



HIE Moray

MINUTES OF MEETING OF DIRECTORS

THURSDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2005

**At
CULLEN BAY HOTEL**

AGENDA

PRESENT	Derek Bedford Eddie Coutts Cliff Deans Peter Laing Chris Piper James Campbell	Chairman
APOLOGIES	Geoff Crowley	
IN ATTENDANCE	Douglas J Yule James Gibbs Adrian Kitson David Reid Roger Edwards Nikki Gilbertson	Chief Executive Head of Operations Head of Executive Office Snr Development Manager Snr Development Manager Executive Assistant

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed the Board to the first meeting to be held at the Cullen Bay Hotel.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were **APPROVED**.

3. MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman congratulated Moray Council on the organisation of the recent open day migrant workers and noted the remarkable turnout of around 135 attendees, mainly Polish.

EC advised that they utilised the Polish start up pack and are hoping to arrange the same for Portuguese workers.

Tomintoul CHP – JG informed the Board that the Community Association is still trying to resolve contractual issues with the contractor and HIEM will offer support and advice. The Association are to hold a meeting early November meantime HIE Moray will maintain dialogue. **ACTION SH**

4. OPERATIONAL ISSUES

4.1 Chamber of Commerce Dinner

HIEM sponsored the annual dinner which honoured the Walker Family's contribution to the economy of Moray.

4.2 Grampian Country Pork (GCP)

DJY informed the Board that an agreement has been reached that GCP would match fund cash from HIEM thus creating a £40k fund toward re-training and re-skilling of affected staff. Each person would receive up to £500 towards training with HIE Moray paying providers direct. To date, around 25 persons have taken advantage and the net number of persons looking for employment is expected to be around 180.

4.3 HIE Network organisational review

DJY informed the Board that an announcement had been made to review the whole of the network over the next 6 to 9 months integrating a gradual change of names in line with the process that HIE Moray has just gone through.

DJY also advised the Board of new restructuring within the organisation. Each LEC CEO will now be reporting to an Operations Director, to be recruited shortly.

4.4 Meeting with Transport Minister

The meeting was arranged by the Inverness Nairn Badenoch & Strathspey Local Economic Forum and the Moray area was represented by Douglas Yule and Jim Johnston (Chairman of the Moray Local Economic Forum). At the meeting the minister confirmed his support for the dualling of the A96 between the airport and Inverness. The Moray LEF members took the opportunity to remind the Minister of the need to improve the A96 particularly from Elgin to Inverurie.

4.5 New Factory – The Enterprise Park, Forres

HIE made an announcement of the new factory to be built in Forres Enterprise Park. Planning has been agreed and building works scheduled to start during November 2005.

4.6 Highland 2007

DJY advised the Board that HIEM were given an additional funding package of £120k towards arts/culture in Moray 2006/2007 with a condition that the HIEM input has to be matched by the Moray Council. Assuing that is forthcoming, then it would be HIEM intention to add a further £120k tom create a £360 fund for the years 2006 and 2007. Confirmation is awaited from Moray Council.

4.7 Migrant Worker Research Report

RE advised the Board there has been a dramatic increase of workers into the area. A copy of the Scottish Executive report will be sent to Board members outlining background information.. The Council, led by Community Scotland, are to provide examples of best practice and greater practical understanding which is to be made available soon.

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4.8 New Directors for HIE Moray

The Chairman advised that this will be a private session held at the end of the meeting.

5. STRATEGIC ISSUES

5.1 Presentation on Highland Employer Coalition(Moray) by Lorna Ross, Jobcentre Plus

An overview of the area and the strategy towards helping those on benefit back into work was presented and discussed. Four initiatives were discussed which highlighted opportunities for the Coalition in Moray if employers are willing to support the initiative. DJY reported that HIEM could support people with childcare initiatives to make it easier for those people to get back to work and confirmed HIEM would continue to encourage employers to get involved with these initiatives.

The Chairman thanked Lorna Ross for the presentation and information

5.2 Presentation on Moray 2020 – Update and discussion by James Gibbs

JG updated the Board with the feedback and responses received to date following the distribution of the draft Moray 2020 strategy to partners. Overall the partners backed the proposals with some minor additions and amendments required.

DJY, JG and a representative from HIE are to meet with Scottish Executive before the publication of the Moray 2020 strategy at the end of November 2005. DJY asked for any further comments to be sent to AK of JG direct.

An overview of some projects was presented and discussed highlighting the potential benefits that the Moray 2020 strategy could bring to Moray.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman referred the Board to copies of the HIE report and discussed figures within. HIEM were also congratulated by the Chairman for their hard work.

DJY reminded the Board of the invitation that was sent out to members to the launch of the Moray Towns Promotion and Development Study to be held at the Moray Council Chamber on 3rd November 2005. Confirmations of attendance to be forwarded to AK.

The Chairman requested staff & guests leave the meeting enabling Directors to hold further discussion regarding new Directors for HIEM.

New Directors for HIE Moray - Election of Chairman

The Chairman outlined the results of the interview panel meeting to identify new Directors. Six new Directors had been identified and these names were ratified by the Board. Invitations will go out to join the Board with their attendance sought at the December Board

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

15th December 2005, Mansfield Hotel, Elgin

The meeting will start at 4.00pm followed by Dinner at 7.00pm