

THE MORAY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIC GROUP

THURSDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2010

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNCIL OFFICE, HIGH STREET, ELGIN

PRESENT

| | |
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| Councillor McGillivray (Chairman) | The Moray Council |
| Councillor Bell | The Moray Council |
| Councillor Hamilton | The Moray Council |
| Councillor Russell | The Moray Council |
| Carin Schwartz | Moray Area Forum |
| Elaine Brown | NHS Grampian |
| Eileen Bush | MVSO |
| Mike Devenney | Moray College |
| Alastair Kennedy | Joint Community Council |
| Chief Inspector Mackie | Grampian Police |
| Helen Milnes | Volunteer Centre |

IN ATTENDANCE

Corporate Policy Unit Manager, Community Planning & Development Manager, Shelley Flett, Project Officer, Ian Todd, Community Support Manager, Laura Stien, Research & Information Officer, Martine Scott, Project Development Officer and Cynthia Carswell, Committee Services Officer as Clerk to the Meeting.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Sandra Dow, Citizens Advice Bureau, Calum McPherson, HIE Moray, Jim Johnston, Moray Chamber of Commerce, Rae Cameron, Grampian Fire & Rescue. Wing Commander Carter, RAF Lossiemouth, Wing Commander McCord, RAF Kinloss and Alastair Keddie, The Moray Council.

1. MINUTE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GROUP DATED 5 NOVEMBER 2009

The Minute of the Meeting of the Community Engagement Strategic Group of 5 November 2009 was submitted and approved.

Councillor Russell suggested that in place of Jim Johnston, Moray Chamber of Commerce, Ms Lesley Ann Parker, Chief Executive should be included in the sederunt. The group agreed to the same.

2. (a) SCOTTISH INDEX OF MULTIPLE DEPRIVATION – DATA ZONES AND INTERMEDIATE GEOGRAPHIES

There was submitted a report by the Community Planning and Development Manager informing the Group of the naming of data zones and intermediate geographies within Moray and seeking input on the publicity of these names.

Ms Stien, Research & Information Officer spoke to the report and answered any questions. Following concerns regarding some of the names of the settlements, Ms Stien advised that the GIS Officer and Elections Officer were consulted regarding the settlements and boundaries and she would investigate the same. She also advised that an interactive tool regarding maps was being developed, to work in conjunction with the data provided and this was hoped to be in place within the next few weeks.

Ms Bush advised that the MVSO had a newsletter, which would be sent out at the beginning of March and she would be happy to have an article regarding the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation included in the same.

Following consideration the Group agreed to:-

- (i) note the naming of the 116 data zones and 24 intermediate geographies in Moray;
- (ii) advise whether there were any individuals or organisations known to be using data at a data zone or intermediate geography level;
- (iii) advise whether there were any means of publicising data zone and intermediate geography names to relevant organisations and individuals;
- (iv) draft an article for the e-bulletin and MVSO newsletter on this subject; and
- (v) place boundary information on website.

3. (a) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

There was submitted a report by the General Manager, Moray CHSCP, NHS Grampian updating the Group about the developments regarding community engagement and involvement in health and social care services.

Mrs Brown spoke to the report and answered any questions which representatives had.

The group felt that this was a useful document as it gave an overall sight of the work which was currently ongoing within the NHS. The group suggested that the public may wish to see the same for it gave an insight to the issues being tackled and may also encourage the public to come onboard.

The Corporate Policy Unit Manager advised that it would be useful if all Community Planning Partners could submit similar information to allow a joint framework to be drawn up showing activities of all partners.

Following consideration, the Community Engagement Strategic Group noted the developments in progressing community engagement and involvement which supported the objectives of the Community Engagement Strategic Group in health and social care services.

3 (b) BETTER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DEMONSTRATION PILOT

There was submitted a report by the Community Planning and Development Manager seeking to update Members of the Group on the current development of the Better Community Engagement Demonstration Project.

The Community Support Manager spoke to the report and advised that the Community Support Unit would help to service the pilot schemes, which would be agreed by the Steering Group following the launch on Monday 1 March 2010. He further advised that progress and work undertaken would be reported back to future Committees.

