



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

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## Minutes of the Meeting held at Richmond Memorial Hall, Tomintoul 7.30pm Tuesday, 30th July 2013

**Attending:** Bill Burgess, Chairman and Carron Community Council; Hugh Fraser, Treasurer and Aberlour Community Association; Gillian Bailey, Community Support Unit, (CSU) The Moray Council; Cllr Fiona Murdoch; Andrea Fuller and Patricia Shanks, Edinville Community Hall Council; Jenny Herschell, Kirkmichael and Tomintoul Community Association; Rita Marks, Glenlivet and Inveravon Community Association; Jean Oliver, Speyside Paths Network Group; Martin Sheed and Debbie Smith, Cabrach Community Enterprise Ltd; Derek Clark, Glenrinn Community Centre.

**Apologies:** Steve Oliver, Archiestown Village Council; Patricia Grant, Kirkmichael and Tomintoul Community Association; Ian Todd, Community Support Unit; Cllr Pearl Paul, Jean Grimshaw, Vice Chairman and Rothes Council; John Fleming, Dufftown and District Community Association; Sandy Henderson, Friends of the Fleming Hospital, Aberlour.

**1. Welcome:** Bill Burgess, Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (Mortlach Memorial Hall, Dufftown, June 2013):** Proposed: Hugh Fraser  
Seconded: Rita Marks Approved.

### 3. Matters Arising:

- **Correction Item 5** - Imperial Distillery not Glencarron. Hugh Fraser said the public had chosen this name.
- **Constitution Review Sub Committee:** (Bill Burgess, Jean Grimshaw and Andrea Fuller, with support from Gillian Bailey, and Ian Todd, CSU). Following a discussion on present progress, Andrea Fuller agreed send to Bill Burgess a copy of proposed amendments. Bill Burgess will update Jean Grimshaw (who was unable to attend) as soon as possible and get back to the sub committee.
- **Speyside in Bloom Sub Committee:** (Andrea Fuller, Jean Grimshaw and Rita Marks). Andrea Fuller reported that judging is due to take place on Friday 23rd August by Jake Millar. Several villages are expected to participate and a number of local Primary Schools. Individual gardens are not included as they are too time consuming to judge in the time available.
- **Climbing Wall Proposal - Gareth Wignall, Speyside High School:** Whilst Hugh Fraser (Pauls Hill Windfarm, Aberlour) and Bill Burgess (Carron) had managed to secure some funding there is still a £5,000 shortfall overall. Gillian Bailey was supporting Gareth Wignall in writing to potential funders on a list supplied by Hugh Fraser including LEADER who are meeting shortly, and the Tomintoul Development Trust. Rita Marks said she would ask her local community at a forthcoming meeting. Cllr Fiona Murdoch was also supportive. It is hoped that there is now enough funding to get over 'the first hurdle'.
- **Mary Bourne - Speyside High School Creative Project Proposal:** Forum members had already received information from Mary Bourne by email from the Secretary. It is understood that commencement of the first phase of the project is dependent upon the level of funding received.  
<http://www.marybourne.co.uk/recentwork.html>. Members will be updated as the project proceeds.
- **Public Entertainment Licence:** Cllr McConnachie had not yet given an update following the meeting of the Licensing Committee, and the Secretary will send him another reminder to supply this as soon as possible. Bill Burgess will pursue this matter with the Moray Council at a meeting due to take place on 15th August.
- **Grant Hall, Rothes - Building Works:** Gillian Bailey has offered CSU support to Jean Grimshaw. Bill Burgess said the hall reopening was delayed due to legal matters, but progress had been made and the hall should reopen by October.

**4. Police Matters:** As a Local Policing report had not been received and no Police were present at the meeting, the Secretary will email Sergeant Allan to send this by email to be forwarded to members. (Advance notice of Forum meetings is emailed by the Secretary to Sergeant Allan.)

**5. Community Issues and Update from Community Groups (please also see the Diary on the website)**

- **Glenlivet:** Rita Marks advised members that this year Tea in the Park is due to begin on 1st August. There is to be a pilot scheme for BT Broadband upgrading in the area (as in the Cabrach and in Tomintoul).
- **Glenrines:** Derek Clark, who is retiring from the committee, said that the Big Breakfast is due to be held in the hall on the 3rd Sunday in August and September, from 10am to around 12noon. All welcome.
- **Aberlour:** Hugh Fraser said that Moray Glass will install secondary glazing.
- **Cabrach:** Debbie Smith said at their AGM on 2nd August there might be some changes to the committee and for a number of reasons they might decide to go back to being a community association rather than a community enterprise. Martin Sheed said the annual church service is due to take place on Sunday 18th August, 3pm, and the Reverend Smith will be taking his last service on that day.
- **Tomintoul:** Jenny Herschell reported on hotel refurbishments in the area and said that the hostel is now open with a permanent warden, and is doing well.
- **Knockando:** Gillian Bailey reported that their Community Enterprise application to OSCR (with kind support by the Cabrach Community Enterprise) was awaiting confirmation.

**6. Treasurer's Report: Approval of Accounts:** Hugh Fraser handed out copies of the latest accounts (present balance £3,564.36). A discussion followed. Proposed: Andrea Fuller Seconded: Bill Burgess Approved.

**7. Any Other Business:**

- **Closure of Speyside Way Visitor Centre:** Bill Burgess lead a discussion on a letter dated 8th July from Richard Hartland, Corporate Director, Environmental Services, The Moray Council. Members were deeply concerned that there had been no consultation on this. It was decided to form a sub-committee (initially Bill Burgess, Hugh Fraser, Jean Oliver, Cllr Fiona Murdoch, Andrea Fuller supported by Gillian Bailey, CSU and John Mill, Chairman of Aberlour Community Association) to take advantage of the opportunity to set up a centre in the building, staffed by volunteers, to promote and publicise long distance and other walks. Staff in the Tearoom next door would be invited to be involved as would local schools. Gillian Bailey will draft an email which, when approved by the Chairman, would be sent out to Forum members by the Secretary.
- **Boat O' Brig at Orton - closure for 6 months - Major Refurbishment Works:** Information received from Shona MacLeay, Engineer had been previously emailed to members, who agreed to advise their local communities. The closure is due to take place from 2nd September 2013 to 1st April 2014 with full diversion routes set up on the A94 and A96.
- **Sandy Henderson retiring from the Moray Transport Forum - new representative request:** Following a discussion it was agreed that the Secretary email Forum members offering them the opportunity to serve on this. The next meeting is due to take place on Saturday 28th September, from 10am until 5pm in Llanbryde. Sandy Henderson will continue to do the catering. If enough people wish to attend then it is the intention that transport will be organised.

Members of Speyside Area Forum appreciated the use of Richmond Memorial Hall, Tomintoul, for their meeting.

**Date and venue of next meeting:** 7.30pm, Tuesday, 10th September - provisionally Glenrines Community Centre (to be confirmed)

*Eileen Fitzpatrick, Secretary, fitzpatrick.eileen1@googlemail.com*