

## **Notice of Motion**

**Wednesday 2 October 2019**

### **Grass Cutting**

The decision to stop grass cutting on 23 January 2019 (Appendix B Line D6c4) in communities throughout Moray has been the subject of vigorous discussion with varying viewpoints. We wish to make clear that we recognise and thank the huge amount of work undertaken by individuals and groups across Moray, who this year have cut large areas of grass.

We acknowledge that the new post of Commercial/Marketing Officer is looking into possibilities of park sponsorship which will help reduce the cost to the council in the future and we welcome and wish to support all efforts to do this.

However we feel the impacts of these saving effect wide sections of our community including access to open areas for both the young and elderly in our communities. It is notable that tourism chiefs as well as local people and businesses have highlighted the negative impression that this decision has had and will continue to have on our area if the budget line remains and so we seek to reintroduce this budget line from the next financial year.

To reintroduce Grass cutting from next year will add a budget pressure to the council of £45,000 which we propose is taken into consideration as part of the budget setting process for 2020/21.

With this in mind today we direct -

- Council to express publically our thanks for all those in communities throughout Moray who have helped with grass cutting this summer.
- Council to encourage those who wish to continue to cut grass, especially smaller areas such as verges.
- Council to re-introduce the grass cutting detailed in the budget report to the Moray Council meeting on 23 January 2019 (Appendix B line D6c4) with effect from 1 April 2020.
- Council to use all available opportunities to promote sponsorship of grass areas to bring in additional income

Further we ask Council to note –

- That additional budget lines which will help to reduce the impact of reversing this decision will be worked on as part of the budget process for 2020/21.

Signed

Cllr Tim Eagle

Cllr Claire Feaver