

# DRAFT

## The Moray Forum Minutes of Meeting held on 5 October 2009 New Elgin Primary School Annexe

### Present:

Rebecca Kail	Elgin South Area Forum
Aileen Marshall	Elgin South Area Forum
Carin Schwartz	Forres Area Forum
John Bremner	Forres Area Forum
Anita Milne	Milne's Area Forum
Keiron Green	Elgin North Area Forum

### Also present:

Alastair Kennedy	Joint Community Councils
John Ferguson	The Moray Council
Ian Todd	The Moray Council
Jacqueline Larkin	Grampian Police

### Apologies:

Alan Beresford	Buckie Area Forum
Barry Taylor	Buckie Area Forum

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

Anita welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that Alastair Kennedy be added to the mailing list for the Moray Forum.

### 2. Minutes of the last meeting

Carin Schwartz proposed the minute of the last meeting as a true record and this was seconded by John Bremner.

### 3. Matters arising

**Young Carers:** A paper went to Health & Social Care Services Committee on 23 September 2009 reporting on the progress of the project since the tender was implemented. Anita's understanding is that they are targeting young carers in most need rather than all young carers. If the issue is about mainstreaming provision for young carers many people felt that young carers would lose out and that young carers are not happy with the levels of activity Anita has raised this with Councillor Ross and has had no response on the outcome of this meeting. Anita stated that she would circulate the outcomes of the committee to members once she receives it. This report will be circulated. Ian explained that Ann Griffin had queried why it was being raised at the Moray Forum as she understood that the Health & Social Care Partnership was addressing the issue. It was agreed to invite Ann Griffin to the next meeting.

**Signs:** This item has been resolved. Cllrs Ross and Cllr Gordon McDonald stated that their proposal only affects the erection of signs on Council roads. Anita would write to BEAR to see if they could extend this arrangement.

**LEADER:** Each forum must nominate 2 people to look at funding applications Forums should let David Watson of Leader know

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**Criminal Justice Bill:** Alan Beresford has written to Richard Lochhead and copied this to other MSP's on the regional list. There was a discussion on the impact of the Licensing Bill. John was asked to check the Council's position.

### 5. **Police Diversity Officer (PC Jacqueline Larkin)**

Jacqueline was welcomed to the Forum and explained her role in Moray as the link person between minority communities i.e. race religion & faith, age, disabled, and LGBT (Lesbian Gay, Bisexual and Tran's gender). If any of these groups are subject to hate crimes her role is to liaise and prevent this or to respond. Her role is to encourage support and advise these communities and to signpost to other agencies. There are a number of issues that she has to deal with many around racial abuse particularly of the English community, Polish and Asian communities. There is a lot of advice given to the gypsy traveller community, but getting groups to report these issues is not easy and requires support and encouragement. She works with schools and community beat officers. Ian Todd felt that the CSU staff should be aware of her role and could ensure wider community awareness of her role and he would arrange to meet with her. Jacqueline said she can be contacted at 01224 307119 mention her Shoulder no which is (0373) or by e-mail at: [jacqueline.larkin@grampian.pnn.police.uk](mailto:jacqueline.larkin@grampian.pnn.police.uk)  
Contact details of the forums will be sent to Jacqueline.

### 6. **Community Support Unit and consultation update.**

John reported that he would be reissuing the financial consultation in the light of the misunderstanding highlighted by Elgin North and others, but as the Community Councils were being re-established the original figure would need to be readjusted

Ian Todd outlined proposals for the mapping which will be carried out in 3 phases, staff are currently working 3 or 4 nights a week. There was a general discussion on staffing levels as a result of a recruitment freeze which has meant that the unit has lost a full time equivalent post i.e. two part time vacancies and this will impact on the staff deployment. The current situation is that we have 4 Community Support Officers in post, one Community Support Worker (engagement), two p/t vacancies and one staff member on sick leave. The solution proposed was not ideal but given the current financial position of the Council unavoidable. There was also a discussion on auditing Forum accounts and it was agreed that Forums could examine each others accounts.

### 7. **Better Community Engagement update**

Ian reported that Councillor McGillivray was now a member of the BCE Steering Group. There had been 4 meetings held so far. The project was community led but meetings have also been held with staff. David Allen from the Scottish Community Development Centre is the consultant appointed by the Scottish Government. A steering group has been established to give an overview of the Better Community Engagement process, this was as a result of the previous meetings which will ensure that a community based approach is adopted. The project will develop community engagement training using a variety of methods and toolkits.

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### **8. Community issues.**

- Alastair Kennedy informed the meeting that the inaugural meetings of community councils were starting tonight.
- Rebecca Kail asked about accreditation for voluntary work. Ian Todd mentioned that he was in contact with the Social Enterprise Academy in Inverness who are doing an SVQ IN Leadership. Costs are £600 per person. He was also exploring alternative accreditation. It was thought that an application to FSF might be considered. Ian to feedback to the next Moray Forum on any developments.
- Carin reported that Transition Town Forres were holding a farmers market on Oct 10th from 10 am till 3pm.

### **9. Time and date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 16 October 2009 in New Elgin Primary School Annexe.