

**THE MORAY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE MORAY COUNCIL**  
**WEDNESDAY 26 MARCH 2008**  
**COUNCIL OFFICE, ELGIN**

**PRESENT**

Councillors L A Bell, G S Coull, J S Cree, J A Divers, J Hamilton, J C Hogg, B Jarvis, G Leadbitter, J Mackay, M J McConachie, A D McDonald, G McDonald, E M McGillivray, G McIntyre, A C McKay, F J Murdoch, I Ogilvie, P Paul, D G Ross, J G Russell, R H Shepherd, D C Stewart, A G Wright, I R Young

**IN ATTENDANCE**

The Chief Executive, the Director of Community Services, the Director of Environmental Services, the Director of Educational Services, the Chief Financial Officer, the Chief Legal Officer and the Principal Committee Services Officer, Clerk to the Meeting.

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor M Shand.

**1. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

In terms of the relevant Standing Order, the Meeting agreed to accept as an Additional Item of Business to be transacted at the Meeting, the undernoted matter on the Convener certifying that, in his opinion, they required to be considered on the grounds of urgency in order to give early consideration to the necessary consultations and arrangements:

Freedom of Moray: Mr Gordon Baxter (Para 13(b)) – Report by Chief Legal Officer

**2. DECLARATION OF GROUP DECISIONS:-**

In terms of Standing Order 20 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct the meeting noted that in respect of the Administration Group Members, the Chairman confirmed that they had discussed Agenda Items 23 (a) – (d) but that it should, however, be appreciated that Administration Group Members are free to vote as they see fit. There was no whip on the decision of Independents and no sanctions in place to encourage them to vote in any particular way.

Councillor Paul confirmed that the SNP Group had also discussed Agenda Items 23(a)-(d) but that it should, however, be appreciated that the SNP Group Members are free to vote as they see fit. There was no whip on the decision of Independents and no sanctions in place to encourage them to vote in any particular way.

**3. 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 Item 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.

**Para. No. of Minute**

**Para. No. of Schedule 7A**

35

13(b)

**4. COMMUNITY SERVICES SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT AND CONTRACTS  
SUB-COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 28 SEPTEMBER 2007**

The Minute of the Community Services Service Level Agreement and Contracts Sub-Committee dated 28 September 2007 was submitted and approved.

**5. COMMUNITY SERVICES APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF  
MEETING DATED 15 NOVEMBER 2007**

The Minute of the Meeting of the Community Services Appointments Committee dated 15 November 2007 was submitted and approved subject to it being noted that Councillor Diver's could not attend the Meeting as he had declared a personal interest due to his employment with NCH.

**6. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES GENERAL PURPOSES SUB-COMMITTEE –  
MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 16 NOVEMBER 2007**

The Minute of the Educational Services General Purposes Sub-Committee dated 16 November 2007 was submitted and approved.

**7. EDUCATION AND GENERAL PURPOSES SUB-COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF  
MEETING DATED 1 FEBRUARY 2008**

The Minute of the Education and General Purposes Sub-Committee dated 1 February 2008 was submitted and approved.

**8. HOUSING SUB COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 15 JANUARY  
2008**

The Minute of the Housing Sub-Committee dated 15 January 2008 was submitted and approved.

Under reference to Item 12 of the Minute, in response to a query by Councillor Paul relating to the installation of renewable heating systems in Rothes, the Chairman advised that Councillor Paul direct her query to the Chief Housing Officer.

**9. THE MORAY COUNCIL – MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 30 JANUARY 2008**

The Minute of the Meeting of the Moray Council dated 30 January 2008 was submitted and approved subject to the word 'meeting' being deleted after 'next' on the second line of paragraph 6 of Item 20.

