

# SPEYSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## DRAFT Minutes For Wednesday, 25 September 2024

### Speyside Sports and Community Centre

#### The Library

#### 7pm

**Sederunt:** A.Bagnall (AB); D McLean(DM); M Middlehurst (MM); N. Slessor (NS).

**In attendance:** K. Ross (Rothes CC); D. Duke (Community Council Liaison Officer - CCLO); M. Grant (ECHC); P. Shanks (ECHC); I. Blackhall (IDCA).

**Apologies:** M. Ross (MR), F. Dyer (FD) B Davies (BD), Cllr Harris, Cllr Ross,

**Welcome:** AB, standing in as Chair, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 1900hrs.

**Previous Minutes:** 28 August 2024. The previous minutes were accepted as a true record of proceedings.

- Proposed: NS
- Seconded: DM

#### **Matters Arising and not overtaken on the Agenda:**

- Car parking area at the COOP in Aberlour. The shop is to be closed for refurbishment. It is hoped that this will include an upgrade to the surface of the parking area. There remains no clarity on the owner of the parking.
- Lack of road markings – Cllrs Gordon and Ross were tasked with taking this forward. On 12 September Cllr Gordon provided a timetable for refreshing the white lines/road markings. This information was passed on to SCC members and village associations/councils that are affected. The Chair noted that the lines on Queen’s Avenue in Aberlour and to the primary school have been refreshed.

#### **Correspondence:**

Council were advised of J. Mackie, Innes CC – Petition ‘Halt any further pump storage hydro schemes on Scottish lochs holding wild Atlantic salmon.’

## Reports:

- **Treasurer:** Treasurer (DM) advised the following monies were held in the bank:
  - Balance £ 5475.96; of which,
    - £2144.00 is held for Aberlour flood prevention; and'
    - £370.00 for Rothes Community Workforce.
- **m.connect/bus revolution Phase 2:** Council were appraised of the Bus Revolution Phase 2 s is an item discussed at Full Moray Council meeting earlier in the day. A fares increase is being proposed. There will be amendments to some existing timetabled services and enhancements to the on demand services. Key points for SCC are:
  - 366 Speyside Timetabled– reduction of 1 bus.
  - 691 Speyside on demand service -additional driver hours.
  - Introduction of on demand Saturday service – 10am to 10pm.
  - 367 – New Speyside Timetabled Service. Will connect to bus network for onward travel into Elgin. This reduces duplication over Stagecoach routes into Elgin.

SCC members felt this would be an overall improvement in the service through Speyside, supporting both work and leisure journeys, and welcomed the proposal.

- **Moray Transport Forum:** Moray Council does not keep a list of community transport providers. Moray Transport Forum is working with Tsi Moray to compile such a list. This will then be published.
- **Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Report:** Previously forwarded.
  - A discussion was held over the frequency of the reports and the ability for Police Scotland to attend meetings on a

monthly basis. MM noted that it should be community safety partnership report and as such include all emergency services. MM noted that previously reports highlighted trends in behaviours/incidents across Moray with less granularity provided.

- Proposed that frequency of police reports be reduced to quarterly and that an in person or video call is scheduled quarterly with an SCC representative. Information in the report to be broad trends in the county not individual cases. MM volunteered to act as the SCC liaison with Police Scotland.
  - Proposed: DM
  - Seconded: MM
  - **Action:** MR requested to inform Police Scotland.

- **Planning Matters:** Weekly Wards previously forwarded.
- **Updates:** Blackhills Windfarm Scoping Opinion issued by ECU. Previously forwarded to SCC members. Exhibitions to take place towards the end of October.
- **Forestry:** Glen Grant Native Woodland Proposal – information sent to SCC members on 21 September. NS advised that the proposal was from Richard Forsyth and was for the formation of a native woodland area between existing plantations.
- **Licensing:** 24/01727/PRELIC - A request for an Off Licence for the Aberlour Post Office/Convenience Store.

