



Speyside Area Forum

Minutes

Tuesday 29 March 2011

Edinvillie Village Hall

1 Welcome and apologies

Attending:

Sandy Henderson, chair
Hugh Fraser
Anne Oliver
Steve Oliver
Mhairi McBain, treasurer
Martin Sheed
Jean Oliver
Andrea Fuller
Pat Shanks
Rita Marks
Patricia Grant
Association
Jean Grimshaw
Margaret Stuart

Aberlour Community Association
Aberlour Community Association
Archiestown Village Council
Archiestown Village Council
Cabrach Community Association
Cabrach Community Association
Speyside Paths Network
Edinvillie Community Hall council
Edinvillie community Hall council
Glenrinnes Community Centre
Kirkmichael & Tomintoul Community
Rothes Council
Rothes Council

In Attendance:

Rhona Patterson
PC Doug Darling
Cllr Fiona Murdoch
Cllr Pearl Paul
Cllr Michael McConnachie

Community Support Worker
Grampian Police
The Moray Council
The Moray Council
The Moray Council

Apologies:

Alister Laing
Bill Burgess
John Fleming
Jenny Herschell
Fiona Herd

Archiestown Village Council
Carron Community Association
Dufftown & District Community Association
Kirkmichael & Tomintoul Community Association
Youth Worker

2 Approval of Minutes

Seconded - Pat Shanks

1 February: approved -Patricia Grant;

3 Matters arising:

- **Appointment of secretary** – Anne Oliver, Archiestown, unanimously elected – proposed - Andrea Fuller, Edinvillie; seconded, Mhairi McBain
- **NHS Grampian meeting Tomintoul** - It was noted that there had been no response from Richard Lochhead who was to contact the Health Secretary re single manning issue as indicated at the meeting. As The Scottish Parliament is now dissolved it was agreed that Angus Robertson MP should be asked what action had been taken as this was a national issue.
- **Moray Local plan** - members reminded that though the initial consultation date is past there will be opportunities to be involved in the summer.

- **Street Markets** – Rhona Patterson encouraged each community to identify sites – around 120sq metres – and then contact her so that planning permission can be put in place.

4 Police Matters:

- Patricia Grant reported vandalism at the two empty hotels in Tomintoul. PC Darling reported that the security of the hotels was each owner's responsibility. The police would act if there was a danger to the public. If there was a smell of gas the Fire Brigade should be contacted in the first instance.

The youth harassment in Dufftown has been dealt with. The Police visited the schools and will visit homes if names are put forward.

PC Darling left the meeting at this point.

5 Consultations:

- **Policy on Roadside signs** – The Forum expressed concern with any proposal to obtain planning permission in advance to erect signs and the attendant cost implications. It was agreed that the community groups should be involved in this consultation. The meeting was of the opinion that the guidelines were acceptable and there would be no problems if people stick within the rules. April 7 deadline for response.
- **Fire and Rescue Service** - this consultation is about to be distributed. Deadline for responses 5 May.

6 Updates from Community groups:

- **Aberlour** – Hugh Fraser noted that after four years of struggle, a bus shelter is to be installed outside the hospital, thanks to Rhona's support. The £5000 cost is funded from the League of Friends and other donations.
- **Tomintoul**- Patricia Grant reported that Tomintoul Museum will be open for the season thanks to funds from VisitScotland.
- **Cabrach** – Martin announced that Cabrach Community Association is to become a Development Trust. This will allow access to funding and is seen as a major step forward.
- **Glenlivet** – Rita has received information from The Moray Council that the 20% cost towards summer planting, based on last year's order, amounted to £600 in their case. It was agreed that individual communities should write to enquire about the cost of their plants; £600 appeared exorbitant the committee agreed. Rhona will pursue this also.

7 HMEi feedback – Cllr Paul was delighted that Speyside High School had received an excellent report; she was disappointed that there was no such written report on the communities. She will ask for a copy of the full HMEi report. It was noted that they were praised at the feedback session.

8 Treasurer's Report – Mhairi was pleased to note that the income had improved since last month when it stood at £3840.95p. At present it stands at £4214.74p. She encouraged members to see her at the end of the meeting if they had expenses.

9 Community Issues:

- **Water problems at Tomnabent** - Rhona indicated that though the pressure had improved, residents wanted to go on to the main water supply. No funding was available. Andrea, Edinvillie, explained that the water supply at Tomnabent was historically variable; it was a private water supply. She explained that Glenallachie Cottages used to be supplied by the distillery who paid the costs of

converting to the mains up to the property boundaries. Moray Council provided a grant for that. This grant is no longer available.

- **Speyside Car share scheme** – This scheme which operates with a paid coordinator and volunteer drivers has had its funding reduced. They are looking to the local community groups for some financial support. It was agreed that individual groups ask for a breakdown of the Scheme's funding; Rhona will pursue. **Archiestown** have invited the secretary of the scheme to attend the next AVC meeting to provide further information.

10 Correspondence –

- **Moray Economic Strategy Seminar** -to be held at Craigellachie on Tuesday 5 April in the afternoon. Cllr Murdoch felt that the meeting should take place in the evening to allow more people to attend. Cllr Paul asserted that the meeting was particularly important for Speyside and expressed dissatisfaction with the timing.
- **Community Support workers** - Letter from Cllr Anne Mackay – concerns were noted.
- **Moray Council Rep on Cairngorms National Park Authority** – Draft letter to Alistair Keddie was distributed and approved.

11 AOCB:

- Cuts to CSU and implications for Forum – Rhona explained that though the cuts had been swinging her post as the Speyside Area Support Worker appeared safe though the proposal was still to be officially approved and her hours had been cut by four hours to 14.5 a week. Members expressed their delight as it was felt by the whole committee that Rhona's post was essential for the Forum to function to its full capacity. She would be unable to attend so many community committee meetings in the future.
- Aberlour Market. 13th April in the Square
- Rededication of War Memorial Aberlour Church of Scotland. Sunday 5 June at 3pm

Meeting Closed at 9.30pm

Next meeting: **Archiestown Village Hall Tuesday 26th April 2011at 7.30pm**