**10. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - MINUTE OF SPECIAL MEETING DATED 31  
JANUARY 2008 (9.30 AM)**

The Minute of the Special Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee dated 31 January 2008 was submitted and approved. (9.30 am)

**11. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - MINUTE OF SPECIAL MEETING DATED 31  
JANUARY 2008 (11.00 AM)**

The Minute of the Special Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee dated 31 January 2008 was submitted and approved.(11.00 am)

**12. AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF MEETING  
DATED 6 FEBRUARY 2008**

The Minute of the Audit and Performance Review Committee dated 6 February 2008 was submitted and approved.

Under reference to paragraph 2 of Item 2 of the Minute, in response to Councillor Shand's query regarding an update on the issue relating to exclusion figures, the Director of Educational Services advised that a report on this issue was to be submitted to the next meeting of the Education and Social Services Committee on 9 April 2008.

**13. EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF MEETING  
DATED 13 FEBRUARY 2008**

The Minute of the Meeting of the Educational & Social Services Committee dated 13 February 2008 was submitted and approved subject to the word 'if' being inserted following the word 'asked' on the first line of paragraph 1 of Item 40.

Under reference to Item 36 of the Minute, in response to Councillor Coull's query regarding consultation with the 'tea dance' users the Director of Educational Services advised that the Educational Resource Manager was in discussion with the users and would provide Councillor Coull with an update on the position.

In response to Councillor Leadbitter's query regarding the Planning application for a 'B' listed building the Chairman advised that he should take this matter up with the Director of Environmental Services.

**14. THE MORAY COUNCIL – MINUTE OF SPECIAL MEETING DATED 14  
FEBRUARY 2008**

The Minute of the Special Meeting of the Moray Council dated 14 February 2008 was submitted and approved.

**15. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF MEETING DATED  
20 FEBRUARY 2008**

The Minute of the Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee dated 20 February 2008 was submitted and approved subject to paragraph 2 of Item 12 being amended to reflect the benefits resulting from the adoption of the positive licensing model which included the possibility of imposing sanctions.

Under reference to paragraph 3 of Item 9, in response to Councillor G McDonald's question regarding the definition of 'affordable housing' the Chairman advised that he take this matter up with the Director of Environmental Services.

**16. LICENSING COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 27 FEBRUARY  
2008**

The Minute of the Meeting of the Licensing Committee dated 27 February 2008 was submitted and approved.

**17. FLOOD ALLEVIATION SUB-COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 27  
FEBRUARY 2008**

The Minute of the Flood Alleviation Sub-Committee dated 27 February 2008 was submitted and approved.

**18. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF SPECIAL MEETING DATED 28 FEBRUARY 2008**

The Minute of the Special Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee dated 28 February 2008 was submitted and approved.

**19. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF SPECIAL MEETING DATED 28 FEBRUARY 2008 (LOCAL PLAN)**

The Minute of the Special Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee dated 28 February 2008 was submitted and approved (Local Plan).

**20. POLICY COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 5 MARCH 2008**

The Minute of the Meeting of the Policy Committee dated 5 March 2008 was submitted and approved subject to Councillor Wright's initials being amended to read 'A. R.', paragraph 3 of Item 11 being amended to include reference to the name of the proposed new constituency being 'Banff and Buchan Coast' and Item 66 being amended to include reference that new council housing would remain under review.

**21. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF SPECIAL MEETING DATED 11 MARCH 2008**

The Minute of the Special Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee dated 11 March 2008 was submitted and approved.

**22. LANDFILL TAX SUB-COMMITTEE – MINUTE OF MEETING DATED 19 MARCH 2008**

The Minute of the Meeting of the Landfill Tax Sub-Committee dated 19 March 2008 was submitted and approved subject:-

- (i) to the award of grant to Quarrelwood Woodland Park Association in respect of Descriptive Brochures being amended to £1250;
- (ii) paragraph 3 of the table at Item 6 being amended to include a figure against the % of Grant requested, and
- (iii) that clarification regarding the surplus funding remaining unallocated be sought and any amendment to the Minute be made in this regard if required.

