

Minutes of JCC Meeting held on Thursday 10 November 2022, 7pm

The Lounge, Elgin Town Hall

Present:

Name	Community Council	Name	Community Council
Alastair Kennedy	Chair	David Parker	Forres
Jim Patterson	Burghead & Cummingston	Graham Murdoch	Forres
Christine Allan	Buckie & District	Mary Evans	Heldon
Colin Burch	Cullen & Deskford	Steve Hickin	Keith
Ernest Kopp	Cullen & Deskford	Paul MacPherson	Lennox
		Pringle George	Lennox
		Lily Mulholland	Lossiemouth
Graham Jarvis	Elgin		Lossiemouth
Anne Skene	Findhorn & Kinloss	Marion Ross	Speyside
		Karen Pryce	Strathisla
		Iddon	

In attendance:

Chief Inspector Simon Reid
Inspector Andrew Meikleham
Deputy Lord Lieutenant Joan Cowe
Gillian Pirie- Volunteer Development Officer (Moray Council)
Andrea Woodhead, JCC Treasurer
Debra Duke; Community Council Liaison Officer (Moray Council) *Minute taker*
Moray Councillors: John Cowe, Donald Gatt, Derek Ross, Neil MacLennan

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were noted from: Brian Irvine (Elgin) Shirley Munn (Finnerne), Peter Fitch (Innes)

2. Presentation- Moray Councils Alarm Responders and Buddies initiatives
Gillian Pirie, Volunteer Development Officer, from Moray Council gave an update about the Alarm Responder Buddy scheme. There was a need for 50 alarm responders. This could be flexible but was over the full year. Each person with a personal alarm should have 3 alarm responders. The alarm responders would be called upon if an alarm is activated and the call centre could not get a response from the person with the personal alarm. This provides vital support to enable people to continue living independently or to be able to return home from hospital.

Posters and leaflets were available to help advertise the service. Information was also available online with a new Facebook page being launched this week.

3. Approval of minutes – 11 August 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 August 2022 were confirmed as a correct record.

4. Matters Arising

It was noted that a letter signed by all community councils in Moray had been sent to the Health Minister about maternity services at Doctor Grays. No acknowledgement had been received.

Other matters about the difficulties getting doctors' appointments and downgrading of services were raised.

5. Treasurers Report

Accounts information was circulated at the meeting.

Last year's accounts were still with the independent examiner so the annual accounts could not be approved.

Points to note:

- Received £2743 from SSEN resilience funding.
- Forres CC had been repaid elections postage
- Energy Fair event had not received £300 of funds promised.

Overall finances were adequate to meet spending commitments.

6. Chief Inspector report

Chief Inspector Simon Reid

- A police representative would attend community council meetings when possible.
- Police reports were being sent out on an area basis directly to community councils in that area.
- Work since August had included proactive work on road safety and within schools.
- Significant ASB issues, but this was not just in Moray. The reason for the increase in ASB incidents was not clear. It could be a mix of different factors.
- It was being proactively targeted and education with young people in schools.
- Suggested that Investigation team could speak at a future JCC meeting.
- Community Safety Strategy had been published and link would be sent after the meeting.
- This was a wider report than just the police.
- All were encouraged, as individuals and organisations, to participate in the survey about the Police Plan.

Inspector Andrew Meikleham gave an update about road safety and speed enforcement.

- There had been issues with anti-social driving with groups of people congregating. This had been monitored and events had moved on.
- There were different opportunities for the police to engage with people about driving issues and to pass on information:
 - Police were able to return to schools so had been able to work with young drivers there.
 - New Driver Intervention Scheme aimed at learners in the first two years of driving.
 - Fitness to drive aimed at senior drivers over 75 years.
 - Child seat safety events

- Whether Community Speedwatch UK could be rolled out in Moray was part of a national decision.
- To become a Community Speedwatch group would cost money to buy equipment, undertake annual calibration and other safety equipment and training. The site location would have to be evaluated with police liaison to audit and manage the group.

Speyside CC had been in touch as they were keen to establish a Community Speedwatch group. It was suggested that they approach the Chief Inspector who would discuss with the Divisional Commander.

Cullen also reported high levels of speeding and perceived speeding.

