



Date: 20 August 2024
 Time: 7pm
 Venue: Ace Winches, Victoria Park, Buckie
 Attendees: Chair - Allan Paterson (AP), Alison Durno (AD), Ann Mitchell (AM), Beverly Wood (BW), Secretary - Daska Murray (DM), Peter West (PW), Ross Ingram (RI), Cllr. Sonya Warren (SW), Stevie Robertson (SR)
 Apologies: Treasurer - Christine Allan (CA)
 Public Present: Steven Nicol (Kenny Thomson), Sandra Leslie and Sally Walker (Pram Boutique), Holly, Jessica and Megan (fundraising for Linzee Gordon play park).

Minutes of Meeting

Agenda Item	Discussed	Follow up / Action by
Welcome and apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AP welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies. 	
Guest Speaker M.Connect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stevie Robertson, Senior Project Officer at Moray Council, gave an overview of the background to the M.Connect bus service. The bus revolution is part of the Moray Growth Deal to grow and build economic sustainability and to improve connectivity in the Moray area. The project received £4m from Scottish Government funding and Moray Council provided £300k revenue budget. It is a 10 year project which aims to deliver a connected network of on demand bus services across Moray and has made good progress in working towards meeting three key objectives: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Grow passenger journeys by 30,000 by 2030. This equates to approximately 4500 additional journeys per year, and over 9500 was achieved in the first year of the project. Reduce carbon emissions by 30 tonnes by 2030. In the first year the reduction achieved was 11.5 tonnes. 20% reduction in barriers in using public transport to get to work, education, recreation and welfare facilities. The existing Dial M for Moray was rebranded to M.Connect to make it clearer that the service was aimed at the wider public. An upgraded booking platform made the service more responsive to customer needs. Additional vehicles and timetabled services were introduced to expand the available service, along with an App to book journeys which has become more popular. Service operates 6.30am to 8.30pm. You can use the App or call the customer services line to book a journey from your chosen pick up and drop off points. If the journey is a not viable option then it will suggest alternatives. M.Connect works on an operational zone basis which is broken down in to three areas to align with the fares charged. You can also pay £9 to travel all day across all zones or £5 for a return journey. You can also 	

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	<p>use free travel/concession cards. The service is not intended to compete with Stagecoach but aims to complement it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RI asked whether all vehicles were electric. SR advised they were not but the intention is to replace with electric over the project duration. • PW had be informed of difficulties booking during peak times and this being attributed to the charging of electric vehicles. SR there are several factors involved including restrictions due to contracted hours, breaks being tied in with charging time and having an additional driver would impact the delivery costs. However, they hope to address this in the next phase. The App records missed/rescheduled requests to help evidence the demand for services. PW also asked about whether the service ran at weekends. SR explained that they hope to address this too, but this would need a decision from Elected Members. • BW asked about whether the service was promoted widely enough. SR acknowledged the challenges in marketing/promoting the service and encouraged those present to promote the service through word of mouth. AD agreed to promote the service on the Facebook page. 	AD
Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PW sought clarification on the noticeboard, which is owned by the Community Council. The meeting agreed to fund the estimated costs to upgrade the noticeboard set out in PW's email. PW felt it would be beneficial to have a subgroup to move the project forward and offered to organise this prior to the next meeting. • The previous minute was agreed. 	PW
Community Police Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP issued latest report prior to the meeting. 	
Community Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town centre parking – the group discussed parking outside local shops which has an impact on local businesses and their customers, particularly when visitors bring substantial benefits to the town. Those responsible have been approached but continue to park inappropriately. Police enforcement had a positive impact but their limited resources may make this difficult to sustain. SW explained that the possibility of making use of common good funding to support the police resource was being considered. Inconsiderate parking has been discussed at previous meetings including the challenges faced by the emergency services. AP queried the signage and it as confirmed there is none signposting to the carparks nearby. SW had asked for new signage but the budget is committed this year but it would be considered for next year. AP asked about the signage for time limits, and there is one outside the Pram Boutique (30 minutes and then no return for 2 hrs). It was agreed that it is challenging to make people be more considerate. AP noted there is no single yellow line and asked whether this might be more effective than the sign, but SW was aware of a 2-3 year waiting list. AP agreed to request quotes for parking signage to allow options for funding to be considered, as well as enquiring about yellow lines. SW suggested it might be useful to include parking locations for the website when developed. • Linzee Gordon Play Park – a steering group has been set up consisting of around 20 local people with the aim of fundraising towards a new playpark or to better/improve the existing equipment and facilities. There is a need for better facilities for families to enjoy the park, many are leaving the town to access better parks elsewhere. The group have put out a survey to neighbours of the park and have started a 	AP

