

# Speyside Community Council

## APPROVED Minute of Meeting Held

On Wednesday 27 March 2024

At 7pm

### Speyside Sports and Community Centre

#### Community Council Members:

B. Davies, N. Slessor, M. Ross, D. Mclean, M. Middlehurst, G. Sarab,  
A. Bagnall

#### In Attendance:

M. Grant (E.C.H.C), W. Cameron (ACA), Keith Ross (RC), A.G, S.B, S.D, S.C,  
D. F, (Members of the Public)  
Cllr Harris, Cllr Gordon, Cllr Ross

#### Apologies:

P. Winchester (ACA), F. Dyer (SCC), I. Blackhall and C. Davis (both IDCA),  
C. Spencer and D. Peace (both Rothes Council), S.Willox (EHC),  
J. Richardson, P. Winchester (ACA), F. Dyer (SCC)

#### Welcome:

MR welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open.

#### Previous Minutes: 28 February 2024

Proposer: A. Bagnall  
Seconder: D. McLean

#### Matters arising and not overtaken on the Agenda:

- Aberlour will get their requested grit bin. It will be placed on the corner of Mary Avenue and Queen's Road.
- It has been confirmed that the grit bin on Breich Street in Rothes is not 'registered'. However, it is the responsibility of Land and Parks. Full details were passed to K. Ross, Rothes Council.
- Cllr Harris to follow up on the request to have Moray Council contact details on the grit bins.
- Planning Matters: Moray Local Development Plan 2027-Evidence Report – Schedule 5 ENERGY. MR reported back regarding the

response that was sent. SCC supported Moray Council and its provision of guidance for developers but was disappointed that developers frequently ignored this guidance as did the Scottish Government Reporters. There seems to be a lack of local democracy in this planning process.

Whilst this section of the Evidence Report is about Energy, it does refer to land use. It is our opinion that both windfarms and commercial forestry should be considered together when deciding about cumulative effect – it's not just about scenery.

- Cllr Gordon is still waiting for a response to the request regarding the policy for the allocation of 1 bedroom properties in Rothes.

### **Correspondence**

- Previously distributed or posted on social media.

- **Reports:**

- \*Treasurer: £7211.98 (This includes approximately £4000 from the SSEN Resilience Fund)

- \*ACA re: SSEN Resilience Fund spending.

- The pump, hose and extension reel have been delivered but the invoice has not yet been received. Once this is paid, it would leave about £3000 to spend. It was suggested that more Floodsax, grab bags, another pump could be considered. It was agreed that a meeting of the Resilience Group would meet to discuss further expenditure.

- \*Moray Transport Forum: Issues to be taken forward by the Forum include –

- The use of X by Stagecoach to inform travellers of cancellations etc, the reliability of some bus services, anti-social behaviour and how this could affect public transport. m.connect timetables are not clear and there is a feeling that customers are being forced to use the 'app' for the on demand service.

- \*m.connect: a number of issues were raised at the Community Open Day which will be passed on to the Project Board e.g people not aware that there are timetabled services as well as the on-demand service, it is not clear where the on-demand service will take them (their

destination or the nearest service bus stop), the use of concession cards.  
The on-demand service for Speyside will not be extended to Saturday for the time being.

**Police Matters:** CSP Report – previously distributed.

**Planning Matters:**

- \*Greens of Rothes (Simpsons Maltings) 21/01901/EIA – all 32 Conditions have now been approved by Moray Council.
- \*Heat and Power Connections 23/02089/EIA – awaiting a decision. Nature Scot have objected unless the proposal is subject to Conditions.  
SGN objects until a detailed consultation takes place.  
When all aspects of the development have been consented MR will approach Bidwells and discuss the SID. Rothes Council requested to be involved.
- \*24/00486/S36: Kellas Drum Winndfarm, Elgin  
8 turbines (6 x 185m and 2 x 175m)  
Moray Council is a consultee and the application will be decided by Scottish Ministers.

**Business:**

- \*The Pavilion – NS (SCC) and KR (RC) gave an update on the meeting with HES and MC.  
  
It was decided to proceed with The pavilion Project which will necessitate applying for the appropriate consents from HES and Moray Council and also funding.
- \*MR proposed and GS seconded that SCC investigates the ownership of the 'Penny Bridge' in Aberlour.
- \*The request by MR for £60 pa to cover the cost of printing and stationery was approved.
- \*Speeding and Parking in Rothes – generally, no one is entitled to a parking space outside their own home.

Speeding is a police matter.

Cllr Harris was asked to take the issue of speeding in Rothes forward to MC and request that speed strips are placed on the A941 going both north and south.

Also on the B9015.

MR to contact Transport Scotland and request speed strips are located on the A95 near the 30mph signs.

The parking situation on Queens Road, near the Co-Op continues to be a problem – causing an obstruction and hazard when turning from the A95.

Refreshing the double yellow lines is not on the current work schedule and there has been no obvious Police intervention.

\*Response to Scottish Forestry and a way forward.

D. McLean was formally thanked for his considerable input into all the forestry plans that SCC has commented on. SCC would not have been able to do this without his commitment and very extensive expertise.

Lyne of Carron has been approved and will liaise with SCC about access.

Glen of Rothes has been approved.

It was agreed to make contact with other groups who are having the same issues as ourselves re: forestry

**AOCB:**

Temp. removal of access rights – Ben Aigen Forest  
19-21 April. Speyside Stages Rally

**Future Programme:**

**Consultations:**

- Moray Council:

\*Active Travel: Face to Face – Aberlour, 22 April (TBC)

- Scottish Government:

\*Draft Bioenergy Policy Statement: Consultation (Closes 12/6/24)

\*Enabling Powers for Scotland’s Environment Impact Assessment Regimes and Habitat Regulations (Closes 13/5/24)

**Next Meeting:**

Wednesday 24 April 2024

**Meeting closed:**

8.45pm