

Minutes of JCC Meeting held on Thursday 11th August 2016

Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin

Present:

Alastair Kennedy (Chair)
Gordon Methven Elgin Community Council
Andrew Gray Elgin Community Council
Donald Cameron Lennox Community Council
Les Morgan Findhorn & Kinloss Community Council
Lansana Bangura Innes Community Council
James Mackie Innes Community Council
Graham Murdoch Forres Community Council

In attendance : Jane Martin CCLO, Cllr John Divers, Graham Jarvis Moray Council, Ian Todd Moray Council, Anita Mile Moray Forum.

1. Moray School Estates, Graham Jarvis, Lifelong Learning, Culture and Sport Manager.

The concern raised about the condition of the school highlighted in the press recently is out of context from the report. The Moray Council inherited the schools from Grampian Regional Council in 1996 and they were not in a good state then. Millions of pounds have been spent on schools to try and keep them up to a reasonable standard. £4 million has been spent in the last year with £100 million being committed to the school estate in the future. Moray has the fastest growing population in Scotland and there are no plans to close schools but there will be investment to build new schools. The council will apply for any funding that becomes available from the Scottish Government. The chair thanked Graham Jarvis for the informative explanation and attending at short notice.

2. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone. Apologies were noted from George Tulloch and Lynn Duncan.

3. Minutes of previous meeting 12th May 2016

There were two correction Lansana Bangura name spelling and remove the word unanimously from item 7 as one member abstained from

Minutes of JCC Meeting held on Thursday 11th August 2016

Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin

voting. The minutes were proposed by Gordon Methven, seconded by Les Morgan.

4. **Matters Arising**

Alastair Kennedy has had no reply from the Chief Inspector to his letter. He will write again inviting him to attend the next JCC meeting on 10th November 2016. Discussion took place raising concerns about the lack of Police in Moray which was raised at the Elgin Community Council this week and published in the press. Several Community Councils stated that they no longer get reports from the police.

Donald Cameron, Lennox Community Council asked if it was compulsory that a Community Council adopt the Complaint Procedure. The chair advised that it was hoped that it would be included in The Scheme for the next elections in 2017.

5. **Participatory Budget, Les Morgan**

This project was named "Money for Moray". A working group, which included many community councilors, was set up to administer the project. In total £120,000 of Scottish Government and Moray Council funds was handed out to Moray community organizations. Organizations bid for projects from £200 to £5000 which have an economic benefit to Moray. The working group received over 80 applications totaling approximately £316,000. As the response was so overwhelming, two community events were held, the first at Grant Hall Rothes on 28th May and the second in the same place on 26th June. At each event about 30 community groups gave a 2-minute presentation and answered questions on their project. The audience, members of the community groups and also members of the public then voted on the distribution of the funds. About one third of the applicants were unsuccessful. The Minutes of our May meeting gave more information including the scoring system. Groups have one year to complete and submit a report on their project.

6. **Scheme for Community Councils and the Constitution**

The Chair asked if a working group could be set up to look at any changes to the Scheme before the elections in October 2017. Gordon

Minutes of JCC Meeting held on Thursday 11th August 2016

Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin

Methven and Jim Mackie volunteered. An invite to be sent to all Community Councils.

7. Reports

a) Financial Report

No report. Any money remaining from the £5,000 running cost for the Participatory Budgeting will have to be returned to the Scottish Government. Jane Martin CCLO advised that annual audited accounts should be sent to her by October.

b) Rural Parliament Update, Gordon Methven

The Scottish Rural Parliament 2016 is on Thursday 6th to Saturday 8th October at Brechin Community Campus, Duke Street, Brechin, Angus, DD9 6LB. There are still places available find out more at www.scottishruralparliament.org.uk/ruralparliament-2016. There is a survey on Community Councils and Gordon urged everybody to take part at www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SRPAttend. Gordon has been co-opted onto the national board of Scottish Rural Action.

8. Information Sharing

Elgin Community Council – A Fairtrade leaflet has been designed to promote Fairtrade in Moray. Elgin CC paid £150 for the publication of the leaflet promoting the CC, the leaflet is available for others who wish to use it. Sub-group Recreation and Leisure has been re-organized and is now called Health and Wellbeing. Elgin is looking to change the Constitution to include an item on resignations. The new Stage Coach Manager has been attending meetings. Following concerns being raised representation was made to the management of St Giles shopping Centre with regard to charging for the use of the toilets. The Medieval Festival is this Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th August.