**23. PRESENTATION ON THE CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

On the invitation of the Chairman, Mr David Green, Convener of the Cairngorms National Park Authority Board gave a presentation to the Meeting summarising the background, vision and priorities for the future of the Cairngorms National Park Authority. On the conclusion of the presentation Mr Green responded to Members questions.

Thereafter the Chairman thanked Mr Green for his presentation.

**24. FUNDING FOR REGIONAL FACILITIES**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive inviting the Council to consider a request from Maureen Watt MSP that the Council, in partnership with Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council, consider the issue of funding of regional facilities.

Following consideration it was agreed to decline the request from Maureen Watt MSP that the Council, in partnership with Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council, consider the issue of funding of regional facilities on the grounds that the residents of Moray had already contributed to these facilities which had been allocated at Local Government reorganisation in 1996 to Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils respectively.

## **25. LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2007/08**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive presenting to the Council the implications of carrying out a new Annual Governance Review following the publication of an updated CIPFA/SOLACE governance framework. The report also advised that the two key issues are the need to revise the Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance and to consider the methodology to carry out a wider governance review to meet the requirements of the new framework.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- (a) review the contents of the revised Local Code of Corporate Governance
- (b) approve the adoption of the revised Local Code subject to any amendments which might be required, and
- (c) approve the review process for carrying out the Annual Governance review.

It was also agreed that the Minutes of the Meetings of the Service Development Group would be made available to Members on the Members Information Site and that a copy of the Remit of the Group would also be included.

## **26. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive providing the Council with an update on the development of the Moray Single Outcome Agreement.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- (a) note how the single outcome agreement is developing, and
- (b) delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Working Group to submit the latest draft of the Outcome Agreement to the Scottish Government on 31 March 2008.

## **27. COMMUNITY PLANNING STRUCTURES**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Executive asking the Council to consider reviewing the current structures for Community Planning in Moray. The report summarised a structure for community planning in Moray which will assist in ensuring that all public agencies in Moray are in a position to deliver the Single Outcome Agreement required by the Government and set out the context for the development of the proposed structures, a summary of the remits of the various groups and their membership.

Following consideration Councillor Coull, seconded by Councillor Leadbitter, moved that the Community Engagement Group be removed from the recommendations and that the membership of the Theme Groups be increased from 5 to 6 (3-2-1) and that the new groups be reviewed and reformed within one year.

Following further discussion, Councillor McDonald, seconded by Councillor Paul, moved that in the absence of more detailed information regarding the remit of local area committees and how these will fit into the community planning structures, no agreement in principle is given to the establishment of local area committees and consideration of this issue be deferred until more detailed information is provided.

Thereafter, Councillor Coull, in agreement with Councillor Leadbitter, agreed to amend his motion to include Councillor McDonald's amendment and moved that the Community Engagement Group be removed from the recommendations and that the membership of the Theme Groups be increased from 5 to 6 (3-2-1) and that the new groups

be reviewed and reformed within one year and that consideration of the establishment of local area committees be deferred until more detailed information is provided.

As an Amendment, Councillor Ross, seconded by Councillor Wright, moved approval of the recommendations as detailed in the report.

On a division there voted:-

For the Motion (9) Councillors Coull, Leadbitter, McConachie, A McDonald, G McDonald, Ogilvie, Paul, Shand and Stewart

For the Amendment (16) Councillors Ross, Wright, Bell, Cree, Divers, Hamilton, Hogg, Jarvis, J Mackay, McGillivray, McIntyre, A McKay, Murdoch, Russell, Shepherd and Young

Abstentions (0) Nil

Accordingly the Amendment became the finding of the Meeting and it was agreed to:-

- (a) approve the establishment of a Community Planning Board, Community Engagement Group and five Theme Groups as described in the report
- (b) the membership of the Community Planning Board, Community Engagement Group as detailed in the report and the 5 Strategic Theme Groups as follows:

**Community Planning Board**

Councillors McIntyre, Wright, McGillivray, Hamilton, Divers, Paul and G McDonald

**Health & Social Care**

Councillors Bell (Chair) A McKay, Hamilton, Jarvis, Sharp and A McDonald

**Community Safety**

Councillors McGillivray (Chair), Ross, Shepherd, Coull and Stewart

**Children's Partnership**

Councillor Wright advised that the Administration Group representatives for the Children's Partnership Theme Group would be Councillors Hamilton, Bell and A McKay.

