



Speyside Area Forum  
[www.undiscoveredspeyside.org](http://www.undiscoveredspeyside.org)

Tuesday, 6 June, 2017  
Craigellachie Hall  
7-30 pm

### MINUTES

Participants : Sandy Henderson, Ian Todd, Jean Grimshaw, Jenny Hershell, Patricia Grant, Andrea Fuller, PC Craig Dammer, Bruce Milne, Cllr Walter Wilson, Cllr Derek Ross, Cllr Louise Laing, George McKenzie, Charlie Alexander, Bill Burgess, Margaret Grant, Brenda Cooper (Craigellachie), Jean Tweedie, Hugh Fraser, Andy Cherry, Anne Griffan, Greg Saraf

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

- Pearl Paul,

#### 2. Presentation by Ann Griffin, NHS - Vintage Teas

Anne explained vintage teas for +60s & providing advice/health/welfare etc. The event is to highlight community assets and any issues. Report will be prepared highlighting priorities for the area from that meeting and feed back to Anne McKenzie – who works for health & social care for Moray. The aim is to keep the over 60s in the area connected and not isolated.

Areas are Buckie, Forres, Fochabers Keith, Speyside, Elgin, Lossie. Events already held at Dufftown and Tomintoul. The next Speyside event is at Aberlour on 15 June – with lots of clubs already confirmed to attend. Draft programme to be circulated.

Forum possibly to provide transport if required. Jean to get posters for Rothes and suggested advertisers are NHS social media, Northern Scot – Whats on, Toulter & Thistledown, Spierans, Inside Moray.

Margaret Cowie Health & Welfare officer has highlighted individuals who have issues in area. Sheltered housings. Knockando church.

Once report done if any issues a community meeting will be arranged for the local area.

Next week is carers week – there will be a seminar 14 June in Elgin town hall for informal carers.

#### 3. Minute of previous Meeting for approval – 7 February, 2017

Proposed Andrea, Approved Hugh

#### 4. Matters Arising

Hugh circulated Clydesdale bank letter re petition & response. Hugh had meeting today re getting ATM reinstated. Bank building is up for lease. Will need planning consent to get it reinstated. HLF application unsuccessful.

#### 5. Police & Fire Matters

Now receiving incidents of note. Two instances of driving without insurance or crash helmet however Hugh confirmed it is still happening. Hugh called police as some youths had been on

roof of visitors centre. There has been damage to the toilets at the visitors centre in Aberlour amounting to repair costs of £800. A 20 yr old had been driving motor cycle near Tomintoul on B9008 without insurance.

Hugh mentioned he was overtaken by car on High St Aberlour and feels there is a general speeding issue – PC said he will mention to speed officers. The Smiley faces generally considered to be beneficial - make you think what the car behind is thinking.

### **Fire – Bruce Milne**

Staff availability good. No stats re alarmed areas in local area. There was a target of 1000 fire surveys in Moray and we did over 1800 – often included fitting smoke detectors which is the best route to reduce fatalities.

Commented that the area is changing with an ageing demographic. Bruce mentioned they are attending community meetings and also assisting with slips/trips and falls. In Elgin have just gone live with out of hours support. Happy to receive our assistance to raise awareness etc. George asked if Fire officers still attend schools to raise awareness of starting fires – especially highlighting risks in wood but it was considered that the curriculum but changed and now head teachers are responsible for this. All agreed this needs addressed early to nip in bud. Bruce mentioned there is a fire reach programme for problem kids to divert them away and thus reduce anti-social behaviour. George mentioned they are taking the paper out of waste paper bin in Aberlour and lighting this.

## **6. Community Engagement Group (CEG) Development Day – update**

Andrea attends as Federation rep when Anita can't manage. There was a meeting earlier today. Karen Delaney spoke and mentioned they will assist with support for learning opportunities and asked she was asked how her role and the life long learning forum fitted into the community engagement group.

Presentation from Tracy Jervais (NHS and health and social care) – asked for permission to set up an engagement network for speaking to communities and NHS would put money into.

Reporting structure and complying with themes and community planning partnership and roles with area forums and role we do. Was request for continued funding of forums.

Community Planning Officers Group (CPOG) – sit between CEG group and Planning Board. We had concerns that the decisions of CEG were getting made by another body. All agreed we can all work together but our voice needs heard above the CEG. Discussion re whether those at top wish to hear what we're saying?

Basically all agree that communities must highlight what communities need and those that are essential and can't be stopped. The Council doesn't have money and so all agreed something needs to be done. George Alexander attended and there will be 3 more elected members on the group.

