Minutes of JCC Meeting held on Thursday 11 August 2022, 7pm

Via Zoom

Present:

Name	Community Council	Name	Community Council
Alastair Kennedy	Chair	Shirley Munn	Finderne
Jim Patterson	Burghead & Cummingston	David Parker	Forres
Christine Allan	Buckie & District	Graham Murdoch	Forres
Colin Burch	Cullen & Deskford	Mary Evans	Heldon
Ernest Kopp	Cullen & Deskford	Carolle Ralph	Lossiemouth
Eddie Wallace	Elgin	Marion Ross	Speyside
Neil Alexander	Elgin		
Brian Irvine	Elgin		

In attendance:
Karim Mahmoud; Commercial Innovation Lead (Rural Centre of Excellence for Digital Health and Care Innovation)
Marj Adams; Keep MUM campaigner
Debra Duke; Community Council Liaison Officer (Moray Council)
Moray Councillors: Kathleen Robertson; Juli Harris; Graham Leadbitter; Neil Cameron; Paul McBain; Jeremie Fernandes; Theresa Coull; Tracy Colyer; Amber Dunbar

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

   Apologies were noted from: Anne Skene (Findhorn & Kinloss), Jim Mountford (Heldon), Fraser Dyer (Speyside), and Alison Bagnall (Speyside)

   The Chairperson said that agenda item 9 would be considered with agenda item 2 as they were both related to healthcare matters.

2. **Presentation- Introduction to the Rural Centre of Excellence for Digital Health and Care Innovation**

   - Moray Rural Centre of Excellence (RCE) was a £5M investment in digital health research and development, leading to the adoption of innovations addressing challenges in social care within a rural setting
   - Identify health and care-led problems where digital innovation could provide the greatest impact.
   - In Moray this project was funded by the Moray Growth Deal.
   - Would then match these with the right capabilities and solutions providers, with the emphasis on quality, depth and real-world application
   - Our unique innovation process model focused on five key stages and enabled us to provide a range of specialist services. Our partners could pick and

choose the services that would add the most value and have the greatest impact on their projects.

Service transformation:
- Unprecedented challenges on health and care services
- Demand for solutions that reduced pressures on staff and improved the experience for service users
- Digital solutions and commercially available products could respond to these needs
- The RCE helped by enabling the technical, service and business innovation needed to transform care

Activities:
- Creation of 5 Living Labs to find digital health solutions to health and social care challenges
- Building a Demonstration and Simulation Environment (DSE) within the Alexander Graham Bell Centre for Digital Health at Moray College UHI
- Opportunities for companies to showcase their innovations
- R&D Funding: • Funding to participate in simulations • Developmental Procurement
- Skills and curriculum development
- Fostering collaboration– dynamic cluster

Community Engagement:
- People in Moray would be invited to take part in participatory design workshops. They may also use a new service as part of a living lab.
- Health and care professionals would be invited to take part in participatory design workshops and may be involved in the living labs, using a new digital service.
- Companies and consortia would be invited to respond to challenges via calls. Some industry experts would be invited to take part in participatory design workshops.

Why was this being done?
- Empowerment
- Resilient communities
- Role of "place"
- Scottish approach to service design
- National Health and Wellbeing Outcomes
- National Performance Framework

In response to questions:
Workshops and other engagement activities would take place with rural communities. Discussions would be undertaken about online/digital technologies. There needs to be a focus on rural areas as it is difficult to travel and with sparse populations traditional methods are not always cost effective.

The role of place encompassed services delivered. Can include digital/hybrid and in person services. In order to have economic growth rural communities needed good services and the same opportunities as other more urban areas.

It was commented that people on tonight's meeting were having connection problems. Digital connectivity problems need to be addressed first.

Key performance indicators would be reported to the Moray Growth Deal Board. The project board would be presented with monthly reports and also quarterly performance reports. The project had started when the growth deal was signed in early 2021. Key staff were now in place.

Comments were made that it was good to hear about these innovative ideas but the public perception was that the quality of the health service was getting poorer. It was noted that there were differences between projects and the public perception of how money should and would be spent/deployed.

Other countries did use more digital technologies: Australia in rural health; Finland, digital care approaches. The health service needed to find ways to make resources available remotely as it would help to build resilience into the system.

