



Date: 8 July 2025
Time: 6pm
Venue: Victoria Park Function Hall
Attendees: Ann Mitchell (AM), Alison Durno (AD), Christine Allan (CA), Secretary - Daska Murray (DM), Chair - Peter West (PW), Richard Simpson (RS), Sharon Innes (SI), Cllr. Sonya Warren (SW)
Apologies: Holly Mayne-Garrow (HMG), Meghan Skene (MS), Treasurer-Ross Ingram (RI)

Minutes of Meeting

Agenda Item	Discussed	Follow up / Action by
Welcome, apologies and introductions	PW opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees and noting apologies.	
Meeting protocol	Not discussed as no visitors present.	
Visitors' questions/ comments	Not discussed as no visitors present.	
Approval of previous minutes	The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.	
Matters arising	There was a discussion on the long-running complaint about the condition of the Yardie path, which has finally been repaired. The meeting discussed how standardised replies and poor communication/lack of follow-up can contribute to public frustration.	
Elected members feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cluny Square – fish theme benches have been installed. Possible changes to IJB (Integration Joint Board) and NHS services are concerning, particularly the potential closure of Ward 4 and review of palliative care provision. Concerns could be expressed to MP/MSP or Bridget Mustard as Chair of the IJB. While this year's Council budget is less constrained, transformational change is being sought to reduce long-term operating costs and a management restructure is taking place. The meeting acknowledged increasing pressure on public resources, resulting in communities taking on more responsibilities. Challenges around recruitment and the impact of staff leave/absences were also noted. The Council are looking to invest in the Buckie Harbour Master Plan. Three proposed development options are being considered: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> North pier extension West extension Basin development SW suggested inviting Nicola Moss to the next meeting to provide further insight and support the consultation response. SW has been appointed as co-leader of the SNP. 	

Agenda Item	Discussed	Follow up / Action by
Sub-committee report and plans	<p>Linzee Gordon Playpark – Update from PW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Ladies’ Day fundraising event has been set for 29 November. • The group are optimistic they will reach their £120,000 goal soon. • They will have a stand at the car show. <p>Buckie & District Bairns Bank – Update from PW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds from the Buckie Thistle Captains’ Memorial have improved storage and organisation. • Increased referrals being received from NHS contacts. • Volunteer lanyards are under consideration to help manage access. • They plan to fundraise at the car show (chocolate tombola) to help afford essentials like baby formula. • Still need to identify permanent location. SW highlighted the town centre regeneration fund, but this is match funded. <p>Resilience Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PW had support from the high school to collaborate and provide a safe space. However, this stalled due to staff changes and will need discuss with the new head teacher who starts in August. High school students could potentially support resilience efforts for skill-building/volunteering. Other options for safe spaces could include the Boy’s Brigade Hall and the Fishermen’s Hall. • There is a need for storage for supplies which are currently at PW’s home. PW raised concerns about continuity as if key members left or were unavailable as there is no clear system for handing over responsibilities, data, or assets. <p>Buckie Community Growth Group - Update from PW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update available on status of the lottery. • No progress on town market initiative. RS had not managed to put out the planned survey to gauge interest yet but would appreciate suggestions as to content. <p>Buckpool Harbour Community Group – Update from SI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men’s shed had indicated they will help with repainting the signage but awaiting indication of costs. • PW had noticed youths with adults using the park for games, suggesting potential for organised events or competitions to encourage use. SI highlighted the main barrier is the lack of toilet facilities. Possible solutions were discussed included exploring the purchase or long-term rental of underused nearby facilities. 	
Members community engagement and feedback	<p>Developing/Improving community awareness and engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PW may not be available for car show on 31 August, so there is a need for volunteers to man the stall and help prepare for the event. • PW has a gazebo but there was an indication that the community council have one, although it might not be suitable it was agreed to ask for its return. 	<p>ALL</p> <p>CA/AD</p>

Agenda Item	Discussed	Follow up / Action by
	<p>Community Feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RS highlighted residents' concerns around the travelling community near Portgordon and March Road, including an abandoned caravan. RS to send details to DM and copy in the community council email address, who will pass onto the unauthorised encampments officer. • SW noted concerns about being asked not to park at Strathlene car park because it was a private car park, but it was thought to have been included as a condition of sale that the public could use it. PW asked for the information relating to this for awareness. <p>Feedback from/re website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PW noted that there hasn't been much development with the website since it was set up. A discussion is needed at the next meeting around the purpose and content of the website, as well as having more community councillors able to update it to reduce risks associated with overreliance on PW. CA asked about a hit counter but PW explained this would incur extra costs. PW will investigate prior to the next meeting but asked all to consider the points raised for the next meeting. 	<p>RS/DM</p> <p>SW</p> <p>PW ALL</p>
Queries - content of Treasurer's update	No questions, but it was noted that PW has also been covering Treasurer duties.	
Reports from local group activity and initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JCC – Debra Duke, CCLO is on annual leave and due to insufficient support PW may need to consider cancelling the car show stand. PW suggested arranging a meeting with community councillors next week to discuss ideas and prepare for the car show. • Harbour Advisory Group – AD advised that lights at the mucks have been repaired, work is being carried out to the lighthouse and ladders are being replaced. • LOIP - Update from CA following meeting last Tuesday: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There was a discussion around the work at North East Quadrant in Cluny Square. ○ CA brought up the need for strengthening community groups. ○ Earth Time have found a potential volunteer to work with them on the waddle and toddle session. ○ Merson Park were successful in their application in for the stage 1 funding and if successful will apply for stage 2. Commencing work on Community Asset Transfer (CAT) application. ○ Dawn Brodie advised that she was still trying to meet with Springfield regarding allotments. ○ A survey has been issued to former partners to find out what they are now doing that they were not previously. ○ A resident artist will be working with the hub from September. ○ Minutes will now be circulated regularly. ○ Considered whether there is a need for a community plan, but decided instead to stick with the locality plan and focus on aspects within the group's control. ○ Discussed The Link (the hub for Elgin). ○ Discussed evaluation from community planning partners. 	<p>PW</p> <p>DB</p>

Agenda Item	Discussed	Follow up / Action by
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money for Moray – Update from CA Still awaiting formal confirmation of the £50,000 just transition funding, but there have been road shows taking place across Moray. • Buckie Area Forum – Update from CA following meeting on Wednesday. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nicola Moss attended to discuss the Harbour Masterplan. ○ AD will take on treasurer role. ○ Mention of hub funding which is in place until March 2026. ○ Cullen Haven café benefited from a £500 donation. ○ Questions were raised about the selection of attendees for a tour during a public meeting at the High School. PW provided background and context. 	
Planning applications	Not discussed.	
Future initiatives	Not discussed.	
Correspondence	Not discussed.	
AOB	PW reflected on the need to give thought to a number of issues in advance of the next meeting, including office bearers and community council representation at other meetings to improve awareness and discussion around what is going on within the community. A further concern is continuity e.g. access to the accounts, the ICO registration details. There has also been no further update from Denise Whitworth following on from her contact around community engagement and upcoming workshops.	ALL
Date/venue of next meeting	The next meeting is scheduled for 12 August 2025 at 6pm in the Community Lounge at Buckie Community High School.	

Community Council meeting closed at 21:10 hrs.