Structure of CEG members needs looked at – only a few members from communities. CEG, Community Planning Board, and officers group - Local outcome improvement plan (LOIP) – Patricia asked not to use acronymns where possible.

Community planning partnership needs to prioritise services – the CEG chair is presently the Moray Forum rep.

## **7. Money for Moray – update**

18 individuals benefited from last round of this participatory budgeting – given pot of money and local people decide where the money to be allocated rather than councils. Have distributed 120k funding from Scottish Govt and moray council since started. This economic development fund is for rural areas and there was awarded 34k to Speyside. There was also a 40k social isolation fund and Speyside also got share of this. There is a meeting on June 15 where hoping for further £60k

for Money for Moray. It would be good if the recipients could advertise the fact that they received this money.

8. **"Knowing Who, Knowing How"** - update/the way forward

Karen Delaney asked us to mention – from community development plan. This is about community safety and they would like to pilot a community safety training session in the area. This is used to identify where something isn't quite right and knowing what agency to go to (eg child protection, elderly person wandering) to get support.

We were asked if we would like to hold these events and if so where. All agreed would be beneficial and Anne added there is also push on becoming dementia friends – there is free training sessions available through Alzheimer Scotland. Forum agreed we were in favour. To confirm the venue to Andrea. Fire suggested services/venue available if needed.

9. **"A Councillor's view - one month in"** – update from Speyside Councillors

Derek – steep learning curve. Moray council did induction –very valuable. Administration formed between Conservatives and 6 independents. One councillor resigned 2d later. Derek will serve on audit and scrutiny committee, Children and young peoples committee, communities (housing) and planning. Has attended youth employment conference, shaping influential third sector, Moray Fed Halls mtg, and various council mtgs. Highlighted attended foster carers event and achievements of some of supported children. Has found out what so many voluntary staff have been doing for communities. So far working well with others councillors.

Walter – knew would be hard work. Lot of paperwork, chair of police and fire committee, planning, local review body, economic development and infrastructure, policy resources, community planning board, CNPA rep, Moray Leisure. Will need to be a full time councillor – not possible part time. Had a little community engagement so far.

Louise – planning board, licencing board, children & young people, CEG, communities, housing appointments, assisting constituents.

10. **Community Issues and Update from Community Groups**

(please also see Diary [www.undiscoveredspeyside.org](http://www.undiscoveredspeyside.org))

Hugh asked are we getting a grant from council – we have paid out for the public liability insurance for £107.

Aberlour – main issue is Alice Littler park – where the council have exercised a toxic law to take ownership of the community land which has been in the community for the last 175 years. The tenant should have opted out of the act but Moray Council has not done this and on 17 May Stephen Cooper called Hugh to gloat that the park now belonged to the Council. He emailed a letter to Aberlour Community association – not the owners of the land as it belongs to the memorial fund.

There was comment made that the Policy and resources committee said they would look at all land with a view to selling off for housing development.

There was comment that for the council to opt out it needs to go to a full council meeting. Hugh has contacted Douglas Ross and he will write to Council too. All 3 councillors have communicated with Hugh. Stephen is offering to come to Aberlour to meet Hugh to discuss the concerns and will talk about how council will mitigate against these concerns. Apparently it has taken 18m for the council to inform Aberlour.

The land was protected as public park and leased to council in perpetuity.

Hugh mentioned Moray had lost land because of this law.

Littler Trust needs to arrange a meeting with Stephen Cooper. Our councillors are happy to opt out if they get a chance to opt out and the next full meeting is end Sept.

Council stopped supplying dog mess bags - part of the £14m cuts due by next April. Paying £7k per year. Seems people are happy to pay for their own.

Bins for events - £30 bin charge for community events but apparently Highland Games is not classed as community – Louise will investigate.

**11. Treasurer's Report**

Circulated by Hugh. Fewer meetings last year and had transport consultation previous year  
Transport down last year. Concern if not spending the money raised by Hugh. Now Forums getting higher profile and so partnership agencies will be looking for us to provide more.  
Nurture through Sport cash is using our bank. Deposits for sailing fund paid.  
Approved – Bill Burgess, Seconded -Patricia

**12. Any Other Business**

Query re ownership of Victoria Bridge Aberlour – we were asked to take over but we said no.  
We're not sure who took it on. Aberlour distillery showed interest but not heard further. Colin Whittle of R&R Urquhart is going to suggest syndicate speak to Chivas.

**13. Date and Venue of Next meeting** - 15 August, Carron hall