



Date: 21 May 2024
 Time: 7pm
 Venue: Ace Winches, Victoria Park, Buckie
 Attendees: Alison Durno (AD), Chair - Allan Paterson (AP), Ann Mitchell (AM), Treasurer - Christine Allan (CA), Secretary - Daska Murray (DM), Peter West (PW), Ross Ingram (RI), Cllr. Sonya Warren (SW)
 Apologies: Beverly Wood (BW),
 Public Present: Gifford Leslie (GL), Richard Simpson (RS), Robert Dawson (RS)

Minutes of Meeting

Agenda Item	Discussed	Follow up / Action by
Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA provided an update on the cycle and walking paths leaflet/poster. The feedback returned on the content and additional green space/countryside images were passed on to Claire. Ian Douglas has recommended avoiding geocaching references. • CA advised of a Bike Fest taking place on 23 June in the Ian Johnstone Park. • CA explained that Stevie Robertson of M.Connect, who was due to attend as a guest speaker, will instead attend a future meeting (suggested August). 	
Community Police Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP issued latest report prior to the meeting. • CA enquired with Inspector Brian Ferry whether the Buckie and District section of the police report could be shared on Facebook. Unfortunately this was rejected however an invitation to attend in future was accepted if they are available. 	
Community Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PW had received feedback about the lack of action on the pothole at the cemetery entrance. SW has published details on her Facebook page advising this is Scottish Water's responsibility and a reference to obtain progress updates. In addition, there is a safety risk to passing pedestrians and PW added that visibility can be difficult because of a van parked nearby. SW will approach roads to find out if there is any update, will raise the safety issues and ask about PW's suggestion as to whether a notice can be added to the bollards to make it clear it is not the Council's responsibility. • SW advised of a joint campaign with emergency services on inconsiderate parking. This will include demonstrations of the difficulties they are having passing tight spaces, running hoses etc. • AM advised work is now underway on the derelict building and she has contact details for the owner. • AM express concern about the poor condition of the parks near her home (grass cutting). Unfortunately this is due to a combination of budget, equipment costs and availability, labour shortages and balancing the needs of the community e.g. to get parks ready for upcoming events. This is also something that criminal justice cannot 	SW

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	<p>take on as community payback projects because they will not take work/potential work away from Council employees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AD gave positive feedback on the Naloxon training course. Those attending were trained on administering a drug either through injection or nasally to revive those who have overdosed. Another one will be arranged for an evening. • SW shared a recent experience of fraud which was suspected to be related to a data breach. There are concerns about this increasing due to the advances in technology, such as facial and voice recognition. • Cluny Square North East Quadrant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CA emailed Emma Gordon for an update and was advised that progress has been impacted by other work. The preparatory works by Pat Munro are complete. The pedestrian area was expanded. The seating and bike racks were removed and put to the Buckie Depot for reuse elsewhere. A new road surface and new bollards have been installed. A local artist with experience in metal work cannot commit to the project. They will be meeting with the high school this week to consider how the project can be progressed. Forsyth's are potentially interested in being involved. Tracey Rae of the community support unit will help set up a short life working group with representatives from community groups. ○ GL expressed disappointment about the project after attending the high school event and following this had contacted Douglas Ross MP who approached the Council but was dissatisfied with their response. There were many issues including the poor communication about the project, a lack of consultation, confusion about the nature of the work being carried out, whether the funding could be better spent elsewhere and concerns about the cost of works carried out so far. GL also enquired why the school were so influential in the project as opposed to the community council and felt how they were spoken to at the event was inappropriate. ○ SW felt the time pressures to spend funding may have been party responsible and was aware work was redone at no extra cost as it was not to the required standard. CA added that the school had been involved because of the poor response and there may be restrictions on how the funding can be spent. SW asked for a copy of the letter and agreed to approach the Head of Service to get more information on the project and to suggest a meeting to try and find a way forward for the issues raised. ○ RD noted that the growth near the metal steps was supposed to be cleared and neither has the sensory garden for Moray Reach Out. SW clarified that the sensory garden was not part of the project. There is a retrospective planning application which has been approved and damage caused in the lane was expected to be restored. • RD asked about the road works at North High Street. SW has asked for safety improvements for pedestrians at the road works at North High Street. The works may not be carried out for some time since they are more extensive than initially thought. 	<p>SW</p>

