

The City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council

Held in Moray Council Chambers on Tuesday 12 July 2016 at 7.00pm

1.	<u>Sederunt and Apologies.</u> (* Associate, ** Youth)	<u>ACTION</u>
a.	<p><u>MEMBERS</u></p> <p>Alastair KENNEDY (Chair), Gordon METHVEN (Sec'), Bryan WATSON (Vice Chair), Iain CATTO, Steven CHRISTIE, David CHAPMAN*, Andrew GRAY, Catriona GRAY Aileen MARSHALL, Steven MILNE, Pat PATERSON, Mary WALL, Eddie WALLACE, Jim WISEMAN (Minutes).</p> <p><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u></p> <p>Cllr John DIVERS, Cllr Patsy GOWANS, Cllr Graham LEADBITTER Cllr Kirsty REID, Donna JAMIESON (Community Warden) SGT Sean JONES (Police Scotland), Craig WOODALL (Stagecoach). Hazel Lawson (Northern Scot) David MacKAY (P&J) Ken KENNEDY (Moray Council)</p> <p><u>APPOLOGIES</u></p> <p>Gordie WELLS, Cllr James ALLAN, Cllr Mike SHAND,</p>	
b.	<p><u>WELCOME</u></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	
c.	<p><u>SPEAKER (Ken Kennedy)</u></p> <p>Ken Kennedy outlined the huge scope of work that his grounds maintenance department undertakes on a budget of just £1.2m offset by income from burials etc. He explained the pressures on his department and some of the strategies they use to make best use of the resources and approx. 70 employees. The growing of bedding plants is now undertaken by the Green Fingers social enterprise and Moray Council buys plants from them. The areas planted by his team are only at war memorials.</p> <p>Cemeteries were discussed. Elgin Cemetery has a life span of 9 years and it is not possible to buy a lair without having an interment. Aileen Marshall asked what obligations lair holders or the families of the occupants had for maintenance. Families have no obligations other than the safety of the headstone.</p> <p>There was a discussion on who is responsible for overhanging trees etc on the River Lossie and the potential impact on flooding. There was some doubt about this and it was agreed that Alastair Kennedy will ask for clarification from Steve Cooper on who is responsible for flood risk assessment and actioning the removal of trolleys, overhanging branches, etc from the River Lossie, Tyock Burn etc.</p> <p>The problem of giant hogweed was raised. It is the land owner's responsibility to treat giant hogweed but Moray Council tend to do it around core paths and public areas. There is also a strategy being developed by the Lossie, Nairn and Findhorn fisheries board to eradicate giant hogweed in their areas.</p> <p>Cllr Patsy Gowans helped highlight the extent of budget and staff reductions that had been accommodated by improvements in equipment, capability and efficiency within the department.</p>	
2.	<p><u>PREVIOUS MINUTES</u></p> <p>"Kathryn Allan" at the bottom of the first page should read "Kathryn Evans".</p> <p>The minutes were proposed by Eddie Wallace and seconded by Andrew Gray with no objections.</p>	
3.	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING.</u></p> <p>Heritage Centre would like minutes - Ongoing</p> <p>Illinois gift has been sent. A photo of the gifts was sent to Councillor Cree who provided some lapel badges for use in similar occasions.</p> <p>Eddie Wallace reported that he had received assurance that any disabled bays no longer required are removed as soon as possible.</p> <p>Leisure and Recreation committee reshuffle – ongoing.</p> <p>Special meeting required to discuss a couple of major issues.</p>	<p>GM</p> <p>AK</p> <p>AK</p>