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	<p>community consultation recently which so far this has received a positive response. The group are not constituted and wanted to take on board suggestions and guidance from the community council. The group have met Sarah Campbell and Tracey Rae from Moray Council. The park is community owned but the pavilion is currently maintained by the car show organisers. The group do not want to go down the route of registering as a charity and Sarah suggested subgrouping could be an alternative. SW noted that Well Road play park had this arrangement, using the community council's bank account for funding applications. It was agreed that PW would represent the community council on a subgroup for the park. Potential funding streams were discussed and it was agreed to share any information with PW as funding opportunities arise. The group will be at the car show fundraising and hope to try and generate income locally because they were aware funding applications can be time limited. It was suggested that it might be worthwhile consulting others involved in similar projects e.g. Buckpool Harbour and Well Road. The consultation survey will end 18 October, the group will have a survey, which will be available at the car show with QR codes. There will also be consultation with schools and local community groups including Brownies/youth clubs. PW has a contact at the BBs which he can pass on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PW noted concerns from the public are mainly parking, the bus service, dog mess and litter but noted that these can be difficult issues to address. • BW noted speeding concerns near the new playpark at Letterfourie. SW has raised this as a safety issue. PW also noted a video circulating of a driver speeding excessively in the lane near Inchgower by which appeared to be an underage driver with 6 younger passengers in the back. • AP explained that the static speed recognition camera at Arradoul could not materialise due to the speed limit. However, it was believed this position may change. A further accident took place at the weekend. AP also noted that the minutes had still not been received to follow up on the actions noted, particularly the island. SW agreed to send on a follow up email/minutes from the Council. 	<p>PW</p> <p>SW</p>
Elected Councillors Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Norway project - This project is intended to promote tourism. SW has discussed with Peter Reid and with the community council's agreement, an acrylic would be designed for a bus stop. Then there could be additional small plaques in key locations with QR codes supporting a short walk with information about the story. SW noted there would likely be a need for a planning application and so working in partnership with the community council would help to minimise costs involved. There will be no charge for the design work and funding options are being considered for the additional items. SW will invite Peter to the next meeting. It was also an opportunity to link in with the lifeboat mural project but a response is awaited. It was agreed to support the project. SW had asked for the rear of Eat Mair Fish which was overgrown to be cut back but there is some giant hogweed that still needs to be treated. SW also spoke to the harbour about tidying up the net store to make the area more attractive. 	<p>SW</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on the school learning estate is expected in September. • A full Council meeting will take place tomorrow. Budget position remains incredibly challenging and this is having an impact on the delivery of services. • A report on the drainage at the cemetery has been requested. • There have been issues with sink holes at East Church Street, North High Street where the wall at the bowling club collapsed. At the entry to the Speyside Way the wall has come away more. • There has been a planning application for the nursery which should help address childcare issues but the status is unknown. • Stage coach are changing their timetable again next month but details are unknown. It may be worth contacting Stagecoach for information. 	
Cost of Living – Actions being undertaken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AD's school larder started today. 	
Treasurers Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferred until next month. 	
Community Resilience Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP tried to arrange a meeting with the minister but were having difficulty arranging. 	
Community Council Groups & initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP advised website was almost complete and just needed to finalise images. • JCC meeting tomorrow regarding community council expenses. PW will attend but hoped to clarify with CA what the current position is with the admin grant and how it is used. The background was that there are some community councils struggling to cover their running costs and there was a need to gain a better understanding of types of expenses incurred. Website development costs will be a significant expense in this year's grant. • Harbour Advisory – meeting was in June. Issues with the way bridge have been considered by the interim chief executive who agrees it needs to be two way, with a better turning circle and parking restrictions. A representative for the hauliers will now be attending meetings. • Money for Moray – started a transition event with around £30k of funding available for those that successfully apply. Have also started a youth group. 	
Planning Applications - responses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly Wards lists issued. 	
Correspondence to note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No correspondence. 	
AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 boxes of walking and cycle path leaflets received. These were shared between the group to hand out locally to businesses and public buildings. PW suggested emailing when these are dropped off • SW suggested speaking to Alan Beresford at the Buckie paper to highlight the work of the community council. PW agreed to do this. 	PW
Date & Venue of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 September 2024 – 7pm Ace Winches Lounge, Victoria Park, Buckie. 	

Community Council meeting closed at 21:50 hrs.

I declare this is a true and accurate record of the meeting:

Sign/initial:

AP

DM

Date:

08/09/2024

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