



Minutes of the Meeting of the Milne's Neighbourhood Forum Urquhart Parish Hall, 30 April 2009, 7pm

Present: Paul Ralph, Anita Milne, Gill Stewart, Jennifer Shaw, Tony Bowmer, Debi Ingram

In Attendance: Cllr George McIntyre, Fiona Rolt (the Moray Council, Community Learning and Development Worker), Michelle Gillibrand (the Moray Council, Area Forum Support Worker)

Apologies: Lisa Murray, Cllr Douglas Ross, Cllr Anita McDonald

Chairperson: Paul Ralph

1.0 Welcome

Paul welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting 30th April, 2009

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting on 30th April, 2009, after the following amendments:

- Alison Hannan (the Moray Council) to be recorded she was in attendance.
- The Forum should be known as the 'Milne's Neighbourhood Forum'
- The hall should be known as the 'Lhanbryde Community Centre'
- When referring to individuals in the minutes use full names to avoid confusion e.g. Anita Milne and Anita McDonald.
- Mrs Ingram spells her first name as Debi.

3.0 Matters Arising

- Hi-Vis Arm Bands – Cllr Anita McDonald has secured 4 sponsors (Tesco, Asda, MFR and Stagecoach) to provide Hi-Vis arm bands for all Pre-School and Primary 1-3 School children.
- Dialogue Youth – As Ness Smith was not at the meeting it was agreed to forward this update onto the next meeting.
- Young Carers – Tony Bowmer who sits on the Management Committee of the Moray Carers Project was able to give an update on the current provision of service to young people. He advised the meeting that 2 Educational Workers have been employed to work in schools. There is also extra support and assistance from Gordounston School. In total there are 4 members of staff and the project has funding for 3 years for the Educational Support project and are currently seeking for further funding. This work highlighted by the Moray Carers project is outwith the remit of the Moray Council's contract which the Quarriers will now be providing. The Moray Carers project will be working closely with Quarriers.

Anita Milne reported that this matter was discussed at the Moray Forum and it was agreed that Ian Todd, Community Learning and Development Team Leader and John Ferguson, Community Planning and Development Manager would find out more information on the Carers contract especially in respect to any reduction in service.

Action: Ian Todd, John Ferguson

- LEADER – Michelle Gillibrand informed the meeting that she had been in touch with David Watson, LEADER Programme Manager to discuss the issues regarding commenting on community groups applying for LEADER funding. She will be arranging a meeting with him soon. It was suggested that David could be invited to a future meeting.

Action: Michelle

4.0 Youth Involvement Group

Michelle Gillibrand reported that a very informative and constructive meeting was held on 22nd April to discuss how to encourage people, especially young people to be involved in a variety of ways in their community by helping and planning events/activities for themselves and others. Also discussed was how to encourage and support more adults to work along with children to increase youth provision in the Milne's area. She handed out the draft note of this meeting for people's information.

Tony Bowmer asked if there was a need for a Youth Forum or Youth Action Groups when there were Pupil School Councils and the Youth School Council. Debi Ingram explained that these were important however her work as a Youth Worker highlights the need for more local groups especially for those youths that may not normally integrate well with the more formal structure of Pupil and Youth Councils. However in time these young people, with support, should be more confident and skilled to be part of a larger youth set-up.

It was agreed that that Dialogue Youth, the Youth and Pupil Councils should be approached to link into the work of the Youth Involvement Group. Other issues that were raised included properly trained volunteers without being too onerous and putting off the volunteers, disclosures and possible funding strands.

Action: Michelle

5.0 Allotments

Fiona Rolt reported that the open meeting to look at the demand for allotments in the Fochabers area will be 12th May. A meeting in Lhanbryde is still to be organised. It was agreed that Fiona and Michelle Gillibrand would meet up to ensure the support/development model developed by the other allotments groups in Moray is followed.

Action: Fiona Rolt and Michelle Gillibrand

6.0 Community Planning

Cllr George McIntyre informed the meeting that the Community Planning Board will be meeting on the 7th May to discuss the final draft of Moray's Single Outcome Agreement (SOA). Also discussed was the establishment of the new Community Support Unit which will comprise Area Forum, Community Learning and Development (CLD) staff and others. There will be a consultation in due course on how the community would like to see this Unit operate and one on the funding Area Forums and Community Councils receive from the Moray Council. Anita Milne informed the meeting that MVSU had some concerns about the Unit and wanted to ensure there was not an overlap or conflict in service provision to local communities and groups. She also informed the meeting that it is planned that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Moray Forum and the Joint Community Council would meet to discuss these issues further.

Action: Anita Milne

7.0 Community Issues

Fairer Scotland – Anita Milne passed around a letter received from Jacqui Taylor, Fairer Scotland Fund Manager. She is keen to meet with the Forum to discuss the poverty issues in the Milne's area. It was agreed to invite Jacqui to the next meeting.

Action: Michelle

Ghurkhas – Gill Stewart enquired if the Forum could support the endeavours of the Ghurkhas to be welcomed to the British Isles for residency. It was agreed that Paul Ralph would write a letter, with Tony Bowmer providing local information, on the Forum's behalf to the Chief Executive of the Moray Council, Alastair Keddie encouraging the Moray Council to support the campaign.

Action: Paul Ralph, Tony Bowmer

Station Road, Lhanbryde – Gill Stewart raised her concerns of the amount of parking in this area which potentially could prevent turning. Michelle Gillibrand agreed to meet up with Gill and the relevant roads officials to look into this further.

Action: Michelle

Lhanbryde Challenge – Anita Milne reported that the Lhanbryde Challenge will be looking at transport issues in the area. One of the clubs using the village hall has lost access to a mini bus. Also the Scottish Ambulance Patient Passenger Service criteria had been tightened up which is currently causing problems in the area. Along with Fiona Rolt the Challenge will be exploring community transport schemes. It seemed prudent to open this up to the Milne's area which would also inform the work the Youth Involvement Group will be undertaking. This was agreed.

Action: Anita Milne and Fiona Rolt

8.0 Date of the Next Meeting – Thursday 11th June, 7.00pm, Garmouth Village Hall or the Heritage Centre, Fochabers. To be confirmed.

Action: Michelle