3. Maternity Services at Dr Gray's Elgin
Marj Adams attended the meeting on behalf of Keep MUM. This was a local campaign to restore the consultant led maternity unit in Elgin. Currently most mothers had to travel to Aberdeen to give birth. When there had been a consultant led unit in Elgin there were approximately 1000 births a year in Dr Gray's. NHS Grampian had been asked to restore the service. The timescale for this was up to 10 years. To restore the service required infrastructure as well as recruitment of staff.

Elgin CC had proposed writing a letter to the Scottish Health Secretary requesting that the timescales for the reinstatement of the service be sped up. The journey to Aberdeen along the A96 was long and in winter the road could be closed due to the weather.
It was hoped that all community councils would sign the letter in support. At the time of the meeting nine community councils had agreed to sign the letter.

RESOLVED:
- To confirm with those who had not yet replied if they would sign the letter.
- To send the signed letter to the Health Secretary.

4. Approval of minutes – 12 May 2022
The minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2022 were confirmed as a correct record.

5. Matters Arising
No matters arising that had not been included on the agenda.

6. Treasurers Report
The treasurer had given apologies for tonight's meeting. Report would be circulated after the meeting.

7. Chief Inspector report
Apologies for the Chief Inspector had been received.

8. Lord Lieutenancy update
Apologies from the Lord Lieutenant had been received.

9. Resilience Plans update
JP gave an update. SSEN resilience funding had been awarded. Emails confirming funding had been received by a few applicants before the meeting. Others were waiting. Now grants had been awarded work could progress.

Community Council resilience planning would concentrate on household resilience and how communities could assist with this.

Not every community council had started work on resilience planning. A few community councils would take a lead and then documents and processes could be amended for others.

10. CCLO update
A planning training session had been arranged for Tuesday 27 September, this would be online. More details to be sent out.

Finance training/get together was planned for Tuesday 30 August at 7pm by Zoom.

Reminder of online training courses through the Improvement Service. Also reminded community councillors of the Knowledge Hub Community Council network. These were useful for sharing ideas and issues with other community councillors in Scotland.

A question was raised about a decrease in the number of emails sent from the CCLO to community councillors in the last year. The CCLO said that not all emails received were sent on as some emails from mailing lists were not relevant to Moray. However, the CCLO would check if there were any emails that should be sent on. The CCLO also asked community councillors to let her know if there were any emails that they used to be sent but were no longer receiving.

Agreed:
- CCLO to check emails sent out to community councils.
- Community Councillors to let CCLO know if there were any emails or newsletters etc. that were no longer being received.

11. Community Council policies- to consider new policies

i. Social Media guidance/policy- guidance for community councils to use and amend.
There were two draft policies for social media that had been circulated.

Community Council Social Media policy- this policy tried to address social media usage by the CC. It outlined what the CC would use social media for and how it would manage its online accounts.

Social Media Guidance- this guidance was for community councillors as individuals. This went into more detail about managing individual accounts. It reminded community councillors that they needed to be mindful of the code of conduct when using social media in a personal capacity and as a community councillor.

Agreed:
- Community councils could use these policies. They could make amendments to suit how they use social media.
- If community councils wished to adopt these policies they should circulate them as an agenda item and then record in the minutes that the policies had been adopted.

12. Safer Travel Moray

The CCLO said that she had contacted Moray council officers to organise a meeting. Due to holidays this had not yet been organised.

Marion Ross from Speyside Community Council had posted an article about speeding in the Aberlour News. This had generated 200 responses. A group of volunteers had been set up in the area. They had also joined Speedwatch UK, they hoped this organisation might be useful, Although Police Scotland had not signed up.

Agreed:
- CCLO to contact community councillors who had volunteered for the group, Moray Council officers and police to set up a meeting date.

13. Community Energy Moray– feedback from Energy Event held on 25 June

The Energy event had been held on Saturday 25 June at Elgin Town Hall. Stalls and experts had been available with a number of talks held throughout the day. Approximately 300 people attended.

Future plans included holding local energy fairs to get information to people. This would include working with community councils. There would be events held in Moray Climate Week, dates to be confirmed.

