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## COMMUNITY RADIO PROJECT SEEKS SUPPORT

**Date : 19.10.05**

Campaigners trying to resurrect a community radio station hope to expand.

Supporters of Stonehaven Community Radio want to involve several nearby communities, like Newtonhill, Arbuthnott and Inverbervie.

The station was a regular feature in the 1990s.

Campaigners are trying to raise £10,000 to set up Mearns FM and find premises in Stonehaven.

Organisers say developments in broadband technology means outlying communities could join.

Committee convener, Ian Hunter, said: "We understand that the Forest of Dean community radio station in Hampshire has set up as many as studios on that basis.

"We don't really want to centre it just on Stonehaven. The situation now is that you can basically broadcast from anywhere so long as there is someone there to switch between one programme and another."

Changes in legislation mean that instead of the month-long temporary licences that were used in the 1990s, it is now possible to purchase a year-round licence.

With regular funding, that could allow Mearns FM to become a permanent fixture.

Committee members hope many residents will get involved in the running of the station.

Anyone interested in helping to set up and run Mearns FM, or who can provide premises, can call Ian Hunter on (01569) 760301.

More information is available at [www.mearnsfm.co.uk](http://www.mearnsfm.co.uk)

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