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Elected Councillors Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SW enquired whether there was a local place plan. This would highlight areas to the Council so that they can take that into consideration. • SW and AM attended the school learning estate workshop last week. The recent survey results were fed back but then told the community that their school estate was not sustainable. They were seeking suggestions for school closures or ideas on how to make them more financially viable. Some of the schools are not options for closure e.g. the High School, St. Peters and Cullen. Also, if schools were to close there was no indication of the impact on nursery provision. There are some challenges sourcing Head Teachers. There is capacity within the existing estate but there may be a need for rezoning in some areas. AP queried the removal of pupil support assistants but SW clarified this was a rebalancing exercise. Concerns were also raised about the ability to transport pupils and the impact on parents who might not drive for e.g. sports days. • SW explained that parents had submitted a petition for allocation of early years places. The Council were asked to consider improving access to nursery provision by having m.connect transport children at a cost of around £40 per week but this was not agreed. The pre-fabricated units that were purchased by a local businessman are near completion and should hopefully relieve some of the pressure on nursery provision. • Council yards are under review including Drifter, Gollachy, Freuchney and March Road. • SW has continued to highlight the drainage problem in the cemeteries. A report will be presented to Committee this year. • At the Harbour, the sandbank is still causing issues and the Selkie has not been dredging. It is important that the harbour is dredged to 3 meters. There is also an issue with the way bridge as lorries can only come out of it one direction so the Council has offered a reduced rate. • CA asked about the resignation of Cllr John Stuart. SW explained that he remains a Councillor but is now independent. 	
Cost of Living – Actions being undertaken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA listed various sources of support within the community: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Salvation Army continues with their Tuesday larder and lunch on a Wednesday (free of charge). They also have occasional cinema nights which you pay for if you can afford to. ○ Moray Food Plus. Blue bus attends surrounding areas but will be out of service from 21 May – 31 May. ○ Hub open Monday to Saturday. Food, toiletries and school clothes available. ○ Fishermen’s Hall community lunch on 27 May 12-1.30pm, free or pay what you can. ○ CAB were discussed at the previous meeting and AD was asked to share information about them on the Facebook page. ○ The Church of Christ have opened on Fri 10pm-1am to offer support or a listening ear to those coming home from the pub. • GL added the Fishermen’s Hall is running a language course for 5 weeks. It is thought to be aimed at parents of school children having difficulty with the English language. 	AD

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Treasurers Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admin grant is at £7,121.20. • Resilience account balance is £9,317.14. • £10,000 from Common Good towards Letterfourie Playpark Project c/o Sarah Campbell. They have started clearing it. • £5,000 received for the vehicle activated speed signs for Arradoul. • £1,609 paid to Neil Hadley for the website. • £20 for the hall hire to Buckie Thistle Football Club. • Own account £1,556.07. 	
Community Resilience Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update since previous meeting. • AP felt it would be beneficial to have more members involved in the plan and spoke with PW about it. AP will schedule a meeting to progress. 	AP
Community Council Groups & initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website work is underway. AP explained lacks images of local/community photographs and asked for assistance with this. Businesses could advertise but not yet. • CA provided an update on the JCC which took place on 9 May. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neil Morrison Police Inspector attended and highlighted an increase in antisocial behaviour all over Moray, including Buckie. In response partner agencies (Street Pastors, Arrows etc) have been out on the streets. ○ There has been increased monitoring of parking in Elgin, following £10k funding to address this. ○ Donald Matheson, Community Officer, has been going into schools to raise awareness about knife crime and drugs. ○ It was noted that the issues in Elgin are impacting resources in other areas. ○ There has been an increase in shoplifting throughout the area. Supermarkets have been advised on stock layouts. ○ Forres are having difficulties with Stagecoach services and residents are missing appointments and getting to work. Tickets are not being refunded so there are going to be discussions with Stagecoach. ○ New sheds to be installed at the distillery at Portgordon. SW explained there is an application to extend working hours because there is work going on at the warehouse. There is also planning application in for an extension at Portgordon Maltings as well as the anaerobic digester. ○ At the meeting, a Portgordon resident suggested that Lennox was potentially disbanding and may join Buckie and District Community Council but neither CA nor Debra Duke were aware of this. ○ The Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Maurice Gibson spoke at the meeting and said the Royal Regiment of Scotland will be given the freedom of Moray. ○ Eily Webster gave a presentation on the Local Development Plan. CA and SW felt that it would be useful to develop a Local Place Plan. ○ There was due to be a presentation on the Community Development by Kevin McDermott but there were technical issues. An email was sent out on this on 15 May and Debra has asked that their questionnaire be completed both for the group and individually. 	All

