

## Innes Community Council

### Minutes of Meeting held in Urquhart Village Hall on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021

At 7.00 p.m..

1. Sederunt: S.Anderson (Chair), J. Mackie (Sec.), C. Dunbar (Treas.), P. Fitch, DG Mackay.
2. In Attendance: Mrs. A. Speake, A. Fettes, T. Cattanach, N. Sandison (G & K Amenities)
3. Apologies: T. Christie, Clr. Mz. Morrison, Clr. M. Macrae., Insp. T. McNally (Police Scotland).
4. Minutes of Meeting 2.11.2021 : Approved as a true record. Proposed: J. Mackie, Seconded: C. Dunbar. (One amendment).
5. Matters Arising: CD observed that neither The Moray Council or the Lord Lieutenants Office were represented at the Seaforth Memorial (Mosstodloch) on Remembrance Sunday.
6. Treasurer's Report: Last year's accounts are still with the Examiner. There has been very little movement in the ICC Account.
7. Planning Matters:
  - a.) There is a Planning Application for Milltown Airfield. The proposal is to extend the battery storage area building. General discussion as to the safety of such storage and potential risks to the immediate community and the ground base.
  - b.) Jones of Larbet (Mosstodloch Sawmill) have submitted an application for a huge increase to their production area in order to meet demand for the next few years. Concern was expressed at the vast increase in waste water that this will generate, and how it will be filtered before it drains into the River Spey.
  - c.) Burniestype "Stockade": Little or no action appears to have taken place despite there being an enforcement order (TMC) for immediate dismantling.
8. River Spey /Kingston Beach: JM reported that Clr. Bremner (Innes) had submitted a proposal to the full Moray Council;
  - a) Plant saplings around the area of Queenshaugh.
  - b) Install "Tetrapods" along the edge of the walkway to the viaduct
  - c) Block the two underpasses in the embankment.
  - d) Using fallen trees by securing the roots into the field at Queenshaugh.

At no point in his proposal did he mention the Report presented by the ICC, or acknowledge any of the surveys conducted by Dr. Hamish Moir. After discussion, the ICC agreed that the administration had appeared to have

come to an agreement with the Independent group prior to the full Council meeting, thus negating any value in Clrs Macrae and Eagle's intervention. The Secretary reported that ICC have written to senior officers within the Moray Council complaining about their floods officer, Debbie Halliday, lack of professionalism and disregard to any "non Council " opinions or experience concerning this serious issue.

N. Sandison observed that the Moray Council have agreed , in proviso, funds , for the project and asked why ICC should have doubts as to the integrity of the proposal. JM explained that TMC proposals did not resolve the real cause of the problem which was that the proposals would not prevent the river continue to erode across the fields at Queenshaugh and eventually undermine the walkway. N. Sanderson has written to all three Councillors pointing out the importance of support work further south of the proposed site, because if this work is not done, the Council's proposal will effectively be at risk.

There was broad discussion across the floor about the subject as a whole. The overall conclusion, that despite many years of pointless " talking shops", ICC should invite the three Councillors and relevant officials to a round the table meeting to try and achieve some form of positive, and satisfactory to all, agreement.

It was observed with local elections coming in May 2022, TMC's actions were yet another way of stalling any decisions until the next MC takes over the administration, with which ever group may be in control.

It was suggested, and agreed that ICC should approach SEPA and Nature Scotland for their opinions on the various proposals.

Comparison was also noted to gravel removal in the River Lossie, and the state of the mouth of the River Spey, where no dredging has taken place since Grampian Region had the responsibility.

The SEPA draft report to the Scottish Assembly has shown a shift in SEPA's concern for the problem of Kingston Beach and lower Garmouth. Whilst TMC stubbornly refuse to accept that no more than ten houses might be at risk, the SEPA report states that within ten years at least 50 houses will be at severe risk.

Kingston Beach has altered radically since storm Anwar (?), and seawater is now lying behind the shingle beach on the Lein. The shingle has also moved significantly further south towards Kingston. Tidal surges are reaching the top level of the shingle, and properties along the south side of the shingle are now at a greater risk than previously. The observation was made concerning the houses at the west end of Beach road that were washed into

the Spey/ Moray Firth in 1960. Such was the negative attitude of Moray County Council that the police were called to protect the County Clerk!

9. AOCB:

- a) All correspondence has been forwarded directly to Members by email.
- b) ICC agreed to purchase a new hard drive for the Secretary at a cost of £50.00
- c) Two names were proposed for co-option, JM to verify and invite.
- d) PF recommended the Community Action Pack, provided by the Moray Consumer Support unit to the ICC.
- e) PF also advised that TMC (Recycling) are now equipped to cope with a broader range of plastics, including meat trays, yogurt cartons etc.
- f) Mrs. Speake raised the very valid concern about power cuts, and what risk determination plans are in place for adults with learning difficulties, disabled, ect? Enquiries to be made.

The Chair thanked all for attending, and closed the main meeting. ICC members only then had a short meeting to discuss concerns about one of the topics arising at the earlier meeting.

Next Meeting, Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 at 7.00 p.m..  
(Apparently we are ZOOMing, please check with Jim.

David Mackay  
Minuteman.