

Minute of Inaugural Meeting Joint Community Council of Moray

Date: Thursday, 11 November 2021

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: The Supper Room, Elgin Town Hall, Elgin

Chair: Jane Martin Community Support Officer

Debra Duke Community Council Liaison officer (CCLO)

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Attendees:

Paul Briggs	Elgin	Lily Mulholland	Lossiemouth
Richard Dyce	Elgin	Carolle Ralph	Lossiemouth
Graham Jarvis	Elgin	Mary Evans	Heldon
Alastair Kennedy	Elgin	Sandy Anderson	Innes
Eddie Wallace	Elgin	Toby Christie	Innes
Gordon Wells	Elgin	David MacKay	Innes
Graham Murdoch	Forres	John Stuart	Buckie and District
David Parker	Forres	Colin Burch	Cullen and Deskford
Kathleen Robertson	Forres	Steve Hickin	Keith
Colin Shreenan	Findhorn and Kinloss	Karen Pryce-Iddon	Strathisla
Jim Patterson	Burghead & Cummingston	Fraser Dyer	Speyside
Billy Davidson	Burghead & Cummingston	Greg Sarab	Speyside
Gina McNicoll	Lossiemouth		

Also in attendance:

Chief Inspector Norman Stevenson (Police Scotland), George McIntyre (Deputy Lieutenant of Moray),

Welcome and Introductions

Jane Martin welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. She introduced: Debra Duke, Community Council Liaison Officer; Moray's Area Commander, Chief Inspector Norman Stevenson; Deputy Lieutenant George McIntyre; and Jim Patterson.

She thanked the outgoing office Bearers Alastair Kennedy (Chair), Jim Patterson (Vice-Chair) and Catherine Sinclair (Treasurer).

She gave some background on the formation of the Joint Community Council and what it does. It is recognised as the lead body for Community Councils in Moray and represents them on a number of committees and groups.

A presentation was made to Jane Martin to say thank you for her work as the CCLO over the past six years.

Apologies were received from:

Forres: Lesley Edwards, Mike Miller, Jo Leniham, Fiona Graham; Finnerne: Shirley Munn, Tony Pinner, Anna Gatward, Stewart McCracken; Burghead & Cummingston: Liz McKnockiter, Ryan More, Jennifer Walker, Danielle Slater, Les Taylor, Abbey Main, Julia Law; Heldon: Jo Kirby, Sally Hodder, Andrey Masson, Bill Mustard; Innes: Jim Mackie, Peter Fitch; Buckie & District: Christine Allan, Stephanie Lindsay, Beverley Wood; Findochty: Portknockie: Shirley Firth, John Going, Anne Anderson, Ali Forsyth; Cullen & Deskford: Phil Lovegrove, Bruce Edelsten; Keith: Marguerite Cruickshank; Strathisla: George Gartley, James Mark; Speyside: Alison Bagnall, Brenda Davies, Marion Ross, Amanda Marie, Kelly Spark, Donald McLean; Cllr Donald Gatt, Cllr George Alexander, Cllr Derek Ross, Cllr Marc Macrae, Cllr Laura Powell, Cllr Frank Brown, Cllr Claire Feaver, Cllr Walter Wilson, Cllr Theresa Coull.

2. Appointment of Office Bearers

Chairperson: Alastair Kennedy **Proposed:** Karen Pryce-Iddon **Seconded:** Steve Hickin

Vice Chairperson: Jim Patterson **Proposed:** Alastair Kennedy **Seconded:** Karen Pryce-Iddon

Secretary: No Nominations. To be considered February Joint Community Council meeting. CCLO will provide support to the secretary and help with organising meetings.

Treasurer: Andrea Woodhead

Alastair Kennedy thanked all for their confidence in him to continue in the position of chairperson.

3. Constitutional Documents

The Joint Community Council constitution was updated and circulated for consultation. There were no objections to adopting the new constitution.

4. Break for Refreshments and networking

Community councillors were asked to provide comments on: Safer Travel Moray; Training required; topics/speakers for JCC meetings; look at Resilience Plan information. If community councillors wanted to volunteer to help with Resilience plans or Safer Travel Moray group to leave their names.

5. Area Commander – Chief Inspector Norman Stevenson

Chief Inspector Stevenson said that he was leaving this position in December 2021. He said that he would be able to hand over and introduce his successor. He acknowledged that officers were not always able to attend community council meetings due to workload. He also noted that officers were not able to use Zoom and could not participate remotely when this software was used for meetings.

The meeting said that the Community Safety Partnership report was welcomed. This reporting method would continue and could evolve and adjust over time. Feedback about the report was important.

Safer Travel had been identified as a priority. A group had been set up about 6 months ago as part of the JCC. This should be led by the JCC and community councils.

In relation to a question about defibrillators in police vehicles it was noted that this would have to be a national policy.

6. Queens Canopy- George McIntyre Deputy Lieutenant

This project was to support the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

Communities were being encouraged to get involved and to apply for the trees that were being made available. Applications are made through the Woodland Trust. Remember that you need to have the landowners' permission to plant trees. Trees would be delivered in March 2022. Different packages are available to suit different areas. It would also be useful to speak to schools and integrate plans with anything they are planning. The Lands and Parks department in Moray Council are aware of this. Contact the CCLO for liaison with the department in the council to request permission to plant trees on Moray Council land.

7. Resilience Plans- Jim Patterson

Jim Patterson presented the work completed to date and outlined the reason for the work. Public organisations, government and local authorities have resilience plans but communities do not. Communities are best placed to react quickly to emergencies or incidents. It would not require communities

to undertake the work of the emergency services but to help and assist them with local knowledge. The plans would not conflict with other plans. Resilience plans would formalise local knowledge that is a way that is useable. Communities would identify the hazards within their own areas and consider how these risks could be mitigated.

Various documents have been produced:

- Plan guide- this describes the method to make a plan for a local area.
- Resilience Plan- community plan. Look at risks within the community, such as flooding, forest fires, or transport. Risk assessments for these would be carried out.
- Individual house plan- for each householder to have and update.

Jim Patterson said that he was happy to visit community councils to discuss this work in greater detail.

It was noted that some of the larger community council areas might need more than one resilience plan as their areas were varied.

It would be useful to involve more people than just community councillors. Holding a resilience planning session could be helpful to get more people involved.

Some queried whether this work was needed as Moray Council had a resilience plan. It was felt that communities were able to be more reactive.

Concern was raised about reviewing these documents and ensuring the work was not burdensome. Resilience plans have been written into Moray Council's Community Learning and Development Plan.

8. Treasurer's Report

The accounts for 2020/21 are still being finalised.

The JCC receives an annual administration grant of £500 per year.

Participatory budgeting balances are from funding secured by the Joint Community Council on behalf of the Money for Moray (Participatory Budgeting) Working Group which was set up following an invitation from Moray Council for the JCC to take the lead on the first Participatory Budgeting exercise.

In future, 1% of local authority budgets will be decided by Participatory Budgeting so this may be something that Community Councillors may wish to take a lead on. Moray is the only area where Participatory Budgeting events are run entirely by volunteers with no involvement from elected members.

9. Date of next meeting

There would be a special meeting of the JCC on 9 December to consider the Moray Council Learning Estate.

The CCLO would send out a question about whether this meeting should be carried out online or in person.

The next meeting of the JCC would be in February 2022. Date and venue to be confirmed. Any Community Councillors are welcome to attend, rather than just 2 per Community Council.

Meeting note:

Windows remained open during the meeting and carbon dioxide levels were monitored during the meeting.
Max CO₂ reading was 5.02%.