

# Buckie Community Council



## Minutes of Meeting

Held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2009 at 7.00pm

**Present:** James Smith (Chairman), Ian Moir (Vice Chairman), Allan Fraser (Secretary), Zafar Ali, John Grant.

**In Attendance:** Cllrs G McDonald, A McKay, J Mackay. Also Alan Beresford (Banffshire Advertiser), Leanne Carter (Northern Scot).

**Apologies:** James Newlands, Howard Cartwright and Con. K McPherson.

### Chairman

The Chairman welcomed all to the March meeting of the Buckie Community Council. The Chairman informed the Community Council that he had received a letter of resignation from Mr Bruce Guy as he is now resident in Auldearn. Mr Guy was resigning from the Community Council since he was no longer resident in Buckie. The Chairman thanked Mr Guy for his service with the Community Council and asked the secretary to write a personal letter of thanks.

### Minutes of the March Meeting

The minutes of the March meeting were adopted. This was proposed by Mr Fraser and seconded by Mr Smith.

### Matters Arising

**Citizen of the Year.** The Chairman raised the matter of one member of the deputation, who was not a resident of the Community Council area, speaking at the last meeting. He questioned whether he had the right to speak.

**Cluny Square: Disabled Parking Bays.** Mr Ali questioned why the two disabled spaces could not be reinstated. He criticised the regulations which prevented this happening.

**Overflow at the Buckie Thistle Social Club.** There has been difficulty in tracing the leak. Mr Fraser reported that it was still running.

### Correspondence

#### 1. From Moray Council

##### (a) From Tracey Rae, Community Council Liaison Officer.

- (i) **Acknowledgement.** This has been received regarding issues raised at the March meeting.
- (ii) **Community Council Grant.** Form has been completed and returned. Also the signed minutes are sent in regularly.
- (iii) **ASCC.** Report received along with a report on the regional meeting held in Elgin on 21<sup>st</sup> March.
- (iv) **Moray Council Web Cast.** The attention of the Community Council was drawn to the web cast of 10th March which related to community councils.

- (v) **Retention of Community Council Minutes.** The recommendation is for minutes to be retained for the duration of the current council. Mr Moir queried this interpretation. He said that the destruction of minutes would result in a long term loss of historical documents.
- (vi) **Model Scheme for Community Councils.** A copy of the details has been e-mailed to the secretary.
- (vii) **Joint Community Council.** Agenda for the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> June has been received.
- (viii) **Other information received.** These included (a) Awards for All, Scottish Community Councils, (b) Grab a Grant with CSV Action Earth, (c) Topics Plan and Building.
- (b) **From Cllr McGillivray per Fiona Murdoch.** The gypsy/travellers awareness raising meeting was held on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April.
- (c) **From Election Officer, Alison Johnston.** Notice of intention to review Community Councils' scheme and boundaries has been received along with the Boundaries Mapping tool. Mr Moir questioned whether this review could be completed in time. He said that there was less than six months to the elections, during which time the eight week consultation period and the summer recess had to be fitted in. Mr Smith said that this matter should be raised at the JCC.
- (d) **From Tracey Thorowgood.** Information received regarding premises licences under the 2005 Act Conversion.
- (e) **From Hillary Mott.** Information received relating to water seepage on old station steps at East Church Street.
- (f) **From Roy Anderson. C.C.** Plan e-bulletin has been received.

## 2. Correspondence had also been received from the following

- (a) **Bruce Guy.** Letter of resignation has been received. (See Welcome above)
- (b) **Northern Textiles.** The Community Council had received a cheque for £84 for material collected in March.
- (c) **ASCC per National Secretary, Vincent Waters.** Membership renewal form along with other material has been received. The annual fee of £15 has been paid. Mr Smith commented on the Highland Regional Meeting of the ASCC held recently in Elgin. He said that it was a well attended meeting with a lot of relevant information.
- (d) **BMA Scotland per Dr Dean Marshall.** The booklet, 'General Practice in Scotland – The Way Ahead', has been received.
- (e) **Forestry Commission Scotland.** A consultation document has been received on red squirrel strongholds. The object is to create a suitable environment for the red squirrel.

## Planning Applications

There have been applications of a domestic nature.

### A.O.C.B.

1. **Litter.** Mr Smith reported that the areas at the Pot of Linn and along the old railway line had been tidied. Mr Fraser asked why the work had not been done under the community service scheme. Cllr J Mackay said that there was only so far that you

could go with community service. The secretary would write again to the authorities asking about the use of community service people.

**2. Burst Pipe.** A burst pipe has been reported at the back of the bowling green on North High Street. A check would be made on this.

