

**Meeting Minutes of Innes Community Council**  
**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2010**

**Present:**

Peter Bush, Jill Reid, David Mackay, Alan Bodman, Paul Harlow, Elizabeth Bodman, Alasdair Boyne

**In Attendance:**

Tracey Rae – Community Council Liaison Officer  
Councillor Douglas Ross  
James Anderson – Community Participation

**Apologies:**

David Anderson, James Stewart

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Alan opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, introductions were made for the benefit of Alasdair Boyne, who has agreed to join the Community Council and provide a voice for Urquhart. Councillor Ross was present as well as a local resident from Lhanbryde who wished to raise some issues.

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

It was agreed that the previous minutes were a true reflection and Alan proposed and Paul seconded them.

### **3. Matters Arising**

#### **Constitution**

In order open the bank account and move forward an agreement of the constitution was sought. Tracey had provided copies of other Community Councils Constitutions for us to look at. After careful consideration and an around table discussion it was suggested that we adopt the suggested constitution provided in the handbook. It was agreed that this was a good starting point and if any part of it was not working for the Council then we had the option of calling a meeting to amend any part at a later date.

Alan proposed and Peter seconded this suggestion it was put to a vote around the table and it was agreed.

#### **Web Site and Investigation**

Investigations into the cost implications of having a dedicated web site for the Community Council were examined. Alan explained that another local Community Council have been looking at the possibilities of using part of the Moray Council site.

Tracey indicated that if this was a possibility there would be a problem with gaining access to update the pages. Moray Council would permit a link to our web page from there Community Council area should we go down that route.

Tracey also explained that there may be something included in the Leader funding application. She explained about the Leader funding and suggested that at the Joint Community Council meeting a further update and explanation would be available.

David explained that the neighbourhood watch group had an existing website that is used by the community. He suggested we should look at the possibilities it could provide.

Paul had investigated a company based in the Black Isle – Spanglefish, the offer free hosting and there are a variety of packages available. It was suggested that Paul should look further into this option.

### **Equipment Investigation**

Paul had looked at prices for a laptop and a projector to assist with displaying planning applications and any other consultation documents that we may need to consider. He found a laptop would cost in the region of £250 and a data projector in the region of £367.

Alan explained that by having the equipment it would help reduce the printing costs. It would also mitigate any issues that may arise with some of the documents. For audit purposes and for future handovers it would mean all documentation would be stored in one place.

With the equipment we would also be able to view any documents as a group, which would aid in discussions.

Douglas Ross commented that another Community Council had requested that he enquire with Richard Lochhead if there may be funding available for this. Unfortunately the response he has had back is that at present there is no funding available.

It was suggested that MVSO may be able to rent equipment. It was also suggested that Voluntary services Scotland may have some funding available for equipment. It was agreed that Aileen Bush would be contacted to investigate this further.

## **Alternative Meeting Night**

It had been brought to our attention that at present the Lhanbryde School was opening especially for the Community Council meeting, as no other community group was using the premises on a Wednesday night.

With the budget cuts it may not be economically viable to continue to utilise the premises as heating has to be turned on and the Janitor has to come in.

Currently Mosstodloch School doesn't open at night. It was agreed that Lhanbryde was central for everyone and apart from Garmouth if we rotate we would have to pay for other premises.

It was agreed that we would have the next meeting in Lhanbryde School and reconsider the position.

## **Minute Secretary**

It had been suggested that having a dedicated person taking the minutes at the meeting would allow everyone to fully participate. However, due to the small budget we have at present it was agreed to delay making a decision until there are more funds available.

## **Publicity**

Alan explained that the article in the northern Scott had helped raise our profile and assisted with letting everyone know that Innes Community Council had formed. David mentioned that the paper were considering having a section dedicated to local Community Councils within the area. David agreed to keep us updated.

It was suggested that as a Community Council we cover such a wide area that we should consider where we could find places to display a paper copy of our meeting minutes. It was argued that if they are posted on the internet the

communities could look at them on line. However it was pointed out that not everyone had access to a computer nor were the able to use one.

David pointed out that this was a good suggestion as 33% of people in Garmouth and Kingston don't have a computer and people have a right to know.

It was suggested that we should all consider suitable locations within the areas to display the minutes.

#### **4. Correspondence**

A consultation document of the proposed changes to the road hierarchy in Elgin has been received. A copy had been circulated around the Council. Councillor Ross was able to explain a little more about this and he agreed to forward on some more information.

It was agreed to wait for the additional information from Councillor Ross and then comments would be made to Jill who would incorporate all comments into the document and send it back to Moray Council.

#### **5. Treasurers Report**

Elizabeth had written an update and it was circulated with the previous minutes. Paul proposed and Alan seconded them.

#### **6. Reports**

##### **Councillor Ross**

Councillor Ross reiterated his apologies for not being able to attend the last meeting but stated that he was delighted to be here and that with Innes Community Council overlapping two other Councillors areas that would share attending the Community Council meetings.

He provided an update on the Mosstodloch bypass with work having begun with an estimated completion date of 117 weeks.

Mention of the flood problems experienced in Garmouth and Kingston was touched upon and the fact that the Lower Spey Forum has started up again after not meeting for some years. It was suggested that Innes Community Council should be represented on this Forum and we were informed that Lennox Community Council is.

The final budget discussions would be taking place very shortly and Councillor Ross informed us that the Council tax will be frozen for another year.

Tracey had provided us with a copy of the initial consultation document that had been circulated to all the Community Councils before Innes was formed. There does not appear to be anything that specifically affects Innes but, Council Ross will provide an update at our next meeting.

### **Police Report**

Due to unforeseen circumstance Constable George Ogg was unable to attend

### **Planning Issues**

There were no planning applications that affected Innes this month.

## **7. AOCB**

**David Anderson:** wished a point to be raised with regard to the pot holes in the roads that have appeared since the cold snap. Muir of Lochs the road is now breaking up. He acknowledged that this was obviously a problem Moray wide but if something is not done now the problems will increase and be more costly in the long run.

**Jim Stewart** : raised a point with regard to Leader funding opportunities, it was suggested that this was carried forward to the next meeting to allow Jim to explain his idea further.

**James Anderson**: attended the meeting as he was looking for assistance for a cycle path or footpath to be constructed from Lhanbryde to Elgin. He pointed out that the path already went about one third of the way but it was very overgrown and difficult to use at present.

He highlighted the fact that local residents had launched a petition after the fatal accident that happened along the stretch of road.

He wondered if this was an issue that the Community Council would back and requested that we write to Bear Scotland to try and progress this matter.

It was agreed that the Community Council would write and this point would be raised at the next joint Community Council.

## **8. Date of Next Meeting**

The meeting closed at 8:30pm a vote of thanks to Councillor Ross and Tracey Rae for attending was given by the group.

The meeting date was set for Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7:00pm at Lhanbryde Primary School

