

THE MORAY COUNCIL
MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY COUNCIL

4 MAY, 1999

COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, ELGIN

PRESENT

Councillors G. McDonald (Convener), H.M. Cumiskie (Vice-Convener), E. Aldridge, M. Anderson, D. Crawford, M. C. Howe, T. A. Howe, W. Jappy, A. Keith, R. J. Laing, H. McDonald, P. Mann, R.L. Patterson, C. D. Scaife, A. M. Scott, J. M. Shaw and J. Stewart.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Depute Chief Executive, (Corporate Services), the Depute Chief Executive (Finance & I.T.), the Director of Community Services, the Director of Economic Development and Planning, the Director of Education, the Legal and Administration Services Manager, the Chief Community Development Office, the Chief Environmental Protection Officer, the HSA, Service Development, the Public Relations Officer and R. Ritchie, Senior Administration Officer, Clerk to the Meeting.

APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor A. Farquharson.

1. CHAIR

The Chair was taken by the Convener, Councillor G. McDonald.

2. COMMUNITY GROUPS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Prior to the commencement of the Meeting the Convener invited Sheriff Noel McPartlin to present the Community Groups Achievement Award which was designed to recognise and reward, where appropriate, the excellent work which is carried out by communities within a "self-help" approach to improve its quality of life to those within their community.

The Meeting noted that this year's winner of the Award was Hopeman Community Association with Spey Bay Hall Community and Amenities Association second and Buckie Community Council third.

The Meeting also noted that there were three highly commended awards going to Aberlour Community Association, Garmouth and Kingston Village Hall Committee and Grange Community Association with three special awards to Burghead Loyal Rangers Supporters Club, Rothes Council and Portknockie Community Council.

3. TRIBUTE TO COUNCILLORS H.M. CUMISKIE (VICE-CONVENER) AND A.M. SCOTT

This being the last meeting of the Council prior to the Local Government Elections on 6 May, 1999 the Meeting joined the Convener in paying tribute to Councillors H. M. Cumiskie and A. M. Scott who had been Councillors since 1988 and 1990 respectively who were retiring from Local Government and would not be seeking re-election and wished them well in their retirement. The Convener also paid a special tribute to Councillor Cumiskie and expressed his appreciation of her work, strength and support in her capacity as Vice-Convener over the past four years.

4. VALEDICTION – THE CHIEF SOCIAL WORK OFFICER

The Meeting, in noting that this would be the last meeting of the Council prior to the Chief Social Work Officer leaving the Council to take up a new post with Grampian Health Board, joined the Convener in paying tribute to Mr Sullivan for his work with the Local Authority in capacity as Chief

Social Work Officer for The Moray Council and previously as the Divisional Social Work Manager with Grampian Regional Council.

5. TRIBUTE TO STAFF

The Meeting joined the Convener in paying tribute to all staff of The Moray Council for their endeavours through a difficult transitional period and commended them highly for their high standard of work and wished them well for the future.

6. THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS IN SCOTLAND AWARD

The Convener advised the Council that this year's recipient of The Thomas Ross Bi-annual Certificate Award for the production of a thesis or report resulting from research or study into matters pertaining particularly to Scotland and to Scottish Architecture and/or Environmental or the study of ancient Scottish Buildings or Monuments had been won by the Council's Principal Planning Officer, Environmental Strategies, Nick Brown.

The Meeting joined the Convener in congratulating Mr Brown on his achievement.

7. PRESENTATION OF AWARD

Councillor T. Howe presented a "Positive About Disabled People" Award to the Convener on behalf of The Moray Council which had been presented to him as the Council's representative at a presentation on 28 April, 1999.

8. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

In terms of the relevant Standing Order, the Meeting agreed to accept as Additional Items of Business to be transacted at the Meeting, the undernoted matters on the Convener certifying that, in his opinion, they required to be considered on the grounds of urgency having regard to the relevant timescales involved.

- (i) Amendment of Staffing Structure Within Systems Administration Section of Control Services - Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning seeking approval to return to a staff structure similar to the original which had to be adjusted to accommodate maternity leave.
- (ii) Moray Business Enterprise Scheme: Application 99/116 – Confidential Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning in regard to an application for financial assistance in terms of the Council's Moray Business Enterprise Scheme.

9. EXEMPT INFORMATION

The Meeting resolved that in terms of Section 50A(4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended, the public and media representatives be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the Items of Business appearing at the relevant Paragraphs of this Minute as specified below, so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the appropriate Paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

<u>Para. No. of Minute</u>	<u>Para. No. of Schedule 7A</u>
32	9
33	1
34	4

10. MINUTE OF MEETING OF POLICY AND RESOURCES SUB-COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Policy and Resources Sub-Committee dated 23 March, 1999 was submitted and approved.