7. Lord Lieutenancy update

Joan Cowe gave an update on what the Lieutenancy had been working on. Books of condolences had been opened following the death of the Queen. Thanks to Moray Council and Community Councils who had helped during this time. The Green Canopy had been a huge success and had been extended to March 2023. Details on how to take part were online.

8. Resilience Plans update

JP gave an update. SSEN resilience funding had been awarded.

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

Resilience Planning event would be held in Elgin Town Hall on Thursday 24 November.

9. CCLO update

A planning training session had been arranged for Wednesday 23 November, this would be online.

Finance training/get together had been held and had been well received. The CCLO would organise sessions for secretaries and chairpersons. If anyone would be interested in an office holder role in the future please contact the CCLO.

Some issues with subcommittees had been raised. Therefore it might be a good time for CCs to check how subcommittees are currently working. Looking at the model constitution subcommittees should all have terms of reference and at least one member should be a community councillor.

Subcommittees were a great way to increase those involved in CC business and particularly great for short term projects. But for longer term projects or those with their own finances this needed to be carefully managed.

Subcommittees accounts should be included within the CC annual accounts. It might be a good idea that sub committees do not have their own bank accounts. Their finances could be managed through the CC account using a different column in the main CC finance book. Contact the CCLO for more advice.

The CCLO attended a meeting with other CCLOs from Northern councils. Training on social media was provided. Information about this will be circulated.

There were good tips about social media sites and how community councils could use them effectively. We also discussed a neighbourhood social network called Next Door. This could be an interesting way for community councils to communicate with their local areas.

Reminder of online training courses through the Improvement Service. The Standards Commission was also working on a training module for community councils. Also remember to use the Knowledge Hub Community Council network. These were useful for sharing ideas and issues with other community councillors in Scotland.

Finally, next year is 50 years of Community Councils. The CCLO would like to promote all the good work that CCs in Moray have done and currently carry out. Raising awareness of CCs was also important as many people and organisations were not aware of them.

Reminders:

- Please send on minutes as they are all published on Moray Council's website.
- If members are co-opted please return a completed co-option form.
- If a member resigns it must be in writing and the CCLO must be informed.

Agreed:

- Community Councils to review how any subcommittees they have are currently working.
- Contact CCLO with any ideas to celebrate 50 years of Community Councils in 2023.
- CCLO to circulate information from CCLO network meeting
- CCLO to organise chairpersons and secretaries training sessions

10. Establish Travel Forum as a JCC sub group

Unfortunately the draft terms of reference were not available in advance of the meeting. The terms of reference would set out the purpose of the group and what it expected to achieve.

The group had been established previously but needed to re-form. As a subcommittee of the JCC it would be a constituted group and if the group had any finances these could be managed through the JCC bank account. Membership of this group would comprise of at least one JCC member and other interested parties.

RESOLVED:

- It was agreed in principle for the Transport Forum to be a subcommittee of the JCC.
- Agreed that Terms of Reference would be circulated before approval at the next JCC meeting.

11. War memorials- Item from Lennox CC regarding Dallachy War memorial.

Lennox CC built the Dallachy Strike Wing memorial. A lot of work is undertaken maintaining it and organising events. Lennox CC does not have a full membership and there were concerns about how the memorial and events would continue if Lennox CC was not able to facilitate this. Consideration had been given to setting up a Friends group. Conversations had been had with RAF Lossiemouth, British Legion and Commonwealth War Graves Commission. There are also war graves in Bellie cemetery.

Options for Lennox CC to take forward:

- Contact Commonwealth War Graves Commission again.
- Investigate if community payback be used for short term maintenance.
- Moray Councillor Bloomfield as Armed Forces and Veterans Champion would also look into this.
- Contact Poppy Scotland.

12. Feedback from Sub-Groups

i. Money for Moray

Just transition funding was for projects that were transitioning to a greener economy. Closing date for voting for this was 14 November.

Participatory budgeting projects could be voted on until 19 December.

ii. Safer Travel Moray – sub group- in progress

CCLO had met with community councillors who were on the group. The members had said they were keen on community speedwatch schemes. Therefore CCLO would follow up from earlier police presentation would take place.