During discussion Councillor Divers, seconded by Councillor Jarvis, proposed that he be nominated to the Children's Partnership Theme Group.

As an amendment Councillor Paul, seconded by Councillor G McDonald proposed that Councillors Shand and McConachie be nominated to the Children's Partnership Theme Group.

On a division there voted:-

For the Motion (17) Councillors Divers, Jarvis, Bell, Cree, Hamilton, Hogg, J Mackay, McGillivray, McIntyre, A McKay, Murdoch, Ross, Russell, Shand, Shepherd, Wright and Young

For the Amendment (8) Councillors Paul, G McDonald, Coull, Leadbitter, McConachie, A McDonald, Ogilvie and Stewart

Abstentions (0)

Accordingly the Motion became the finding of the Meeting and it was agreed that Councillor Divers be appointed to the Children's Partnership Theme Group.

Thereafter the Meeting agreed that Councillor McConachie also be appointed to the Children's Partnership Theme Group and that the Membership consists of Councillors Hamilton (Chair), A McKay, Divers and McConachie

**Greener**

Councillors Murdoch (Chair), Russell, Cree, Leadbitter and Ogilvie

**Wealthier**

Councillors Russell (Chair) Wright, Cree, Paul and G McDonald

- (c) approve that the new groups be reviewed and reformed within the first quarter of the new financial year.
- (d) Approve, in principle, the establishment of local area committees subject to a further report on the detailed remit and resourcing issues being submitted to the meeting of the Policy Committee on 30 April 2008.

**28. COMMITTEE STRUCTURES POST THE SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT AND THE REVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING STRUCTURES**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Legal Officer inviting the Council to consider a structure for Service Committees post the Concordat between the Scottish Government and Local Government; the subsequent introduction of Single Outcome Agreements (SOAs) and the central role that Community Planning Partnerships (CCPs) will be expected to play to create a new focus for all involved in the delivery of public services to the Moray area. The report also addressed a prior commitment of the Administration to review the Committee Structure within one year of the May 2007 Local Government Elections and also an issue of political balance.

Following discussion, Councillor Wright, seconded by Councillor Hamilton, moved that the recommendations detailed in the report be approved.

As an amendment Councillor Shand, seconded by Councillor A McDonald, moved that as all Members have schools and children in their wards that all Elected Members be appointed to the Children and Young People Services Committee.

On a division there voted:

For the Motion (14)	Councillors Wright, Hamilton, Bell, Cree, Hogg, J MacKay, McGillivray, McIntyre, A McKay, Murdoch, Ross, Russell, Shepherd and Young.
For the Amendment (11)	Councillors Shand, A McDonald, Coull, Divers, Jarvis, Leadbitter, McConachie, G McDonald, Ogilvie, Paul and Stewart
Abstentions (0)	Nil

Accordingly the Motion became the finding of the Meeting and it was agreed:-

- (i) to approve the Service Committee Structure described within the Appendix 1 to this report;
- (ii) that the Group Leaders advise the Clerk of the names of the members who will be sitting on each of the Committees;
- (iii) that the Administration Scheme and the Committee timetable be amended to reflect that structure;

- (iv) that details of a proposed timetable for the introduction of the new structure be submitted to the meeting of the Policy Committee on 30 April 2008.
- (v) that the Chief Legal Officer circulates to all Members a paper, which summarises the legal complexities regarding the appointment of non elected members on committees and their voting rights.

The Meeting also noted that each of the Service Committees would be required to carry out budget monitoring and performance monitoring relevant to the service budget for which it has responsibility and that Environmental Protection should be included within the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee and not within the Planning and Regulatory Committee as detailed in the report.