11. MINUTE OF MEETING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Economic Development and Planning Committee dated 23 March, 1999 was submitted and approved subject to Councillor W. Jappy's name being included in the sederunt for the Meeting.

12. MINUTE OF MEETING OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Education General Purposes Sub-Committee dated 23 March, 1999 was submitted and approved.

13. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY COUNCIL

The Minute of Meeting of The Moray Council was submitted and approved subject to the miss-spelling of "Skye" in para 22 being corrected.

14. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF HOUSING COMMITTEE

(a) The Minute of Meeting of the Housing Committee dated 30 March, 1999 was submitted and approved.

(b) The Minute of Meeting of the Housing Sub-Committee dated 30 March, 1999 was submitted and approved.

15. MINUTE OF MEETING OF SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Social Work Committee dated 1 April, 1999 was submitted and approved.

16. MINUTES OF MEETING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Economic Development and Planning Committee was submitted and approved.

17. MINUTE OF MEETING OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES STRATEGY GROUP

The Minute of Meeting of the Children's Services Strategy Group dated 6 April, 1999 was submitted and approved.

18. MINUTE OF MEETING OF LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Licensing Committee dated 8 April, 1999 was submitted and approved.

19. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF MEETING OF TELEMATICS SUB-COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Economic Development and Planning Committee dated 6 April, 1999 was submitted and approved.

20. MINUTE OF MEETING OF TECHNICAL AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Technical and Leisure Services Committee dated 15 April, 1999 was submitted and approved subject to the word "Environmental" in the reference to SEPA in para 5 being corrected to "Environment".

21. MINUTE OF MEETING OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Education Committee dated 20 April, 1999 was submitted and approved.

22. MINUTE OF MEETING OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee was submitted and approved.

The Highlanders: Request for Civic Hospitality

Under reference to para 27 (ii) of the Minute the Meeting noted the further details clarifying the march arrangements as requested by The Full Council at the meeting on 4 May, 1999.

23. MINUTE OF MEETING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Minute of Meeting of the Economic Development and Planning Committee dated 27 April, 1999 was submitted and approved.

24. POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Minute of Special Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee was submitted and approved.

25. STANDING ORDERS

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) recommending, that in light of the increase in Elected Members to the new Council from 18 to 26, Standing Order 69 be suspended and Standing Orders 14, 15, 16, 46 and 48 be amended, as detailed in the Report, as an interim measure until such time as the new Council has the opportunity to review its Standing Orders.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed to suspend Standing Order 69 given the relevant and material changes to circumstances being an increase from 18 to 26 Members in the new Council and approved the proposed amendments to Standing Orders 14, 15, 19, 46 and 48 as an interim measure until such time as a full review of Standing Orders can be undertaken.

26. HUNTLY COMMUNITY COUNCIL: GORDON HIGHLANDERS MEMORIAL STATUE

There was submitted a Report by the Depute Chief Executive (Corporate Services) inviting the Council to consider a request from Huntly Community Council for a contribution towards the erection, by public subscription, a statue commemorating the Gordon Highlanders to be erected, subject to planning permission, on the lawn at the east side of the Simpson Building at the Gordon School, Huntly to be unveiled in May, 2000 on the 206th anniversary of the raising of the Regiment.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed to make a contribution of £500 to Huntly Community Council towards the erection, by public subscription, of a statue commemorating the Gordon Highlanders Regiment.

27. CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEVELOPMENT FUND

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Community Services advising the Council that the Government has indicated that additional resources will be made available to Authorities committed to taking forward actions in three broad areas of childcare provision which will be known as the Children's Development Fund and invited the Council to consider proposals as to how allocated monies should be spent.

The Meeting noted that the main components of the Children's Development Fund related to a transitional scheme for community based placements, the implementation of key proposals arising from Government response to the Kent Report and supporting families – early intervention and prevention and that the Social Work budget for 1999/2000 included a total of £95,000 in relation to the Children's Services Development Fund.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed:-

