Innes Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3 February 2015, in Lhanbryde Community Centre, at 7.00 p.m.

Present:	Mr J Fettes Mrs E Bodman Mrs A Speake Mr A Anderson Mr L Bangura Mr P Bush Mr P Gordon Smith Mrs W Linn Mr J Mackie Mr M McClelland Jones	Chairperson Treasurer Secretary
In Attendance:	Mrs M Anderson Mrs M Bangura Sgt A Bruce PC M Gage Mr J Fensome Mr J Ferguson Mr A Kennedy Mrs F Mackie Mrs A Milne Mr M Reid Mr B Speake Mrs G Stewart Mr J Third	Police Scotland Police Scotland Moray Council Joint Community Councils
Apologies	Cllr M Howe Cllr D Ross	Moray Council Moray Council

Minute	Discussion	Action
	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. He asked everyone present to introduce themselves.	
1	Apologies	
	As noted above.	
2	Letters of Resignation	
	The Chair advised that all letters of resignation had been retracted, with the exception of Mr Bush, who whilst withdrawing his resignation as a Community Councillor, did not wish to retract his resignation as Secretary.	

3	Election of Officer Bearers to Vacant Positions	
	Mr Mackie proposed Mrs Speake as Secretary. This motion was seconded by Mr Bangura. Mrs Speake accepted the nomination on the proviso that she received help. This was willingly offered by a number of members.	
	THE MEETING WAS RECORDED FROM THIS POINT.	
4	Police Report	
	Sgt Bruce reported that the report for the period from November to January had been sent. During the period 27 crimes had been reported, 15 offenders had been charged and of the remaining 12 there were positive lines of enquiries on 3.	
	The report also contained information on applying to Police Scotland and on social networking.	
	Sgt Bruce asked if the members would like to report broken down into the specific areas covered by the Innes Ward, but it was agreed to continue receiving the report in its present format.	
5	Moray Councillors' Reports	
	As no Councillors were present there were no reports from the Moray Council.	
	Mr Bangura reported on the issue of the Spey Viaduct Bridge which the previous Innes Community Council had raised. He stated that an e-mail had been received advising that work to replace the timber ply decking on the viaduct would commence on 9 February and that the bridge would be closed for ten weeks. The bridge would, however, be open at weekends.	
6	Public Submissions	
	Mr Third reported that the problem of parking in St Andrew's Road, Lhanbryde, which had been raised during his time on the Community Council, remained as bad as ever, and he asked how many fixed penalty notices had been served on those parking on pavements, within bus parking areas, etc. The police had attended on a number of occasions and had spoken to drivers, but would need to check on	Police
	the exact number of penalty notices.	
	The police agreed they would continue to monitor the situation, but it was agreed that it often a case of educating drivers.	Police
	Mrs Stewart advised that on the last two evenings a car had sat in the car parking area on Station Road for about an hour each time revving	

the engine. If this continues to happen she was advised to notify the police.	GS
Mrs Milne raised concerns over the article that had appeared in the media regarding the resignations of members of Innes Community Council, particularly the alleging of bullying and harassment. She felt these had done nothing to enhance the reputation of Innes Community Council. She went on to praise the work undertaken by the Chair of the Joint Community Councils, Alastair Kennedy, to encourage people to engage with Community Councils, but felt that his hard work was being undermined by such articles appearing in the media.	
She reiterated the need for the Community Council to work together with other community groups and individuals for the benefit of the wider community.	
Mr Bush raised the point that he had on a number of occasions asked for reports from Milne's Neighbourhood Forum and Lhanbryde Community Challenge but these had not been forthcoming. Mrs Milne advised that she did not attend ICC meetings on behalf of either of these organisations, but as an individual resident of the area. She suggested that if the Community Council wish to have a representative from either of these organisations present at their meetings, they should request this. This point was accepted by Mr Bush.	ICC
Mrs Bodman stated that those who had resigned did not go to the media first, but Mrs Milne reiterated that her concerns were more over terms such as bullying and harassment than who first went to the press.	
A debate about confidentiality and conflict of interest ensued. In addition, items such as legal advice from the Council, governance issues and rules and advice and support for Community Councils were touched on. Mr Ferguson confirmed that the advice given that ICC was an independent body and therefore responsible for its own governance was correct. The Chair felt that the Community Council Liaison Officer, Tracey Rae, had not received sufficient support from the Council, but Mr Ferguson disputed this.	
Mr Kennedy interceded at this point to say how disappointed he was in the conduct of members of Innes Community Council, and was appalled that nothing seemed to have changed since he had last attended a meeting. He explained how other Community Councils work through their differences and achieve things for the community.	