#### **Business:**

- **Review of Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils:** CCLO briefed the SCC on the review which will be effected before the next elections in summer 2025. A copy of the Scheme was emailed to all CC members on 1 September. Changes to be annotated in the current document. Overlays of maps showing electoral wards, CC boundaries

and school catchments were requested. CCLO recommended that the Local Development Plan for Speyside be considered at the same time:

[http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray\\_standard/page\\_133541.html](http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_133541.html)

- The following suggestions were proposed during discussion by SCC:
  - Change of boundary at the west to follow the watershed by Glenlattrach, as no roads run east into Speyside;
  - Change of boundary to the east by Craigellachie to follow the watershed, as all roads run west/north into Speyside;
  - Change quorum to be the minimum number of persons required to make up a viable CC rather than a variable number.
- **Action:**
  - D Duke to provide map overlays of boundaries (Afternote: sent by email to all members on 26 Sep24  
[http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray\\_standard/page\\_118478.html](http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_118478.html))
  - **Comment is required SCC members by 23 Oct 24** online consultation document:  
<https://newsroom.moray.gov.uk/news/morays-community-councils-reviewed>
- **Review of Funding Model for Admin Grants for Community Councils:**  
SCC assessed its income and expenditure as below – if Community Councillors claimed their expenses:

Grant	£823.28	
Insurance	£0.00	Up to £350 if free use of council buildings
Accom	£0.00	ceased.
Audit fees	£30.00	
Subs	£0.00	
ICO Charge	£35.00	
Travel Expenses	£321.45	
Publication of Agendas and Minutes	£0.00	
Publication of Newsletters	£0.00	

Stationary	£15.00
Photocopying	£60.00
Postage	£0.00
Telecoms	N/K Would need apportionment calculation
IT	£150.00 Website
IT Hardware	£350.00 Purchase of LT
Affiliation fees	
Bank Charges	
Advertising	
Publicity, promo, ceremonial	£110.00
Consultations	
Honoraria	
Totals	<u>£823.28 (£1,071.45)</u>
	<u><u>-£248.17</u></u>

The SCC discussed the proposals for alterations to funding options and found that none of the four proposals put forward by the working group were sufficient in themselves. The proposal by SCC is therefore:

- TMC pays the rental costs for those councils unable to access free meeting rooms. AND
- The Admin grant is increased and the PC rate is reduced.

In SCC's opinion this will make for a much more equitable distribution of the available limited funds across the County and will remove potential barriers to entry for personnel not in a position to fund their own engagement in CC work.

- **Action:** CCLO to be informed of SCC decision by AB.  
(**Afternote:** The information was passed to the CCLO by AB for consideration.)
- **RCW update:**
  - Core paths ranger (Graham) working closely with RCW on signage of paths and tree surgery.
  - Glen Spey (Diageo) have now agreed they own the bridge. RCW and TMC will work with them to renew the bridge in steel with a stone superstructure.

- Drainage improvement is ongoing.
  - The renewing of the steps is now being planned. Laing's will donate the granite and Forsyth's will donate the scaffolding poles. For the superstructure.
  - RCW AGM – nett loss of one member so they are looking for volunteers.
  - Fundraising through a GoFundMe page and have applied for a wind farm grant.
  - Old garage to be rented by NS and RCW to have free use.
- **AOCB:**
    - MR to purchase 4 poppy wreaths for Remembrance Sunday.( Afternote – MR has ordered wreaths.)
    - SCC Membership – After a short round table discussion K.Ross and I. Blackhall valiantly agreed to put themselves forward to be coopted onto the SCC.
      - **Action:** MR to provide nomination papers
- **Future Programme:**
    - Succession Planning: SCC members to review
    - Resilience Planning: 7 November @ Inchberry Village Hall
    - Fund raising
- **Consultations: Moray Council –**
    - Consultation on the updated Developer Obligations Supplementary Guidance (Closes 11/10/24)
    - Draft Woodland and Forestry Strategy for Moray (Closes /11/24)
      - **Action:** – SCC members to read.
- **Next Meeting:** Wednesday 30 October 2024
- **Meeting Closed at: 2030hrs.**