## **29. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Legal Officer inviting the Council to consider making appointments to the list of Committees and outside bodies to which the Council are entitled to appoint nominees as detailed in the report.

Following consideration the Meeting agreed the undernoted appointments:-

- (a) COSLA Convention – Councillor Wright
- (b) COSLA Executive Groups:-
  - (i) Health & Wellbeing – Councillor Bell
  - (ii) Resources & Capacity – Councillor Wright
- (c) Grampian Joint Fire Board – Councillor McGillivray
- (d) Joint Consultative Committee – Councillor Wright
- (e) Moray Chamber of Commerce – Councillor Russell
- (f) Moray Leisure Centre Board

During discussion Councillor Paul, seconded by Councillor Coull proposed that Councillor Shand be appointed to the Moray Leisure Centre Board.

As an amendment Councillor McGillivray, seconded by Councillor Wright, proposed that Councillor Ross be appointed to the Moray Leisure Centre Board.

On a division there voted:-

For the Motion (10) Councillors Paul, Coull, Divers, Jarvis, Leadbitter, McConachie, G McDonald, Ogilvie, Shand and Stewart.

For the Amendment (14) Councillors McGillivray, Wright, Bell, Cree, Hamilton, Hogg, J MacKay, McIntyre, A McKay, Murdoch, Ross, Russell, Shepherd and Young.

Abstentions (1) Councillor A MacDonald

Accordingly the Amendment became the finding of the Meeting and it was agreed that Councillor Ross be appointed to the Moray Leisure Centre Board.

- (g) Moray Twinning Association – Councillor Hamilton

### **30. FORMATION OF AN ADULT PROTECTION COMMITTEE IN MORAY**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Community Services seeking the Council's approval to establish an Adult Protection Committee in Moray, in line with new obligations placed on Councils in terms of the Adult Support & Protection (Scotland) Act 2007.

Following consideration the Council agreed to approve

- (i) the formation of an Adult Protection Committee in Moray as required be legislation to ensure the protection of adults who may be vulnerable to harm;
- (ii) the proposed governance, membership and remit as set out in sections 4, 5 and 6 of this report;
- (iii) the appointment of the Superintendent Alan Smailes as convenor of Moray's Shadow Adult Protection Committee;
- (iv) instruct the Chief Legal Officer to ensure that appointments are made top the Adult Protection Committee in accordance with the legislation and this report and ensures appropriate administration of the Adult Protection Committee is established and monitored.

### **31. FORRES (RIVER FINDHORN & PILMUIR) FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME – DRAFT FLOOD PREVENTION ORDER (“F.P.O.”)**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Legal Officer asking the Council to agree to make the Flood Prevention Order as shown on the drawings displayed at the meeting, and subject to a positive response on the Technical Submission (a Scottish Government funding assistance condition), authorise the Chief Legal Officer to commence the statutory process contained in the Flood Prevention (Scotland) Act 1961 for the Forres (River Findhorn & Pilmuir) Flood Prevention Scheme.

Following consideration the Council agreed to :-

- (i) approve the draft Forres (River Findhorn & Pilmuir) Flood Prevention Scheme and make the formal order.
- (ii) Authorise the Director of Environmental Services, in consultation with the Convenor, as Chair of the Flood Alleviation Scheme
- (iii) based on the consultation with the Scottish Government;
- (iv) Authorise the Chief Legal Officer to sign the formal Order;
- (v) Authorise the Chief Legal Officer to publicise the making of the Order in the Forres Gazette and the Edinburgh Gazette; and
- (vi) Authorise the Chief Legal Officer to serve notice of the making of the Order on affected persons and to submit the Order to the Scottish Government for confirmation.

### **32. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLOR TO SCOTLAND EXCEL JOINT COMMITTEE**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Financial Officer inviting the Council to consider nominating a member to be their representative on the Scotland Excel Joint Committee.