	A discussion then ensued on the differences within the membership, and what had been done by the prior Community Council, and other groups within the area, for the benefit of the community.	
	Mrs Linn felt that the current community council had achieved something as evidenced by the support given to the Save Milne's High School campaign.	
	Mr. Kennedy again appealed to those who were behaving in such a way that the business of the meeting could not be dealt with satisfactorily.	
	Mr Bangura advised that he felt that a number of problems were caused by decisions taken at the meeting being overturned almost immediately after meetings.	
	Mrs Stewart asked why a member of Innes Community Council should request a copy of the constitution and accounts for Lhanbryde Community Challenge. Mrs Bodman replied she had asked as an individual, not as a member of the community council.	
7	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	
	It was proposed by Mr Mackie that these should not be adopted due to the number of errors and omissions contained within, and as the recording had been accidentally wiped, it was not possible to replay the meeting. This proposal was seconded simultaneously by Mr Bangura and Mrs Speake.	
	The omissions included the discussion regarding the number of meetings Mrs Speake had missed, and Cllr Howe's contribution in that debate.	
	Report on Joint Community Council – Mr Fettes was not present at the December meeting of ICC so could not have made a report on the JCC meeting.	
	Brown Muir Hill – Discussion on planning application and conflict of interest. Again, Cllr Howe's comments were not included about the number of letters she had received in support rather than objections.	
	The Chair expressed his view that he felt the Moray Council should note that ICC require a lawyer at their meetings due to Mr Mackie's claims and knowledge regarding such topics.	
	Kingston Beach – Not enough information concerning what Mr Fensome had said regarding this topic, and the support that had beeen given by local Councillors.	

8	Matters Arising	
	KINGSTON BEACH – Mr. Fensome advised that a report had gone to the Council's Policy and Resources Committee on 20 January 2015 concerning the Council's Policy in relation to erosion. The report recommended that the Committee agree the recommendation of the Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee to approve the policy in relation to erosion.	
	The policy proposed:	
	 The Council may undertake erosion protection where its assets are at risk. The Council may take action where the consequence of erosion would be significantly increased flood risk. Coastal erosion affecting a community would remain the subject of an option appraisal on a case by case basis. The Council would presume against taking action where river or coastal erosion, or landslips affected only private land including built assets. 	
	The recommendation was agreed by 8 votes to 5.	
	Mr Fensome thought this was one of the main issues that should have been debated tonight, and felt that listening to the arguments nothing had been achieved,	
9	Correspondence	
	Mr Bush advised that all correspondence that had been received had been circulated round the membership.	
10	Treasurer's Report	
	The Treasurer advised that the balance stood at £1,367.36 taking into account the payment to Garmouth and Kingston.	
	Mr Bangura proposed that ICC purchase a laptop and printer for use by the Secretary, this was seconded by Mr Bush and agreed by the membership.	
	Mr Third asked about an outstanding debt for marine charts and the Chair explained the situation.	
11	Changes to Constitution	
	A discussion ensued on the two proposals as listed on the agenda.	

	Mr McClelland Jones suggested that in order to have a full discussion on each of the proposed changes to the constitution there was insufficient information to make an informed decision, and he proposed that draft clauses for changes should be put forward.	
	It was agreed that the matter would remain on the agenda, and for the opposing motions to be drafted for further discussion.	Agenda
12	Consultations	
	Integration of health and social care – as the closing date for this consultation was almost up, ICC would not be responding. Mrs Speake advised that she felt an opportunity had been missed to comment on an important topic that could affect many within the community.	
13	Planning	
	Brown Muir Hill – Mrs Bodman advised that of the 200+ objections on the Council's website 76 come from the Innes area, so she thought ICC had a remit to support the objectors. A discussion ensued on this topic.	
	Mr Kennedy explained how Elgin Community Council had handled this application, and others, when there were opposing views. Mr McClelland Jones suggested that if another community council had a process for capturing alternative views then it would be a good idea for ICC to adopt this	
14	Other Business	
	AGM – It was mentioned that under the constitution ICC may hold an AGM.	
15	Next Meeting	
	Tuesday 3 March 2015 at 7.00 p.m. at Lhanbryde Community Centre.	
	Mrs Speake tendered her apologies and appointed Mrs Milne to take the minutes at that meeting.	