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	<p>Meeting with Network Rail is rescheduled for 16 August 2016 due to strike action.</p> <p>St Giles Centre toilets charging scheme is in progress however, Alastair Kennedy made comment that standard of cleanliness was not great. There were no objections to that statement. He had written to the owners via the St Giles Centre management team and is awaiting a response.</p> <p>Community Engagement by Moray Community Planning Partnership requires special meeting.</p> <p>The fountain in Elgin town centre is working again.</p> <p>Maureen Manson has resigned from ECC due to other commitments although she will remain on the Grant Lodge committee. Alastair Kennedy thanked her in her absence for all the work she had done for ECC.</p>	All
4.	<u>AGENCY UPDATES</u>	
a.	<p><u>POLICE SCOTLAND</u></p> <p>See report.</p> <p>In relation to the drugs crime in Northport which also involved bypassing the electricity meter, Sgt Sean Jones highlighted the beneficial impact that dealing with the crime would have on the neighbourhood including safety of neighbours and integrity of their electricity supply.</p> <p>In response to a question it was confirmed that failing the road side eyesight test was an offence.</p>	
b.	<p><u>STAGECOACH</u></p> <p>Craig Woodall apologised for the recent absence of Stagecoach from ECC meetings.</p> <p>Services to Inverness have changed due to a downturn in passenger numbers although the half hourly service is maintained. The rail strike had an impact on increasing passenger numbers.</p> <p>The Buckie service was retained after a petition was received and Stagecoach are pleased to be able to retain this service.</p> <p>Delays on A96 are expected due to work in the vicinity of the bus depot.</p> <p>Real time information was discussed. The data is available from the buses but there are some issues around how it is published to passengers. Mobile apps seem to be the most reliable. It does not seem to be a financial priority for Moray Council to upgrade the real time signs at bus shelters and the bus station to make use of the real time information available now from Stagecoach.</p> <p>Cllr Patsy Gowans had received complaints that the 11 service had been reduced but was still advertised on the timetable.</p> <p>Iain Catto asked about heating control on buses which on occasions he found uncomfortable. Craig Woodall advised that changing the heating settings was an engineering task not a driver task hence the problem.</p> <p>David Chapman, Eddie Wallace and Gordon Methven raised a number of problems at the bus station as follows:</p> <p>Buses coming in to the wrong bay or with the wrong livery leading to people missing their bus. Craig Woodall undertook to remind his drivers of their duty to advise customers when they are in the wrong bay. He also said that whilst they try to ensure the correct livery, if a bus develops a fault they sometimes have to use whichever bus they can get rather than failing customers.</p> <p>The banksman is no longer present. Manoeuvring of buses is less safe without this presence.</p> <p>Buses sometimes stop too far from the kerb in the bus stance making it difficult for elderly people to get on the bus.</p> <p>Buses queue on to A96 on occasions causing delays.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy thanked Craig Woodall for attending and hoped the feedback was beneficial.</p>	<p>CW</p> <p>CW</p> <p>CW</p> <p>CW</p> <p>CW</p> <p>CW</p>
c.	<p><u>COMMUNITY WARDEN</u></p> <p>Donna Jamieson gave a report on the statistics for June.</p> <p>There was a discussion on seagulls. Feeding seagulls is illegal but feeding the ducks is not. However, Ken Kennedy pointed out that bread is not best for the ducks and grain should be fed. Also would help the pond if it was placed on the ground, not the pond. Food spread on the pond causes algae blooms on occasions in spite of efforts to reduce it. Some of the current measures were discussed.</p> <p>A change in the law allows dog fouling to be reported by only one witness provided sufficient details are provided. It is not always necessary to know the name of the person. Sometimes, the circumstances are sufficient.</p>	
d.	<u>CONSULTATIONS</u>	