Following consideration the Council agreed that Councillor Wright be appointed to the Scotland Excel Joint Committee.

### **33. PROPOSED MORAY HYDROTHERAPY POOL AT FORRES**

There was submitted a report by the Director of Educational Services inviting the Council to consider the generation of a long-term lease for the siting of a hydrotherapy pool joining on to Forres Swimming Pool and Fitness Centre at Burdsyard Road, Forres.

Following consideration the Committee agreed to:

- (i) Approve the request to enter into a long-term lease with the Hydrotherapy Pool Management Committee for the portion of land adjacent to Forres Swimming Pool and Fitness Centre as the site for the Moray Hydrotherapy Pool.
- (ii) The Head of Estates Services preparing draft terms of lease for consideration by members at a future meeting of the Council.
- (iii) the draft management agreement being submitted for consideration by members at a future meeting of the Council.
- (iv) Note that Legal Services will accelerate the exploration of the viability of submitting a petition to the Court of Session to allow a proportion of the interest from the William Cameron Bequest Fund to be used to underwrite the running costs of the Moray Hydrotherapy Pool,
- (v) Note that if a long-term lease for this facility is approved, the decision is without prejudice to any outstanding planning and building consents required to be submitted by the Moray Hydrotherapy Pool Management Committee or their agents.

### **34. QUESTION TIME**

In response to Councillor Diver's query regarding issues of safety around the South Elgin development at Thornhill Road, New Elgin and the condition which was set last year that the Thornhill Road would be constructed prior to any houses being built but that Barrats had in fact started building, the Director of Environmental Services advised that he had instructed staff to carry out an independent safety audit so that matter can be checked and ascertained. In regard to the planning condition he stated that he had not had the opportunity to speak with staff regarding this but that there would be an update report to the next Environmental Services Committee meeting and if in the meantime it is deemed that action is necessary he would keep the Councillors advised.

In response to Councillor Stewart's question regarding the plans to move the Pitgaveny and Morrison Wards to Spynie, the Chief Legal Officer advised that whilst there was no information at present, Officers were scheduled to meet with NHS Grampian week beginning 14 April 2008 and that the expectation was that there would be an update at that meeting and that any update would be brought back to committee.

In response to Councillor Leadbitter's question regarding the use of the Music Centre for office accommodation the Chief Executive advised that substantial upgrading of the Music Centre was required which will require substantial expenditure relating to the issue of sound proofing the building and that the issue of upgrade would be coming back to the Council in May as part of the Capital Plan. The Chief Financial Officer advised that whilst a planning application had been submitted to allow for the potential for it to be used for office accommodation but that there is no intention to use it for this purpose now for this year.

In response to Councillor Ogilvie's question as to when Members would be issued with a copy of the Moray 20/20 document the Chief Executive advised that he would investigate the matter and ensure that the document was circulated to Members.

In response to Councillor G McDonald's question relating to the statement made that Moray Leisure Centre was one of the busiest leisure centres in the country whilst Moray was 20<sup>th</sup> lowest out of 32 councils, the Director of Educational Services advised that this statement had

been produced by the Moray Leisure Centre, not the Council and would not appear in future council documents.

### **Suspension of Standing Orders**

The Meeting unanimously agreed to Suspend Standing Order 66 and to continue the Meeting beyond 12.45 in order to conclude the business on the Agenda.

### **35. FREEDOM OF MORAY: MR GORDON BAXTER (PARA 13(B))**

There was submitted a report by the Chief Legal Officer inviting the Council to consider conferring upon Mr Gordon Baxter, Fochabers the Freedom of Moray and if so decided to authorise officers of the Council to make the necessary arrangements

Following consideration the Meeting agreed to admit Mr Gordon Baxter as an Honorary Freeman of Moray and to remit it to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Convener and Group Leaders, to arrange for a commemorative scroll to be prepared and for arrangements to be made for a civic lunch to be held at which the Freedom will be formally awarded.