14. Community Council update – 2 minute update from each CC

Buckie and District Community Council
- The community council had met with the CCLO to discuss issues.
- Their next meeting would be in person and this had resulted in a member returning to more active involvement.
- The CC had agreed to hold meetings in various locations within the CC area to improve its visibility.
- The Findochty and Buckie (FAB) Development Trust had been set up.

Burghead and Cummingston Community Council

- Concern about a drop in numbers. Asked CC members to "bring a friend" to a CC meeting and had now increased numbers and had a younger demographic.
- Concerns about the medical centre were still ongoing. What the doctors' surgeries will be replaced with will be consulted on.
- Secretary position had been filled.
- Treasurer would be stepping down in September.
- Police information was provided but no police attendance at meetings.
- There had been a gypsy encampment on the playing field in Burghead. Moray Council had to go to court to get them removed.
- However, it would be useful to know what progress had been made with to establish stopover places in Moray? The work on this initiative had started in 2019.

Cullen and Deskford Community Council:

- Unfortunately the CC now only had 5 members after a resignation.
- Friends of Cullen group were happy with the situation with the toilets.
- CC had not been as proactive with town flowers. They had been purchased more cheaply but this had not worked as well as hoped.
- Meetings were now in person.
- Had a reply about SSEN resilience planning funding. Had received a partial award.
- Two defibrillators need replacing, so would be meeting with Keiran's Legacy at next meeting.
- Applied to Tesco fund to get a foodbank in place.
- Survey had been carried out via Cullen Connected newsletter. Twenty returns had been received. Speeding issue, either actual or perceived, was a common theme.

Elgin Community Council:

- The issue of young people hanging out at the bus station was improving.
- Note that parking tickets could be issued from CCTV footage. There were problems on some town centre roads with bad parking and tickets were issued for infringements.
- A meeting had been held in June with NatureScot about the problem with seagulls.
- Planning applications- the extension to Dr Gray's for the MRI scanner had been approved.
- Residents had raise issues about booking to use the household recycling centre in Elgin. This had been raised with Moray Council officers.

Finderne Community Council

- A community survey had been delivered to all properties within the CC area. There had been a return rate of 25 percent.
- Thirty people had volunteered to be on a committee to look at roads and housing issues.

- Issues with roads included lack of footpaths/pavements. A mixed use path from Rafford to Forres was needed as it was only four miles between the two places.

Forres Community Council:
- Flooding issues following thunder plumps were raised. These issues had been occurring for decades and were getting worse with more areas being affected.
- Meetings had been held with Scottish Water but nothing had been resolved.
- Concerns about Forres increasing in size but the infrastructure not being able to cope.
- Church of Scotland had said it would be closing St Lawrence Church.

Heldon Community Council
- The CC area was large and covered seven separate communities.
- The closure of Cloddach Bridge was still an issue.
- Road safety issues had been raised including overhanging trees and visibility at junctions.
- Duffus was interested in resilience planning as the village had been without power for 7-10 days in last winter's storms. The village hall was not used during this time and should have been. A plan would therefore be beneficial.

Speyside Community Council:
- A request for public recycling bins for Aberlour had been made to Moray Council but this had been refused.
- No response had been received about ensuring that all public bins in the area were gull proof.
- The bus stop in Rothes would be moved to the layby as this would be safer.
- Police would be patrolling double yellow lines as there had been issues with parking.
- The CC had donated £200 to Aberlour Heritage trail. This would acknowledge links to the slave trade.

- A big issue for Speyside CC was the number of large planning applications that they were having to consider and respond to.
- Since September 2021 there had been applications for: commercial forests; a new maltings; 21 new warehouses; bio refinery; two windfarms; and a housing development.
- The CC was finding it difficult to consider any other business.
- Planning applications took a lot of time as public meetings were organised and held.
- It was also difficult to get accurate knowledge and information as well as researching the issues.
- If any other CCs knew of people with specialist knowledge about any of the types of planning applications that Speyside CC were considering it would be useful to share this information.

Agreed:

- The JCC would look into establishing a pool of experts that could be used by community councils to help when responding to planning applications.
- Moray Council to respond with information about traveller stopover policy.

15. Closing remark

The chairperson thanked all for attending. The aim would be for the next meeting to be in person, venue to be confirmed.

It was proposed that the meeting in February 2023 would be online, due to darker evenings and winter road conditions.

16. AOCB

None

Date of next meeting – 10 November 2022