

**PARTNERS' MEETING - MARR AREA PARTNERSHIP – MINUTES**  
**18<sup>th</sup> Aug, Alford Academy**

<u>Present</u>	Action & by whom
<p>Jean Henretty                      Acting Chair, Banchory and District Initiative  Cllr Rosemary Bruce              Aberdeenshire Council  Les Allan                              Aberdeenshire Council  George Wordie                      Strathbogie Community Council  Nick Mardall                        Deeside Donside Development Project  Nigel Healey                        Cromar Community Council  Donald Boyd                        Huntly Development Trust  Nicola Kenyon                      CLD, Aberdeenshire Council  Alan Young                         Aberdeenshire CVS – Central and South</p>	
<u>In Attendance</u>	
<p>Mike Powell                        Development Officer, Marr Area Partnership  Lizzy Shepherd                    Development Officer, Marr Area Partnership</p>	
<b>1. Apologies</b>	
<p>John Lewis                         Chair MAP, Donside Community Council  Patricia Fraser                      Crathie Community</p>	
<b>2. Minutes of Previous Meeting:</b> Approved with changes.	
<b>3. Matters Arising from Minutes:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mike reported that John Lewis had confirmed that bank charges would not be levied for one year</li> <li>• IGS Grant for Alford Farmers Market Mural – approved as no planning permission required</li> <li>• Increase in payroll costs arranged.</li> </ul>	
<b>4. Company – Director vacancy/elections, registered office, accounting period:</b>	
<p>Accounting period for companies House has been changed to 14 months for first year so that next year will start on 1<sup>st</sup> April.</p>	
<p>John Lewis is standing down as Chair of MAP due to illness and therefore address of registered office will need to change. Les offered to allow MAP to use the Area Office and this was agreed.</p>	<p>Mike to put printed notice up in Area Office</p>
<p>MAP can have up to 12 directors and currently there are six. More need to be elected. Donald agreed in principle to put himself forward at AGM.</p>	<p>Donald to clarify before AGM</p>
<p>Following discussion it was agreed to hold final AGM of MAP as an association and first of MAP as a company limited by guarantee at the same event.</p>	

<p><b>5. Draft Annual Accounts 2010-2011:</b> Agreed without comment and accounts to be presented for approval at AGM.</p> <p><b>6. Initiative Grant Scheme (IGS):</b> Mike presented a summary of grants awarded and funds uncommitted but noted that Ballater Caravan Park grant award needs to be added to figures. New Grant Applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Aboyne enhancement:</b> Agreed but asked for MAP logo to go on advertising materials</li> <li>• <b>Ballater welcome sign:</b> Nick declared an interest and did not participate in discussion or vote. Rosemary was not aware of project. Agreed subject to clarification on rest of funding.</li> <li>• <b>Glen Tanar Paths Guide:</b> Agreed but project should inform local Councillors.</li> </ul> <p><b>7. MAP Finance update:</b> Mike presented updated Planned Budget for Income and Expenditure 2011 – 2012 as at June 2011 incorporating increase in staff salaries of 3% with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011. Potential deficit of £2979 will be balanced by income from CNPA</p> <p><b>8. Arrangements for AGM and Community gathering 24<sup>th</sup> September:</b> Mike explained theme for the day – communities taking on assets and services. Speakers include Dennis Robertson MSP and Rory Dutton DTAS. Les agreed to answer questions on Aberdeenshire Council policy and copies of Asset Transfer Policy document to be available on the day. Rosemary agreed to present certificates if Moira unable to attend. Suggestions for displays: Dawn Tuckwood, Police community initiatives, all Community Planning Partners, Eric Wells, Dementia web site.</p> <p><b>9. Partners' Updates on Community Issues:</b></p> <p><b>Alan Young, Aberdeenshire CVS – Central and South</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alison Melville working on project on constitutions of village halls</li> <li>• Working with various communities taking on Council assets eg caravan site and Lumphanan village hall</li> <li>• Working with NHS and Social Services Dept. on Change Fund</li> </ul> <p><b>Nick Mardall, Deeside Donside Development Project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hydro scheme in Braemar awaiting decision from Scottish Government on CARES loan scheme</li> <li>• Braemar Castle seeking funds from Historic Scotland and other sources</li> <li>• Ballater Adult Learning Partnership – LEADER funding obtained</li> <li>• National Forest Land Scheme – process to purchase land in Ballater for Dalmochie project being initiated</li> <li>• Community Action Planning process to be proposed for Braemar</li> </ul> <p><b>Les Allan, Marr Area Manager</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unused funds from 2010-2011 Marr Area Top Up Budget have been transferred to this year following decision by Council Policy and Resources Committee.</li> </ul> <p><b>Donald Boyd, Huntly Development Trust</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Problems experienced with flooding in Huntly, one evacuation needed. £2.9 m will be spent by Council on flood alleviation, works starting in April 2012</li> </ul>	<p>Mike to follow up on older unclaimed grant awards</p> <p>Mike to action.</p> <p>Mike to clarify.</p>
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- Summer ceilidh very successful
- Single turbine which is part of larger wind farm awaiting decision from Scottish Government on CARES loan scheme. Another community turbine project also progressing.
- Micro-hydro project on River Bogie seeking planning permission
- Progress being made on asset transfer negotiation in relation to Nordic Ski Centre
- Huntly retail study results to be launched 13<sup>th</sup> September.

**George Wordie, Strathbogie Community Council**

- Strathbogie Community Council held meeting about community wind turbine, as part of commercial wind development.

**Nigel Healey, Cromar Community Council**

- Renovation work on Macrobert Hall Tarland will start on 10<sup>th</sup> October
- Contract for second stage of cycle track from Tarland to Aboyne has been awarded and construction will start soon
- Tarland composting scheme has received additional funding from Council for one year
- Planning Jubilee celebration next year.

**Cllr Rosemary Bruce, Aberdeenshire Council:** Nothing to report

**Nicola Kenyon, CLD, Aberdeenshire Council**

- LEADER funding received for work with young people in Upper Deeside/Donside – rural isolation, health issues and antisocial behaviour
- Family learning week – events being held end of September
- Marr Youth Action Plan – results being collated

**Jean Henretty, Banchory Community Council**

- BERI Climate Challenge Funds used to install bike racks in Banchory
- New seats put in Banchory town centre
- Community forum in June looked at High Street sustainability and resulted in reformation of business association. Plans for new brochure, marketing campaign and possible park and ride in Tesco car park.
- Business association seeking meeting with Councillors about traffic management review

Jean to put Les in contact with business association

**9. Development Officers Report:** Noted. Suggestion for youth rep on MAP board.

**10. AOCB:** Donald asked if anyone has experience of community share offers/community investment – a general discussion about this followed.

**Date of future meetings:** Next meeting is Weds 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 7pm, Alford Academy.