Following consideration, the Community Engagement Group agreed to:-

- (i) note the progress of the Better Community Engagement Steering Group; and
- (ii) reports being brought back to the group updating on the work undertaken and progress of the pilots.

3 (c) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SHORT LIFE WORKING GROUP

There was submitted a report by the Community Planning and Development Manager reporting on the work of the short life working group on the Community Engagement Framework.

Ms Scott, Project Development Officer gave a presentation on the work of the Community Engagement framework and answered questions raised.

Following concerns regarding out of date information on the Your Moray and Council website, the Corporate Policy Unit Manager asked everyone to let Miss Flett know of any out of date information and this could then be removed.

Mr Kennedy felt that there required to be more partners involved with the Short Life Working Group as everyone should be committed to engagement but he felt that this was not happening and this appears to be endorsed by the fact that only 54% of 24 partners returned their questionnaire.

The Corporate Policy Unit Manager felt it would be useful to have staff structures for all partners involved to get a full picture of the support.

Following consideration the Community Engagement Group agreed:-

- (i) the remit of the group;
- (ii) to note the progress of the group;
- (iii) carry out the survey again;
- (iv) that Eileen Bush would stand down and Elaine Brown, Chief Inspector Mackie and Councillor McGillivray would join the Short Life Working Group;
- (v) to re-arrange the date of the next meeting; and
- (vi) that staff structures be done for all partners.

3 (d) MORAY BUDGET CONSULTATION

There was submitted a report by the Community Planning and Development Manager reporting to the Group on Consultation held on Moray Council's Budget proposals and to consider the initial evaluation of the process.

In response to a question from Councillor Hamilton what the costs were of carrying out the consultation with regard to staff costs such as time off in lieu, additional flexi, etc. The Community Planning & Development Manager advised that he would investigate the same.

Carin Schwartz requested that the social benefits gained in rolling out the consultation should be highlighted and weighed equally against the costs in any report submitted.

Following consideration, the Community Engagement Group noted the evaluation of the Moray Council's budget proposal consultation.

4 (a) COMMUNITY COUNCIL INAUGURAL MEETING – OUTCOMES

There was submitted a report by the Corporate Policy Unit Manager asking the Group to consider the outcomes from the inaugural meetings of the new formed Community Councils.

Councillor Hamilton felt that most Community Council's have a connection with the RAF and he would like to see recommendation 2.1 (iii) (b) removed. Mr Kennedy agreed that he would be happy to delete the same and that it had only been one Community Council who had raised this issue.

Mrs Brown advised that she would be interested to see what had been included in the questionnaire as it may not have mentioned dentists, doctors,

etc and this could be the reason behind the lack of awareness of services. The Community Support Manager advised that he would be happy to take this back to a future meeting.

Following consideration, the Community Engagement Group agreed to:-

- (i) note the common issues across the Community Councils;
- (ii) note that those specific areas which the Community Council itself can address would be carried out with the support of the Community Support Unit;
- (iii) progress the areas highlighted for the Community Planning Partnership to carry out namely:-
 - a) involvement in decision making;
 - b) improve processes and procedures for the Community Council across partner organisations; and
- (iv) the questionnaire being brought back to a future meeting.

5 (a) MORAY ENERGY EFFICIENCY FAIR & BIOMASS INFORMATION EVENT

There was submitted a report by the Chair of Greener Strategic Group updating the Group on the Moray Energy Efficiency Fair and Biomass Information Event falling within the Greener Strategic Group remit.

Following consideration, the Community Engagement Group agreed to:-

- (i) note the progress on the arrangements of the Moray Energy Efficiency Fair; and
- (ii) note the details for the Biomass Information Event.

5 (b) SAFER & STRONGER STRATEGIC GROUP CONSULTATIONS

There was submitted and noted a report by the Chair of Safer and Stronger Strategic Group updating the Group on the consultations falling within the Safer & Stronger Strategic Group remit.

6. ITEMS FOR NOTING

The Action Sheets from the Community Planning Board and Theme Groups were noted.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 13 May 2010.