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	<p>Accessible Housing Consultation - Done</p> <p>Community Planning Partnership engagement consultation – Special meeting required</p> <p>There is a stakeholder event relating to the preparation of a Moray Woodland Strategy. The event was on Tuesday 21 June at Horizon Scotland, The Enterprise Park, Forres from 6pm to 8pm. – not attended</p> <p>ELGIN TRANSPORT STRATEGY – STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION – Alastair Kennedy outlined the initial meeting and presentation on Friday 24 June 2016 from 2pm to 4pm at the Moray Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin. Groups of 6-8 people were asked to feedback on a number of high level questions with the discussion being focused on a SWOT analysis type of exercise – Awaiting further development.</p> <p>Carry on Caring – supporting a better life for unpaid carers – Alastair Kennedy to discuss with Cllr Patsy Gowans how to support this.</p> <p>SCDC – consultation on regulations and statutory guidance in relation to Part 3 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act – Participation Request. Under the Community Empowerment Bill any community group can put in a request that the local authority participates in their project. Gordon advised reading the document and survey. - Closed</p> <p>Strategic Police Priorities Consultation – Gordon Methven to respond.</p> <p>PRS for Music has launched a formal consultation on a newly proposed tariff to simplify the licensing of its members copyright music within premises owned and managed by or on behalf of local authorities and town and other councils (“local authorities”). – ask about the possibility of holding a training session locally.</p> <p>SFRS Strategic Plan Consultation/ Local Plan Engagement – Take to a special meeting</p> <p>Proposal for Elgin Mart Site. – Special meeting required.</p>	<p>AK</p> <p>AK/CllrPG</p> <p>GM</p> <p>AK</p> <p>AK</p>
5.	<u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u> (See reports previously circulated)	
a.	<p><u>PLANNING</u></p> <p>James Wiseman reported that he had responded to the Wetherspoons planning application and the 184-188 High St planning application.</p> <p>The weekly lists had been sent to Gordon in error. James Wiseman to address this matter.</p>	JW
b.	<u>FAIRTRADE and ENVIRONMENT</u>	
	Mary Wall showed a draft leaflet promoting businesses in Elgin which provide Fairtrade products. Elgin Community Council is referenced as a sponsor. It was proposed that a contribution be made to the cost of printing. Eddie Wallace to provide details and a proposal of how to support this.	EW
c.	<p><u>RECREATION and LEISURE</u></p> <p>No report</p>	
d.	<p><u>ROADS & TRANSPORTATION</u></p> <p>See Report</p> <p>Eddie Wallace highlighted the proposed work on the A96 for gas works and that BEAR Scotland would be following on with resurfacing work.</p> <p>The R&T committee asked people to report any bad pavements they find.</p> <p>In relation to the Elgin Transport Strategy consultation Eddie Wallace said it was agreed that the ambulance services would make their own response.</p> <p>David Chapman highlighted an issue that people with bus passes travelling to Inverness were preventing some people from getting to work. Whilst there is no rule preventing this, David suggested it was worth thinking about. Councillor John Divers added that some people may be travelling to attend hospital although that is more likely to be in the Aberdeen direction.</p> <p>The lift at the railway station is not yet operational.</p> <p>The Moray Transport Forum annual seminar is to take place in Lhanbryde Community Centre on 10th September 2016.</p>	All
e.	<p><u>LICENSING</u></p> <p>No Items</p>	
f.	<u>EDUCATION</u>	

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	<p>Aileen Marshall reported that New Elgin High School was progressing, there had been no complaints with the piling and most of the main hall steelwork is up.</p> <p>Iain Catto noted that our comments had been taken on board by the Council in relation to the recent secondary school rezoning consultation.</p>	
g.	<p><u>HEALTH</u></p> <p>See 9B for pain Clinic.</p>	
h.	<p><u>ELGIN SOUTH GROUP</u></p> <p>See Report</p>	
i.	<p><u>YOUTH</u></p> <p>No Report</p>	
j.	<p><u>GRANT LODGE</u></p> <p>No update</p>	
k.	<p><u>SOCIAL MEDIA</u></p> <p>Bryan Watson asked for items to go on social media.</p>	
l.	<p><u>CHAIR'S REPORT</u></p> <p>See reports for last three months.</p>	
m.	<p><u>SECRETARY'S REPORT</u></p> <p>Gordon Methven said that he had received the Crown Estate Annual Report and it was available for anyone who wanted to read it.</p>	
6.	<p><u>COMMUNITY PLANNING.</u></p>	
a.	<p><u>SPICE</u></p> <p>No update.</p>	
b.	<p><u>JCC & COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATION IN COMMUNITY PLANNING</u></p> <p>Next meeting is 11/8/2016 and attendance would be appreciated.</p>	
c.	<p><u>EMERGENCY RESILLIENCE AND PLANNING</u></p> <p>No update</p>	
7.	<p><u>EDUCATION</u></p> <p>See 5f above</p>	
8.	<p><u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u></p> <p>Steven Milne reported the finances were in good order and all budgets were on track.</p>	
9.	<p><u>ONGOING TOPICS</u></p>	
a.	<p><u>FLEECEs</u></p> <p>No Update</p>	
b.	<p><u>PAIN CLINIC</u></p> <p>Catriona Gray reported that the pain Clinic had been moved to the ground floor of Dr Grays as requested. It</p>	