CCLO was also meeting Moray Council officers about speeding and safer travel matters.

iii. Community Energy Moray

This work had been started by the JCC. Clashgour Windfarm had received permission. This would result in community benefits across Moray.

13. Community Council update

Buckie and District Community Council

- The chairman had been elected to Moray Council so a new person would have to be appointed.
- Venues for meetings were being rotated around the area and community interest was increasing.
- An online poll regarding transport and road safety had been carried out. Results would be collated and shared.
- Agenda item about cost of living had been added to all meetings.
- The CC would be using the noticeboard to advertise information.

- Locality Plan final launch would be in December.
- Monthly community lunches were going well.
- Application was being made for the FAB (Findochty and Buckie) Development Trust to be a SCIO.

Burghead and Cummington Community Council

- Issues in Burghead with ASB.
- Blessing box continuing but had been vandalised.
- Holding a Democracy Day on 19 November.
- Community Resilience Group had been awarded about £18,000 so work needed to purchase the equipment now that storage space had been agreed.
- Concerns about the medical centre were still ongoing. What the doctors' surgeries will be replaced with would be consulted on.

Cullen and Deskford Community Council:

- Warm Hub would be opening next week.
- Concerns over speeding in the village.
- Two of the three defibrillators had been replaced by Keirans Legacy.
- No police presence at CC meetings. But fire representative attends.
- Had received £20,000 from the SSEN Resilience funding as combined the areas of the Deskford and Cullen.
- Building relationships with Sandend and Fordyce Community Council, Aberdeenshire.

Elgin Community Council:

- Police had attended the last CC meeting.
- Some issues regarding parking in the town centre.
- ASB issues had decreased.
- Concerns about downgrading of Dr Grays hospital. This affects the whole of Moray, trying to keep it visible.

Findhorn and Kinloss Community Council

- Trying to get funding for a defibrillator for the south side of Kinloss.
- Meeting held in Forres on 3 November about flooding issues had provided good advice about flood mitigation.
- Road gully cleaning had been every 5 years this was now annual.
- Any surface water flooding must be report to Scottish Water so it can be mapped.
- In October results for the parking issues on Bay Road, Findhorn had been reported. There was no support to removing parking completely or reducing the size of footways to increase the width of carriageways. The plan was to build out areas for pedestrians, add extra signage and provide 2 disabled parking spaces. Funding for this work was required.

Forres Community Council:

- A meeting regarding flooding action plan had been held. This was well attended.
- Churches and town hall are opening as warm rooms.
- Request to keep reporting any surface water flooding to Scottish Water.

Keith Community Council

- Some issues with ASB and parking. Police are aware and have been able to attend meetings.
- At the October meeting co-opted 2 members, so full membership.
- Some issues regarding pavement resurfacing with the change in maintenance contract along the A96.
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Lennox Community Council

- Still meeting by Zoom.
- Portgordon Community Trust had established a resilience planning group.
- Portgordon village hall refurbishment was now complete.
- Some issues in Fochabers relating to vandalism, trees blocking walkways and litter.
- Contacted Moray Council about better bins near food establishments.
- Fochabers Institute and Men's Shed doing great work.

Lossiemouth Community Council

- Some issues with ASB and working with police.
- Working closely with 2-3 group. Soup and sweet is successful with 110 people attending last week.

Speyside Community Council:

- Still getting major planning applications to respond to.
- Had a presentation from Moray Council about windfarm planning and what happens when applications are appealed to Scottish Government. Members from Innes Community Council were invited to this.
- ASB issues in Aberlour. Will carry out some consultation with schools and pupils to try and establish something for young people to do.
- Carried out an online survey and had 250 responses. Eighty percent of respondents said that speeding was a problem.
- The community council is keen to look into a Speedwatch scheme.
- 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.

14.AOCB

A question was asked about the Moray Local Card. This was a gift card that could be spent like a normal card payment within shops in Moray. It was a good scheme but needed more promotion. The JCC and community councils could help promote the scheme through their social media channels and other contacts.

15. Closing remark

It might be worth looking at holding JCC meetings in different venues in Moray to allow areas to showcase their work. The venue for in-person meetings would be reviewed.

The chairperson thanked all for attending.

The meeting in February 2023 would be online, due to darker evenings and winter road conditions.

Date of next meeting – 9 February 2023