Findhorn & Kinloss Community Council - In May Mr. Malpas, Senior Traffic Manager, Moray Council gave a presentation to the CC and about 20 members of the public on the Council's response to complaints of speeding on the Findhorn Rd, Kinloss and on Station Rd, Kinloss. He

Minutes of JCC Meeting held on Thursday 11th August 2016

Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin

acknowledged that what he had to say might not be very popular. He handed out information on survey data at the two locations. Several members of the public questioned the reliability of the data and were unhappy with the report. D Malpas stated he had to adhere to Scottish Government guidance and in short, physical traffic calming measures will not be put in place on Station Rd or on Findhorn Rd. When it was pointed out that there were over-hanging branches, grass and glass on the cycle path between Findhorn and Kinloss, members of the council suggested that members of the public should be resourceful and lend a hand as the Moray Council's funds for regular path sweeping had run out. The project to create a disabled-friendly Nature Trail at the south east corner of Findhorn Bay was successful in obtaining funds from the Money for Moray initiative. According to the P&J a compromise agreement has been reached between the pro and anti-wildfowling groups; there will be no shooting on Mon and Tue and also after 10am. However according to the Forres Gazette the agreement was only between the pro and anti-shooting petitioners and Moray Council did not include other stakeholders in the meeting which reached the agreement. The others may contest the agreement. Construction of the first 10 of the controversial Beach Huts at Findhorn has commenced. There was no meeting in July.

Forres Community Council – The Cars Scheme for Forres will not be supported by The Council, disappointing as it was very successful in Keith and Elgin. A Community Councilor's father was late in paying his Council Tax, no reminder was given and went straight to Scott & Co for collection, it was found that Moray Council had not followed procedures. The lack of Registrars is being investigate. One resident's family member died on a Thursday and they could not register the death until the following Tuesday.

Innes Community Council- 1 new member with a possible further 2 co-options, Innes CC has come a long way in the last 12 months and thanked the Chair for his help. Discussion with the Council about travelers at Troves is ongoing. The Secretary contacted neighboring Community Councils to form a working relationship with regards to possible Community Benefit but they were disappointed with the lack of

Minutes of JCC Meeting held on Thursday 11th August 2016

Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin

response. One of the Partners from the local medical practice will be attending their next meeting to discuss the issues of prescriptions. Local parents contacted them with concerns about the changes to support staff, they are in discussions with the school.

Lennox Community Council – Dave Malpas will be attending the next meeting to discuss speed limits at Spey Bay. Fochabers would like larger litter bins at strategic places in the village. The Lennox Community Council Facebook page has proved to be very popular. A request to Moray Council has been made for a bicycle stand at the Square in Fochabers.

9. **A.O.C.B**

Ian Todd, CSU Manager – The upcoming Moray Council Budget consultation will be delivered in the same format as the recent Moray 2016 A Plan for the Future 6 Point Plan. It is anticipated that the start of the consultation will begin the week beginning 29th August through to the week ending the 10th of October. A publicity campaign highlighting how residents and community groups can participate will be rolled out leading up to and during the consultation period. There will be paper and electronic information available for any citizen in Moray wishing to participate in the consultation. Live discussions on Facebook will also take place for the public to engage as well as other digital engagement/information on The Moray Council website.

Community based focus groups will be established to include elderly, young people, community groups, parent councils, disabled, sport and business. The aim of the groups is for the council to engage in round table discussions with a cross section of the community at an engagement/consultation event on Wednesday 28th September at Elgin Academy. All Moray Council elected members will be in attendance. Ian urged all Community Councils to actively promote engagement with the budget consultation. Senior management officials of the Council will be available to attend community meetings to address any queries community members may have regarding specific aspects of the budget.

Minutes of JCC Meeting held on Thursday 11th August 2016

Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin

The shortfall financial forecast identified by the council is £5m in 2016/17 and £12m in 2017/18. The council will be forced to address these shortfalls and feedback on how they achieve this from communities is crucial.

Alastair Kennedy Chair – The JCC will again be represented on the LEADER Local Action Group (LAG).

Anita Milne, Area Forum – The annual transport seminar is on 10th September, invitations went to all Community Councils, this is a good opportunity for communities to have their say on transport links in Moray. Paths for all are holding a training course on 2nd September 2016 20 places are available. Mark Palmer will be attending an open meeting on 25th August at Urquhart Parish Hall, 7.00 pm to discuss the budget, all welcome.

10. **Date of Next Meeting** – 10th November 2016

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15 pm

ACTIONS

The Chair to write to the Police Chief Inspector inviting him to attend the next meeting of the JCC.