**3. Historic Banffshire Signs.** Mr Smith raised the lack of a sign denoting the Banffshire boundary at Tynet on the A98. He said that it was the last important boundary which was unmarked. All the other major roads in Moray had the sign displayed. Mr Moir supported Mr Smith in this matter and suggested that the secretary write to the Moray Council asking for the sign. Cllr McDonald expressed his disappointment at the lack of the sign and concurred with the sending of the letter.

**4. Buckie Harbour Marina.** Mr Smith asked about the current situation regarding the development of the marina. Cllr McDonald said that plans would be coming forward. These included various possibilities. He added that a package will be needed to be put together before applying for EU funding. This package will need to be done on a collective basis and to that end a meeting will be called for all harbour users. Cllr McDonald also said that businesses would have their own plans and that these plans would be made two or three years in advance. He also said that the Moray Council will need to publicise its plans.

Cllr McDonald went on to talk about the Buckie Common Good Fund. He explained that the current return on the funds had reduced to less than 1%. He suggested that there was a need for a greater mix in the fund to improve the return. To this end he said that some of the Common Good Fund could be used as part of the finance for the marina project, and that the revenue from the boats in the marina would go to the Common Good Fund after the deduction of the management charges. Mr Moir queried the realism of this suggestion. Cllr McDonald said that there would need to be an increase in the charges for boats using the marina, and after further questioning admitted that there was a possibility that the Common Good Fund could suffer a loss if the income was less than the expenditure.

Mr Smith asked about charges for the small fishing boats currently using the harbour. Cllr McDonald said that he saw no need to increase charges in that case.

Mr Moir went on to ask about the dredging of the harbour area and the future of the Shearwater. Cllr J Mackay said that the Shearwater still had a viable future, but that there was a problem with the crane. Mr Smith said that the Shearwater was 'done'. He based his comments on what he had observed when the Shearwater was 'up the slip'.

**5. Tourist Material on Buckie.** Mr Moir said that there was next to no material on Buckie in the Visit Scotland site in the Elgin Library and added that there is a need for more suitable items for people visiting Buckie. Mr Grant said that Banff and Macduff publicised Banffshire information with their material. Moray Council can provide publicity material if financed by adverts.

**6. Coat of Arms Flags.** Mr Moir said that the community council should seriously consider obtaining cheaper flags showing the coat of arms. These could be permanently hung from the flagpole during the summer months.

**7. Coat of Arms Display Cabinet.** Mr Moir said that the display cabinet for the Buckie Library needs to be progressed. He proposed that a small group of three look into the matter. An application to the Common Good Fund could be considered.

**8. New Model Scheme for Community Councils.** Mr Moir said that this had now been produced and was recommended for implementation. Cllr McDonald said that the Moray Council would be visiting the proposals and then sending them to Community Councils for consultation.

**9. Boundaries of the Buckie Community Council.** Mr Moir said that the Moray Council website was still showing the boundaries of the Buckie Community Council as being those of the pre-1975 Town Council. Cllr McDonald said that the boundaries were under review and that proposals would be issued along with the new model scheme details. Mr Moir questioned whether the eight week consultation period proposed and the Moray Councillors summer recess would prevent the completion of this exercise before the time for the issue of nomination forms for the community council elections.

**10. Town Clock.** Mr Grant said that the town clock can only be corrected by experts who do not visit the North of Scotland very often.

**11. Tesco.** On a question about the proposed Tesco store Mr Smith said that the Buckie community were all in favour of it. Mr Ali said that there would be an increase in traffic in the area and that this will give rise to a number of issues. Mr Smith added that there were currently a lot of people going out of Buckie for their shopping. He added that the new store would keep money in the Buckie area as well as providing jobs.

**12. House on Heilan Line.** Mr Moir had observed that the builders of the new house on Archibald Grove had tidied up part of the Heilan Line and asked if they had bought the land. He said that he would monitor the situation

**13. New Sign in Cluny Square.** Mr Moir said that a new sign for the Heritage Centre had been erected in Cluny Square. He welcomed this information, but questioned the lack of progress on other information signs in Buckie

**14. Buckpool/Portgordon Coast.** Mr Smith said that the area had been greatly improved. Mr Moir added that the seals and their information board added to the interest. Cllr McDonald said that the seals were also at Strathlene.

### **Close of Meeting**

The Chairman thanked all those who attended for their contributions. The meeting was closed at 8.40pm

**The next two meetings of Buckie Community Council will be on Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2009 and on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2009.**

**Previous minutes can be found on the Moray Council website at [http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray\\_standard/page\\_49776.html](http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_49776.html).**

**Meetings of the Buckie Community Council are held in Room 1 of Buckie Town House at 7.00pm on the third Tuesday of each month, except July. All members of the public are welcome to attend. If any members of the community wish to raise any community matter, they should in the first instance contact the Secretary or any other member of the Community Council.**

Signed as a correct minute ..... Chairman

Proposed by .....

Seconded by .....

Minute Secretary: Mr Ian Moir