Speyside Community Council

APPROVED Minute of Meeting Held

On Wednesday 26 October 2022

At 7pm

Inchberry Hall

Community Council Members:

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

In Attendance:

RK, CMacK, VC - Members of the public MM (Craigellachie Village Council), IB (IDCA), CD (IDCA) TC (Innes CC), JMac (Innes CC)
Cllr Gordon,

Apologies:

AM (SCC), KS (SCC), DMcL (SCC), Cllr Ross, Cllr Harris

Welcome:

MR welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open.
Attendees were asked to introduce themselves to each other and to Gary
Templeton and Darren Westmacott from Moray Council Planning
Department.

Presentation by GT and DW: National and Local Planning Policies for Windfarm Development

A very informative presentation was followed by an in depth discussion which highlighted the frustrations felt by communities, local Councillors and Planners when Scottish Ministers, on appeal, overturn decisions and permit development. Any decision to object to a planning application is informed by the adopted Moray Local Development Plan and relevant supplementary guidance, so it is difficult to understand why so many appeals are successful.

Whilst communities are encouraged to engage in the consultation process, it was felt, that generally this was a paper exercise and very little, if any cognisance was taken of local views at a National level.

However, it was the general feeling of the meeting that it was important for communities to continue to engage with any consultation opportunity and to express and lodge responses to any proposals.

Nevertheless, it was acknowledged that the current situation is demoralising for everyone – except of course, for developers.

It was agreed to remit the remainder of the Agenda to another meeting, the date of which will be arranged at a later date.

The meeting closed at 9pm