



Speyside Area Forum
Chairman: Mr A Henderson
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Minutes, Glenrinn Community Centre, Meeting 7.30pm Tuesday 21st August 2012

1. Welcome and Apologies: Sandy Henderson, Chairman welcomed members to the meeting. **Apologies:** Steve Oliver, Archiestown Village Council; Bill Burgess, Carron Community Association; Mabel Donald, Aberlour Community Association; Deborah Smith and Martin Sheed, Cabrach Community Enterprise Ltd. **Attending:** Sandy Henderson, Chairman; Hugh Fraser, Treasurer; Eileen Fitzpatrick, Secretary; Cllrs Fiona Murdoch, Mike McConnachie and Pearl Paul, The Moray Council; John Fleming, Dufftown and District Community Association; Andrea Fuller and Pat Shanks, Edinville Community Hall Council; Patricia Grant and Jenny Herschell, Kirkmichael and Tomintoul Community Association; Jean Grimshaw and Margaret Stuart, Rothes Council; Rob Lewin and Derek T. Clark, Glenrinn Community Centre; Rita Marks, Glenlivet and Inveravon Community Association; PC Craig Dammer, Grampian Police;

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (3rd July at Cabrach Community Enterprise Ltd): Proposed: Patricia Grant
Seconded: Andrea Fuller - Approved

3. Matters Arising: Undiscovered Speyside In Bloom: The Focus Group, Jean Grimshaw, Andrea Fuller and Rita Marks, gave an update. Judging, which is by Jake Millar, will take place on Thursday 30th August and Jean Grimshaw will take him round the entries; the route plan is being formulated. Rita Marks will provide lunch at T in the Park. Entries received: Rothes, Craigellachie, Aberlour, Edinville, Tomintoul, Glenrinn - Junior entry, Glenlivet - Community and Junior entries (possibly Dufftown, Drummur and Carron). Photographs of entries should be sent to Bob Fuller, Webmaster asap. There has been a good entry level which is encouraging. Andrea answered queries raised by Cllr Pearl Paul about one or two entries received from villages outside Speyside including Kingston.

4. Police Matters: (please see Community Councils Local Policing Report attached) PC Craig Dammer reported about several incidents, including roof damage caused by pupils from Dufftown-Mortlach Primary School and two incidents at Aberlour Games, which have been dealt with. Cllr Fiona Murdoch was concerned about a possible lack of police presence in Dufftown late at night (11pm – midnight), and parking difficulties, and Rita Marks spoke about information concerning arson. These will be looked into. PC Dammer left the meeting at this point.

5. Update from Community Groups: Rothes : Regarding the £250,000 Lottery Application to upgrade Grant Hall, Jean Grimshaw reported that response to the public survey had been positive. The 2nd application, including details of the Architect's fees is to be made in October. The help received from Rhona Patterson was appreciated.

Cllr Pearl Paul reported that they were experiencing technical difficulties in the production of 'The Rothesian', due to password protection software, but they were working on it. John Herbert is kindly sponsoring the September edition, and they are looking for sponsors for future editions.

Tomintoul: Patricia Grant reported that they had advertised the post of Development officer offering a salary of £32,000, and interviews are due to take place at the beginning of September. Many applications have been received.

Aberlour: Hugh Fraser gave a progress report on the Bicentenary celebrations, which will be held in the marquee, in September. There will be a School concert, and on the Friday, there is the unveiling of a Bicentenary Cairn, the Bicentenary Cake will be cut and special presentations will be made. The Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham concert in aid of the Aberlour Child Care Trust on Friday 14th September has good support and there are only 40 tickets left. On the Saturday there will be the Aberlour Orphanage Reunion which has had a good response, and a Flower Festival in the church with a Family Fun Night where Mustang will provide the music. On the Sunday the Kiltwalk 2012 presentation of £140k will be made followed by Ecumenical Songs of Praise. Bicentenary raffle tickets are 50p each.

Glenlivet: Tea in the Park is doing very well with takings in line with last year. We have had two free whisky nosing and tasting sessions with two more to come before the event ends on 2nd September. We have provided soup and sandwiches for several large parties (35 - 40 people) alongside our regular visitors. On Saturdays Sally Williams' spinning demonstrations have been popular.

Glenrinnnes: Derek Clark was pleased to report on the success of their recent Big Breakfast when 55 people had taken part. The last one for this summer is on 16th September. When Cllr Fiona Murdoch asked who comes to the Big Breakfast Derek Clark said it was mostly locals with some visitors who had heard about it by word of mouth.

6. Treasurer's Report: Hugh Fraser handed out the latest report showing a balance of £3,531.14. He invited suggestions on what members would like it to be spent upon.

8. Correspondence: Sandy Henderson had received an invitation from The Moray Council for the Forum to send a representative to participate in the Focus Group process leading to community wide consultations to set priorities for the revenue budget for the next four years. Unfortunately the letter, which was from the Office of the Council Leader, gave insufficient notice (less than two weeks) on this important matter, and a letter of complaint will be sent to this effect. The Forum has also received consultation forms asking for views upon the proposed Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill, deadline 29th August (community.empowerment@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) one of which Andrea Fuller volunteered to complete. Cllr Fiona Murdoch mentioned that the Older Persons Focus Group which had discussed public transport issues would be unable to attend evening meetings and there was a danger of their views not being heard as a result.

Sandy Henderson had also had received a copy of the Moray Onshore Wind Energy Planning Policy Guidance, which Cllr Mike McConnachie advised was to be discussed by The Moray Council on Tuesday 4th September, 2.30pm-8.30pm. Forum members present agreed that there was insufficient notice to thoroughly read the lengthy documentation (100 pages) and therefore to properly respond by the deadline. The documents should also be more widely distributed within the community rather than one being sent to the Chairman.

9. AOCB: Concerns were expressed about the lack of information and notice received from Alan Beresford, Chair of Moray Forum and the Transport Working Group re the forthcoming Moray Passenger Forum (Saturday, 25 August 2012 Upper Hall, Buckie Town House, Buckie). These were discussed and urgent public transport issues raised. Andrea Fuller had spoken to Fiona Rolt, Admin Support Worker (Tel: 01343 843025, Mob: 07717 585996 Email: fionarolt@btinternet.com) about attendance arrangements and Cllr Fiona Murdoch was concerned about their lack of co-ordination which was felt to be discouraging. Sandy Henderson was dismayed about the lack of consideration shown. However, during the meeting arrangements for lifts to the meeting were made.

Members of Speyside Area Forum appreciated the use of Glenrinnnes Community Centre for their meeting.

Date and venue of next meeting: Annual General Meeting – 7.30pm, Tuesday 23rd October, Dufftown-Mortlach Memorial Hall.

Eileen Fitzpatrick, Secretary, fitzpatrick.eileen1@gmail.com