesco delivery charges, but they couldn't do anything locally. Wildflower meadows – Colin Bell attending next meeting to update. Garden refuse/brown bins – people using without having a permit. There are Town Centre concerns coming up, and Remembrance Sunday.

Innes Community Council – Only 7 members and 3 have been shielding so not many attending meetings. Supporting food larders at Lhanbryde and Mosstodloch. £2000 from Corra has now been spent. Had a complaint about illegal quarrying. Letter of observation on planning

Jane brought to attention the new Scottish Gov guidelines where only up to 6 people from 2 households should meet and therefore CCs shouldn't be meeting face-to-face at this time.

Cllr Morrison – nothing to report but happy to take questions. Question about getting guidance on community halls as there is confusion. Cllr Morrison will share email with guidance for Jane to share with CCs.

Cllr Leadbitter – Would encourage people within all communities to complete the 2 consultations as they will have a significant bearing on how the council will manage services for a long time to come and the more feedback the better. Following discussion on safe use of halls and sports/activities – recommend focus on the activity not the space as some groups, e.g., alcohol recovery groups have been using spaces as permitted but things like discos not allowable. Latest guidance covers both indoor and outdoor activities so each activity should be risk assessed according to the guidance from Scottish Government or overarching bodies such as sports associations.

Alistair commented that he had been able to highlight Moray's climate change strategy at the Clash Gore inquiry.

Deputy Lord Lieutenant George McIntyre – their first meeting will be held on Monday afternoon.

10. Closing Remarks

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance.

11. AOCB

Shaun asked if Alistair could provide update on Clash Gore, but he said it was so difficult to follow due to the huge volume of documents.

Chief Inspector advised that attendance at CC meetings was an issue due to technology – police unable to use zoom so if telephone facility into meetings could be offered that would help and please keep in touch with your local inspectors anyway. Although not every area has CCTV Chief Inspector Stevenson is at an early stage of thinking about how to go forward with this and will be having conversations about how existing system could link into a new system. If this might be of value in the future, please pass any thoughts through JCC or Jane as he would like to understand holistically what is needed in the future. CCs asked to put this on the agenda for their next meeting to get feedback.

12. Date of next meeting – Thursday 8th October 2020 at 7pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm