

Minutes of JCC Meeting held on 11th March 2021 at 7pm by Zoom

Present:			
Name	Community Council	Name	Community Council
Alastair Kennedy	Chair	Anne Skene	Findhorn & Kinloss
Jim Patterson	Vice Chair Burghead & Cummington	Lesley Edwards	Forres
Morag Stewart	Buckie & District	David Parker	Forres
Christine Allan	Buckie & District	Graham Murdoch	Forres
Billy Davidson	Burghead & Cummington	Jim Mackie	Innes
Steve Arkley	Dyke Landward	Sandy Bond	Lennox
Graham Price	Dyke Landward	Carolle Ralph	Lossiemouth
Brian Irvine	Elgin	Marion Ross	Speyside
Graham Jarvis	Elgin	Karen Pryce-Idon	Strathisla
Edward Wallace	Elgin	Tracey Whiteaker	Strathisla
Sheila Cochrane	Elgin	Jo Lenihan	Forres (Minute Taker)

In attendance:

Jane Martin (Community Council Liaison Officer), Emma Gordon (MC), George McIntyre (Deputy Lord Lieutenant), Chief Inspector Norman Stevenson (Police Scotland), Anita Milne. Cllrs: James Allan, Laura Powell, Louise Nicol, Theresa Coulls, Marc Macrae

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from Cllrs Maclean, Edwards McLean, Gatt, Ross, Leadbitter. Shaun Moat, Stewart Black, Howard Davenport, Joanna Summers, Mary Evans, Angus & Sarah Anderson, Morag Stewart, Christine Allan, Emily Reid

2. Sandy Bond (Lennox CC) – Youth Parliament, engaging with young people

Sandy is a member of Scottish YP for Moray and a co-opted member on Lennox Community Council. Sandy briefed the meeting on his involvement with the YP and how this works. Sandy's brief has been circulated for information.

Questions

Alastair mentioned that the Green party had negotiated free travel for youngsters in the national budget. Marion confirmed this as free bus travel for under 22's. Sandy will inform the group of this.

Alastair asked if we want to engage with young people is it best do so through Sandy. *If the purpose is to gather opinions of young people then yes, but if for Community Councils then promote through social media, especially Instagram which is more popular with young people.*

CI Stevenson is Interested to learn more about Moray Youth Matters and how police can support this.

Only been in place for about a year so progress restricted due to Covid. Run predominantly by young people in conjunction with MC youth workers but would be interested in developing 2-way relationship. Jane will pass Sandy's contact details and follow up after meeting.

Emma – Planning officer for MC. tasked with engagement strategy for Moray growth deal. Keen to hear views of young people and harder to reach groups right across Moray and to have discussion outside the meeting. Jane to share contact details.

Alastair thanked Sandy for the excellent presentation.

3. Approval of minutes – 12th November 2020

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting; proposed by Karen Price-Idon, seconded by Jim Patterson.

4. Matters arising

- a. Broad band – Stuart Black (NFU) has done a huge amount of work on this and would like to work in partnership. Waiting to hear from Brian on response. Ongoing campaign so keep on agenda.
- b. Speeding in villages – Anne Skene. Meeting on Tuesday this week and 13 or 14 community councillors attended. Discussed issues within towns, rural and entry/exit points to settlements. Discussed reduced speed limits in certain areas, vehicle activated signs, etc. Details are minuted. Felt that a clear directive needed from police.
CI Stevenson – road safety and road crime is a priority with a lot of work going on at several different locations? Recommend identifying priorities, what being asked of police, MC and the community and discuss ownership of tasks. Equipment can be an issue, where and how deployed, and police can help with procurement of equipment. A road policing division representative to help prioritise through summer but this will overlap with visitor demands. Jane to organise a meeting with CI Stevenson and Nicola Moss (MC) to review minutes and start looking at a strategy for Moray.

5. Treasurer's Report - No change from last month

6. CI Norman Stevenson

Staffing profile – Insp Tony McCullie starting at end of March. East side new Insp already in post. Sgt promoted to Insp (temporary) to cover absence in Elgin

Road safety is a priority with high speed in news - aim to prevent where possible or apprehend. Larger roads experiencing higher speeds. Reason possibly because slightly quieter roads and people having more time on their hands. Publicity used to highlight issue.

Now planning for easing of lockdown and how this might look for weekend economy and visitor management. MC, Police, and others meet regularly to work on this.

Alastair asked why police staff not allowed to use zoom. Question of security for Police Scotland as some platforms were hacked in early days. Corporate policy is MS Teams in work time and on work equipment.

7. George McIntyre – Deputy Lord Lieutenant.

Highlight report by John Muir trust on tourism in rural areas. Some communities find tourism a double-edged sword – bringing opportunities but also challenges due to lack of infrastructure. Some local communities initiating their own plans. MC is to develop 5 new stopover sites for motorhomes at Burghead, Craigellachie, Portgordon, Ballindalloch, and Portknockie - all on MC land. The sites have been identified as hotspots for litter, etc. Jane to email Steven Cooper for update.

8. Community Council Liaison Officer Update

Resilience planning moving along, and Jim Patterson has been really helpful. First meeting on Wednesday with Keith CC; Cullen and Deskford invited to attend. Each

community will be led through the process. Keith, Forres, Innes and Speyside first areas to be addressed. Jim gave a short brief on the 4 components to plan.

- The Community Resilience Plan Guide
- Risk Assessments
- The Household Emergency Plan
- The Community Emergency Plan

Anne – Findhorn has completed and updated resilience plan but only for Findhorn village. She will send a copy to Jane and discuss outside of meeting. The aim is that plans will sit on community council pages and MC resilience pages.

Community Council elections are coming up and will set up a working group to look at promotion. Hope is that each CC will give JCC £75 for materials and campaigns.

Appreciation to Shaun Moat, Forres CC, for his work over last 12 months. Tracey Whiteaker, associate sec for Strathisla, and will take over minutes for JCC in April.

9. Community Councils Updates

Burghead – Blessing boxes still going. Ground rent for harbour shed ongoing but looking good.

Dyke – Very quiet so nothing to report

Elgin – Visit from Stagecoach and discussion on price increases on weekly tickets to Elgin and lack of consultation on this. Planning issues – application at Hamilton Drive going on for over a year. Proposal for a virtual exhibition for further development in Elgin South. Dog mess in developments and responsibility for placement of dog bins – developer until road adopted then MC. Looking at creating Community Development Trust and met with John Cowe. Jane mentioned that several concerns raised about number of poles being erected in Elgin. These are for fibre and may stop people getting high speed fibre broadband if removed. Can object for a year if material effect on property.

Findhorn – Residents concerned about influx of people and traffic when restrictions lifted, particularly parking, litter, toilet facilities etc. Encouraged to hear Police and MC meeting to discuss visitor management and request feedback to CCs as soon as possible so we can work together. CI Stevenson stated that national and pan-Grampian groups are meeting partners and working with communities and will pass information on as soon as able. He encourages communities to come back to police with ideas as they know their community best. Anne will feed back local strategies.

Forres – Talk by Richard Lockhead and presentation from Energising Moray Group. Sorry to see Shaun Moat resign and wish him well.

Innes – Road repairs being done. Trying to pressure MC to speak to landowners.

Keith – Gas outage twice in 4 weeks. Volunteer groups helped those in need with food/heating etc. Presentation on update of expansion of wind farm – community fund will be expanded as well.

Lennox – Traffic lights in Fochabers fixed. Going to be working with Innes on River Spey. Work going on in Portgordon community garden. Potholes at Dolphin Centre still an issue. Hedge that was causing obstruction – a high hedge application taken out so hopefully proper resolution.

Lossiemouth – trying to come up with a strategy for campervans and tourists. Issues of litter and dog fouling – young American naval cadets helping with litter picks. Consultations: bridge - final position should be notified shortly. Cycle track – discussion with landowners at tentative stage. Food larder very busy and looking for larger premises. Volunteers helping at vaccine centre in Elgin. Cybercrime – several old people have been targeted and trying to warn everyone to be aware. CI Stevenson – meeting re cybercrime and how to address by raising awareness as well as trying to prosecute. Please ask for help with messaging or support, but key is to keep talking about it. Some scams are very real and inventive. Theme – if it doesn't feel right don't do it. Jane to collate ideas and bring to JCC.

Speyside – Concern that losing POs - Craigellachie closing permanently and Aberlour is in a shop that's for sale. Path upgrade in Rothes nearly complete. Sign naming donors and volunteers being made. Finishing touches to website. Final report to Adam Family Foundation. Wild bird organisation want to make a short film on work that has been done. Rothes Way making progress on path from Rothes to Craigellachie and congratulate them on receiving an award. For information if a group needs planning permission and go through CC can get reduced planning fees. Attended sessions on Scottish rural parliament. Young member attended webinar on engaging younger people in rural locations. Circular economy webinar hacked. Bus Revolution (Moray Growth Deal) had no community rep on the board, but this has now been addressed.

Strathisla – Meeting with windfarm – the 2 parts of project will potentially generate £220,000 community benefit per year for whole area. This will be confirmed in Jan 2022. Still looking for a younger representative for CC if Sandy can help with this.

Elected Members update (Theresa Coull). Budget passed on 3 March. Special full council has passed climate change strategy. Council tax frozen. A few increases to some services but tried to keep costs the same. Moray Council in a better place this year than last financially and now moving on to next year's finances.

Jane – Moray & Speyside tourism would like to come and give presentation to JCC. CLD strategy review and MGD Project officer update will also need slot. Jane to liaise and organise dates.

Jane asked if all CCs were happy for her to apply to SSE for funding for resilience planning on behalf of all CCs. This was approved.

10. AOCB

Alastair thanked Jane and Jo for their work and Tracey for taking over minutes. David Parker asked as council tax frozen would water charges still going up? It was stated these were separate so probably.

11. Date of next meeting – 8 April 2021 at 7pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2040 hrs.