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sandra McCallum, who works for the community support unit, has a new position working for Digital Scotland helping people who have problems connecting to the Internet. She also has vouchers available but it was hard to hear what they were for. ○ Vattanfall Aultmore windmills were discussed. ○ Coastal erosion continues to be a concern. ○ Next JCC meeting in August. ● Money for Moray (funding for just transition participatory budgeting) - awaiting confirmation on whether funding is available but have been assured will find out within the next fortnight. There will be a shape the process event aimed at both new and old groups to discuss applications. ● LOIP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community Hub - Met again with architect Nick Brown. Still considering the potential locations. The options are now RBS, Bank of Scotland and McColl's. The Access Point has not been ruled out but is not the preferred option. ● Harbour – AD advised there has not been a meeting. They are still digging out the rocks to get to the 3m minimum required. SW explained that the harbour office will be in the old fish market. 	
Planning Applications - responses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Weekly Wards lists issued – no concerns were raised. 	
Correspondence to note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AP shared an email about the Fishwives path from Ian Douglas. As a result of the issues with the farm there is a proposal to change the route. SW had received feedback that they didn't think it was likely that the route would have been used historically but it was recognised that it was preferable not to lose the path completely. The Council has powers to enforce core paths but it could be expensive and the meeting did respect the reasons behind the proposal. It was agreed that it should be made clear that the path is not the original path. ● AP also discussed another email about the bothy at Portgordon, consulting as to whether objections would be received if they requested an amendment to the planning application to include a residential property along with the café which had already been approved. AP asked anyone with any objections to email. ● The minutes of the Arradoul speed issue meeting were received by the resident who was chasing for them. AP received three quotes, at around £5,000 per speed checker device. One of the solar powered options is preferable. AP will seek clarity on whether VAT would need to be paid and confirm if the community council is responsible for maintenance. ● AP discussed shared an email on the safety of lithium batteries. Due to time constraints, AP asked anyone with any concerns about supporting this or any of the other correspondence received to contact him by email. ● CA asked whether there had been a response on the Bowling Club. AP will double check this was submitted. ● CA noted the planning appeals training was mentioned on the bottom of a newsletter on 12 June at 7.30pm. ● CA thanked DM for completing the nomination for Buckie Roots for the Keep Scotland Beautiful's Clean Up Scotland Hero Awards. 	<p>AP</p> <p>All</p> <p>AP</p>

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AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA noted the disappointing loss of William Mairs funeral directors. • CA shared details of Buckie High School’s Alumni Rewind 24 June 5.30-8pm. This is an invitation to former students to visit the school. • GL asked about the situation with cruise ships. It was noted this was an area of potential for the town and should be encouraged and GL asked to be kept informed. SW has been trying to discuss with Visit Scotland. • RS noted that the telescope in the square is unusable with the tree growth. SW understood this forms part of the town square centre project. • CA mentioned a student project by Robert Ironside who was redesigning the heritage centre. SW was not sure what had happened with this. 	
Date & Venue of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 June 2024 – 7pm Ace Winches Lounge, Victoria Park, Buckie. CA will invite the police. 	CA

Community Council meeting closed at 21:30 hrs.

I declare this is a true and accurate record of the meeting:

Sign/initial:

AP

DM

Date:

08/06/2024

08/06/2024