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	may have to be moved on occasions but hopefully not too often.	
c.	<u>COMMUNITY BENEFIT</u> Awaiting date for meeting with Innes CC.	
10.	<u>EVENTS</u>	
a.	<u>COMMUNITY AWARDS</u> Ongoing	
b.	<u>TRAINING</u> Training on PRS is required.	AK
11.	<u>A.O.C.B.</u> Gordon Methven recently was offered a medical appointment in 5 weeks time which is unacceptable. There was some sympathy with this problem. Bryan Watson suggesting to asking to speak to the duty doctor would result in better triage. He also pointed out that the biggest blocker to medical appointments is people not turning up. Iain Catto reported that Pitgaveny Estate were looking to set up a stakeholder group for the Findrassie masterplan development. It was agreed that ECC want to participate. Andrew Gray advised that queries over Moray Council land holdings should be addressed to their corporate office. Alastair Kennedy suggested recommending the Moray Burial Grounds Group for a Scottish Heritage Angel Award for their work cataloguing the cemeteries of Moray. Cllr Patsy Gowans highlighted a problem about disabled people accessing mobility scooters in ASDA. The scooters are located inside the store and are difficult to access. There was a suggestion to train disabled volunteers.	IC AK
12.	<u>RURAL PARLIAMENT</u>	
	No items were identified for passing to the Rural Parliament	
13.	<u>NEXT MEETING</u> 7:00pm Tuesday 9 th August 2016 Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin.	
14.	<u>CLOSE</u> There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone and closed the meeting.	



COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

ELGIN

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1. LOCAL INTEREST INFORMATION

Anyone with any information on the crimes mentioned above and any other crimes in the Elgin Policing Area should contact the Police Scotland on 101, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or call in person at the Elgin Police Office.

2. FEEDBACK ON POLICE ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO MATTERS RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3. DETAILS OF ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO LOCAL PRIORITIES

Community Focus

Elgin based officers can be alerted to issues in your neighbourhoods by means of email. Messages should be sent to

ElginNorthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk
ElginSouthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk

Drugs

On 1 July 2016 as drug search warrant was executed at an address in Northport, Elgin and a growing productive Cannabis cultivation was found within. The electricity had been bypassed. Obviously such behaviour presents significant safety issues not only for the occupier of the property by neighbouring properties too. A 25 year old man has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Acquisitive Crime

Overnight on 15/16 June 2016 Harry Gows Bakery at Moycroft Road, Elgin was broken into and some money was stolen.

During the month two shed were broken into in the High Street and Braemorriston Road areas where mountain bikes were stolen. The first was a red and white Scott Voltage bike and the other a grey, blue and white Saracen Vengeance.

Violence/Domestic Abuse

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There were 21 assaults reported last month and offenders were traced and charged with 13 of these crimes. 8 are still the subject of enquiry.

There were two serious assaults:

Firstly, a 24 year old woman was charged with seriously assaulting a 30 year old woman at an address in Forbes Court, and secondly, a 33 year old man was charged with assaulting another customer at a Bar in High Street, Elgin.

There were 11 reports of domestic abuse. 8 offenders were traced and reported to the Procurator Fiscal and 3 investigations are still ongoing.

Roads Policing

On 22 June 2016, a 32 year old man was charged with drink driving in Moss Street, Elgin.

On 10 July 2016, a 36 year old man left the scene of a road accident on the A96 outside Elgin and when stopped was found to be unfit to drive through intoxication by drink or drugs.

On 23 June 2016 a 77 year old male was charged with Careless Driving following a collision on Maisondieu Road, Elgin. He also failed an eyesight test and will be reported for that.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On 6 July 2016, 5 youths created a disturbance at PINZ Bowling, Elgin. They have all been charged and will enter the youth justice process.

4. ONGOING LOCAL/FORCEWIDE ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Elgin Inspectors:

The Inspectors at Elgin are Graeme Allan and Paul McCruden.

Your team is based at Elgin Police Office

Contact us: In a non-emergency – **101**

Once an incident has been recorded a decision will then be made, dependent on the circumstances as to which officer is best placed to address the problem.

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POLICE SCOTLAND

Police Scotland are keen to highlight their use of social media and advise the public that our latest news can be found at www.scotland.police.uk and using the Twitter feeds @policescotland and @ShireMorayPol or on Facebook at facebook.com/policescotland

CRIMESTOPPERS

If anyone has any information relating to controlled drugs or drug dealing, please call the Police Scotland on 101. Alternatively, contact can be made with Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Crimestoppers allow information to be passed in relation to any crime or criminal activity anonymously. They can be contacted via the website at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

PARENTLINE SCOTLAND

ParentLine Scotland is a free helpline (0800 28 22 33) and email service parentlinescotland@children1st.org.uk for anyone with concern about a child. www.parentlinescotland.org.uk