



Speyside Area Forum
www.undiscoveredspeyside.org

Tuesday, 6 September, 2016
Braes Hall
7-30 pm

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Apologies
Sandy Henderson, Hugh Fraser, Margaret Grant, Andrea Fuller, Jean Grimshaw, Patricia Grant, Buntly Campbell, Pearl Paul, Jenny Herschell
Apologies – Bill Burgess, Michelle Ness
2. Minute of previous Meeting for approval – 28 June, 2016
Correction – Margo to Margaret
Proposed – Andrea Fuller, Seconded – Jean Grimshaw
3. Matters Arising
Speyside Way – forms for visitors centre – Keith Graham chasing up again today. Handed to Pearl last week.
Allahoy junction – signs going up in September.
Brochure – following article by Sarah Medcraf from Chamber re Speyside, Hugh wrote a letter to paper and has since had more progress. Kevin Stuart spoke to him at recent meeting at Aberlour and thereafter he received a call from Laurie Piper, and a meeting was arranged for the following week which had gone well – Pearl, Sandy and Hugh were all present and the notes have been circulated around the forum. At the meeting it was suggested a sign could be erected so visitors are aware they have entered ‘Speyside’.
Hugh keen for us all to work together rather than do own thing which all agreed was sensible. All agreed that a brochure highlighting all walks and cycle runs in the area was a good idea.

It was raised that Mike Lord to be removed from distribution list.
4. Police Matters

No report
5. Community Issues and Update from Community Groups
(please also see Diary www.undiscoveredspeyside.org)

Moray Forum – transport.

A transport seminar to be held in Lhanbryde on Saturday – 80 delegates booked in. Moray Forum organising. Dial a bus needs booked in advance. Car share scheme is short of drivers (some Tomintoul people have dropped off). Also Patricia mentioned there are now 2 buses per day with one going to Grantown.

6. Treasurer's Report

Balance at 6 September 2016 : £4,032.92 – some cheques for transport issued tonight.

Proposed – Andrea Fuller

Seconded – Pearl Paul

Role of area forum – questioned what role of area forum was and Moray forum needs to put a response back to Community engagement group. May impact upon grants. Four forums left – Speyside, Buckie, Fochabers and Milne. Hugh and Sandy have to go to a meeting with feedback.

7. Community Asset Transfers –

Aberlour has transferred the Old Station Building (22 July)

Tomintoul is getting the museum, Visitors centre and hostel. - Presently awaiting outcome of HLF lottery bid but if successful they will receive ~500k upgrade the centre

8. Any Other Business

Council are looking at locations for building new houses. Pearl suggested should add pressure for all communities to get share of houses. Aberlour has zoning for 150 employees.

Budget shortfall consultation – highlights priorities. Of all the services the council provide, very few are statutory obligation hence with the future cutbacks many services could well disappear. The council are asking everybody's views of what should be cut. Suggestions include to cut schools, patrol crossing people, Winter maintenance, Refuse services, Support to public halls – all cuts other than their staff. It was commented that they have set up a new department in chief execs office to monitor the monitors!

Andrea mentioned she had been invited to a meeting of focus groups on 28 September – which Anita Milne (Chair MFCHA) will also attend. Consensus was it's very difficult as will end up playing one off against the other. Potentially cutting the winter budget will have a much bigger effect in the rural upland areas than likes of Elgin. Feeling was it seems unlikely they will pay any attention to us.

Pearl mentioned that statutory versus discretionary accounts are available on Councils website - some reminisced a meeting at Aberlour school where we were told "it's your choice to live here ..."

Tomintoul – dark skies, trying to point street lights down

- Date and Venue of Next meeting – 22 November 2016, AGM, Edinville 7.30pm