

## Speyside Community Council

### DRAFT Minute of Meeting Held

On Wednesday 31 August 2022

At 7pm

### The Grant Hall Rothes

#### Community Council Members:

Fraser Dyer, Marion Ross, Donald McLean, Alison Bagnall, Brenda Davies, Greg Sarab

#### In Attendance:

Cllrs Gordon, Harris and Ross, Arancha Arnal (Blyth and Blyth), George McKenzie (Macallan), Graeme Laing (NorthPlan), P.P. (Rothes Council) N.C. (Rothes Council), J.R. (Rothes Council), L.N. (Resident), R. and P. K. (Residents), K.M. (Resident)

#### Apologies:

Amanda Marie, Kelly Spark

#### Welcome:

MR welcomed everyone and introduced Graeme Laing, Arancha Arnal and George Mckenzie who were in attendance to deliver a presentation on Edrington's proposal for New Maturation Warehousing, FSDU, Wetlands, SUDS Pond, Tree Nursery and associated roads and services at Ardcanny Farm, Rothes.

This is a greenfield site with the majority of land falling under category 4.1 (land capable of producing a narrow range of crops), the eastern part is classified as 3.1 (land capable of producing consistently high yields of a narrow range of crops – prime agricultural land) whilst further areas within the proposed site are classified as 5.2 (improved grassland).

During the following discussion a number of issues were raised:

- **Traffic** – The A941 through Rothes is already extremely busy and is often congested with large lorries trying to get through the town. It was felt that more lorries travelling through Rothes as a result of this, and other proposed planning applications, if approved, would be totally unacceptable.

It was suggested that a By-Pass should be an option.

This proposal will result in 2 lorries, with casks, per day. However, as there is no construction plan yet, it is uncertain how many lorry journeys the construction phase would create.

- **Footpaths** – residents expressed concerns regarding the loss/alteration of traditionally used footpaths. Questions were asked as to who would maintain and improve the paths.

It was stated that the site would be fenced off, incrementally, as each phase of the development was started. The farmhouse would be demolished.

- **Industrialisation of Rothes** - It was suggested that the warehousing should be built in the Central Belt, close to Edrington's bottling plant. The meeting was informed that there were no suitable brownfield sites.

Some people felt that Rothes was becoming over industrialised, that this proposal was far too big for the town and that it would ruin the scenic qualities of the area.

- **Visualisations** should reflect, accurately, what will be seen.
- **Trees and shrubs** should be more mature than saplings.

**The meeting was informed that a full Environmental Impact Assessment would be included in the Planning Application.**

MR thanked the 3 Presenters for their input and they left the meeting.

**Previous Minutes:** 27 July 2022

Proposer - Alison Bagnall

Secunder – Greg Sarab

**Matter Arising and not overtaken on the Agenda;**

- Teenies Lane Bus Stop – MR had tried, unsuccessfully, to contact the Moray Council Officer who is dealing with this.
- Glen of Rothes Woodland Creation Scheme – there is no submission, as yet, to Scottish Forestry. Scottish Woodlands have been spraying Glyphosate on the heather on the hill above the fish farm.
- No further updates from Bardon Hill Woodland Creation Scheme.
- Community Speedwatch UK - MR had contacted the Police requesting advice and support. Awaiting a reply.
- Safer Travel Moray (sub-group of the Joint Community Council) will reform.

- The impact on the Community Council of Major Planning Applications – MR raised this issue at the JCC. The JCC will investigate compiling a list of experts/interested people who can help. Meanwhile, SCC will use its own support network.

### **Correspondence:**

- Rothes Play Park
- Road Markings on the A95, Aberlour – Neither Transport Scotland, nor Springfield know anything about this.
- Cardboard recycling skips at Alice Littler Park and Dufftown are overflowing. The resident has emailed Moray Council twice but is unable to speak to anyone in the Waste Team. Cllr Gordon will take this forward.
- Learning Estate – Inveravon Primary School. Consultation re: closure.
- Chief Executive, Moray Council – Community Engagement Event, Moray Council Corporate Plan.

### **Reports:**

- Treasurer: £1984.44

It was agreed to ask Louise Kelman to audit the Community Council Accounts.

The Treasurer reported back on the Online Finance/Treasurer Training that he had attended.

- JCC (11/8/22): MR gave a report on the presentation ‘ Introduction to the Rural Centre of Excellence for Digital Health and Care Innovation’. This is Growth Deal Project.  
The difficulties associated with the large number of major planning applications in Speyside/Glenlivet was also raised.
- Macallan Site Visit – Storage of Hazardous Substances. D. McL. gave an oral report.
- Community Speedwatch UK – A. B. provided an update.
- Moray Transport Forum – this group is to reform.
- Parking in Aberlour - no further update. MR had written to the Police.

### **Planning:**

- Weekly Wards lists previously distributed.

\* Craigwatch Windfarm (Statkraft) Dufftown

\* Teindland Windfarm (Locogen/European Energy)

It was agreed to set up a sub-group to look at these proposals.

- Licensing – Club 59, Rothes. No Objection

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**Business:**

- Celtic Renewables Biorefinery, Rothes. – Concerns were raised by a number of attendees following the on-line Consultation 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August.

It was felt that the consultation, to date, has been seriously flawed and it was hoped that things would improve before the second consultation event consisting of an exhibition in the Grant Hall on 13<sup>th</sup> September and an on-line event from 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> September.

- A donation from the staff raffle at Macallan was gratefully received.
- Community Council Draft Social Media Policy – MR will distribute this for consideration.
- Advertising Campaign – it was decided to use our existing network of ‘experts’.

**AOCB:**

NONE

**Future Programme:**

- Presentation by MC Planning department – National and Local Policy on Windfarm Planning. 26 October 2022
- Request a presentation by Scottish Forestry – MR to pursue this.
- Trading Standards – it was agreed to request a presentation. MR to pursue this.

**Consultations:**

Moray Council: \* Draft Climate Change Strategy

(4/9/22 to 30/10/22)

\*Corporate Recovery Plan Consultation  
(28/8/22 to 25/9/22)

National: \*Land Reform in a Net Zero Nation: Consultation Paper –  
closes 25 September, 2022 ([www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot))

Police: \* Your police 2022-2023- Police Scotland – Citizen Space.  
On-line survey.

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 28 September 2022**

**MEETING CLOSED AT: 9pm**