- (i) to make an additional grant of £7,000 to the Children 1st Organisation to create a Children's Rights Officer post in Moray regulating through a Service Level Agreement with Voluntary Organisations;
- (ii) to approve expenditure of £10,000 to second an existing member of staff within Community Services Development for two days per week to develop care planning under Good Parenting: Good Outcomes;
- (iii) to approve expenditure of £12,500 to appoint a temporary part-time member of staff (or seasonal staff equivalent to 18 hour Social Worker post) within the Community Services Department's Fostering and Adoption Team;
- (iv) to approve expenditure of £9,250 to part-finance a full-time Senior Practitioner post within the Mills Associated School Group New Community Schools Project;
- (v) approve a grant of £3,000 to Who Cares? Organisation to provide additional finance to part-fund Project Worker post shared with The Highland Council. The arrangement between The Moray Council and the voluntary organisation to be regulated through the Service Level Agreement: and
- (vi) to approve the allocation of £53,250 towards the further development of fee-based fostering in Moray, which will be subject to further reports to the Children's Services Strategy Group or appropriate Committee following the elections on 6 May, 1999; the Policy and Resources Committee and Full Council.

28. REVIEW OF CIVIC GOVERNMENT LICENCES – SECOND HAND DEALERS LICENSING

There was submitted a Report by the Legal and Administration Services Manager inviting the Council to consider passing a Resolution, a copy of which was appended to the Report, in respect of the categories of second-hand good for which a licence would be required in Moray as recommended by the Licensing Committee on 8 April, 1999 (para 5 of the minute refers).

Following consideration the Meeting agreed that the Council pass the Resolution in respect of the categories of second-hand goods for which a licence will be required in Moray and that it be remitted to the Legal and Administration Services Manager to undertake the appropriate statutory procedures.

29. REVIEW OF CIVIC GOVERNMENT LICENSING – WINDOW CLEANERS

There was submitted a Report by the Legal and Administration Services Manager inviting the Council to consider passing a Resolution, a copy of which was appended to the Report, in respect of the licensing of window cleaners within Moray as recommended by the Licensing Committee on 8 April, 1999 (para 6 of the minute refers).

Following consideration the Meeting agreed that the Council pass a Resolution in respect of the licensing of window cleaners within Moray and that it be remitted to the Legal and Administration Services Manager to undertake the appropriate statutory procedures.

30. PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE PLAN

Under reference to para 1 of the minute of the meeting of the Education Committee dated 20 April, 1999 there was submitted a Report by the Chief Community Development Officer inviting the Council to approve the Pre-school Education Childcare Plan for Moray for the period 1999 – 2000.

The Meeting noted that the Draft Plan had been a collaborative effort between the Community Development Service and the Departments of Education and Community Service and that there had been full consultation with members of the Moray Childcare Forum and the Meeting acknowledged the major part played in the drafting of the Plan by the Council's Children's Services Working Group.

Following consideration the Council agreed the terms of the Pre-school Education and Childcare Plan for Moray 1999 – 2000.

31. DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME PRESENTATIONS

There was submitted a Report by the Chief Community Development Officer inviting the Council to consider hosting a reception at which there will be a presentation of certificates to recognise the achievements of young people in Moray who have achieved their Duke of Edinburgh Award over the past three years.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed:-

- (i) to authorise officials in Community Development Services to organise a reception and presentation of certificates;
- (ii) that the Convener of the new Council or his/her nominee present the awards; and
- (iii) to approve expenditure of up to £850 in respect of hospitality for the award ceremony to be met from the Council's Corporate Hospitality Budget.

32. MORAY LOCAL PLAN 2000: OBJECTIONS (Para 9)

Under reference to para 4 of the minute of special meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee dated 29 April, 1999 there was submitted a Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning inviting the Council to consider, in terms of its Administration Scheme, a recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee in regard to the Economic Development and Planning Committee's consideration in regard to objections to the Moray Local Plan 2000.

Following consideration the Council agreed to approve the recommendations of the Economic Development and Planning Committee in regard to objections to the Moray Local Plan 2000.

33. AMENDMENT OF STAFFING STRUCTURE WITHIN SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION SECTION OF CONTROL SERVICES (Para 1)

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning seeking the Council's approval to return to a staff structure within the Systems Administration Section of Control Services similar to the original which had to be adjusted to accommodate maternity leave.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed that the post of part-time Systems Administrator be created and funded from the budget available from the currently vacant post of full-time Clerical Assistant/WPO with the post of full-time Clerical Assistant/WPO remaining in the structure to allow a degree of flexibility to make changing needs in the future as and when part-time posts become vacant.

34. MORAY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE SCHEME – MBE/99/116 (Para 4)

There was submitted a Report by the Director of Economic Development and Planning seeking the Council's approval of a grant in respect of application 99/116 for financial assistance in terms of the Moray Business Enterprise Scheme.

Following consideration the Council agreed to approve the recommendations in respect to of application 99/116.