

The City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council

Held in Moray Council Chambers on Tuesday 9th May 2017 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), Steven CHRISTIE, Douglas CLARK, Catriona GRAY Aileen MARSHALL Steven MILNE, Pat PATERSON, Mary WALL, Eddie WALLACE, Jim WISEMAN (Minutes).</p> <p><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u></p> <p>Cllr Frank BROWN, Cllr Paula COY, Cllr John DIVERS, Cllr Graham LEADBITTER, Cllr Ray McLEAN, Sgt Phil WU (Police Scotland), Stacey MacDONALD (Network Rail) Hazel Lawson (Northern Scot) Ben HENDRY (P&J)</p> <p><u>APOLOGIES</u></p> <p>Iain CATTO*, David CHAPMAN*, Gordie WELLS,</p>	
b.	<p><u>WELCOME</u></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	
c.	<p><u>SPEAKER</u></p> <p>Stacey MacDonald outlined the enhancements being undertaken at the level crossing. The work is adding a second track and making signalling improvements to increase timetable capacity. The improvements futureproof the line for the next 10 years.</p> <p>She explained why the road closures at the level crossing were necessary and that lessons learned from the first closure will be implemented on the subsequent closures, namely, improved signage. In response to questions, she explained that Network rail applied for the road closure and the Moray Council designed the diversion. It was requested that sandbags used to weigh down the signs be removed at the end of the job because this is a known problem in Elgin.</p> <p>The next closures are 26/5/2017 from 23:50 till 30/5/2017 (77hours) and 6/10/2017 for 10 days.</p> <p>There was some criticism of the timekeeping of trains since the line upgrade started. Stacey MacDonald to pass feedback to the relevant department.</p> <p>Network Rail were complimented on the quality of their site operation which inspired confidence.</p> <p>Later in the meeting, after Stacey MacDonald had left, Aileen Marshall asked if traffic lights at the Asda and Laich roundabouts would help traffic flows at peak times during the closures?</p>	
2.	<p><u>PREVIOUS MINUTES</u></p> <p>The minutes of 11 April 2017 were proposed by Eddie Wallace and seconded by Aileen Marshall and were approved as a true record of the meeting.</p>	
3.	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING.</u></p> <p>Community Benefit meeting with Innes Community Council – Abandoned</p> <p>Lighting up the Cathedral – Subgroup has not met yet.</p> <p>Closing the level crossing – Covered above.</p> <p>Hustings – see 8a below</p> <p>Statistics on domestic abuse - were provided by Police Scotland</p> <p>Elgin City FC plans for Boroughbriggs – Cllr John Diver's advised that a letter should have been received by the Community Council regarding the trust.</p>	
4.	<p><u>AGENCY UPDATES</u></p>	

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a.	<p><u>POLICE SCOTLAND</u></p> <p>Sgt Phil Wu referred to the Community Safety Report and commented there was nothing unusual in it. He highlighted the operation to tackle antisocial driving stating that between 15 and 22 April 13 offences were reported. The Police are, as always, balancing enforcement with education.</p> <p>Town centre parking was also being tackled and the level of complaints was high. Areas being targeted include pavements outside the St Giles Centre carpark. It was clarified that parking around St Giles is not permitted except where event organisers have made formal arrangements to do so.</p>	
b.	<p><u>STAGECOACH</u></p> <p>No representative in attendance and no report provided.</p>	
c.	<p><u>COMMUNITY WARDEN</u></p> <p>No representative in attendance. Alastair Kennedy to request Community Warden attendance.</p>	AK
d.	<p><u>CONSULTATIONS</u></p> <p>Parking Strategy - This work is ongoing and will be taken to the new Moray Council for action.</p> <p>A-I Railway works in Moray – See Speaker above.</p> <p>Clash Gour Wind-farm – Iain Catto responded.</p> <p>Speyslaw Solar Array – A number of members attended the event at Lhanbryde Community Centre on 19th April 2017.</p> <p>Transport Strategy - Ongoing.</p> <p>Community Councils Scheme – The outcome of the Council's deliberation on this is to be taken back to the JCC subgroup.</p>	AK
	<u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u> (See reports previously circulated)	
e.	<p><u>PLANNING</u></p> <p>The response to the Woodland Strategy circulated by Douglas Clark was approved and he was complimented on his work. Douglas Clark to submit response.</p> <p>A response had been requested for the Open Space strategy consultation which had expired. Alastair Kennedy to feedback that there had been no adverse comments following the presentation given to ECC in March and the aspiration to maintain Moray's high proportion of open space.</p>	DC AK
f.	<p><u>FAIR TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT</u></p> <p>Mary Wall reported that the group was working on the renewal of Elgin's Fairtrade Town status with the Fairtrade Foundation.</p>	
g.	<p><u>ROADS & TRANSPORTATION</u></p> <p>The standing water at Pansport roundabout had been investigated and reported to Bear Scotland. Transport Scotland had also intervened.</p> <p>The drainage problem on A96 near Burger King is no longer an issue, but the indent in the road surface near the end of junction and which was reported some ago has now been marked up hopefully for repair.</p> <p>The Sandy Road crossing problem reported last month was investigated and final report will be passed to the relevant authority when completed. It was recognised that whilst there were visibility issues, bad driving was also a contributory factor. Douglas Clark pointed out that this also happens at Tesco's roundabout.</p> <p>It was pointed out that the bus timetables at the bus station and bus stops were not correct. There was a discussion on who was responsible for this. Alastair Kennedy to arrange for a representative of the Public Transport Unit to attend to discuss this with Stagecoach.</p> <p>There was a discussion on service cuts. Councillor John Divers explained that the Lossie bus which had been mentioned in the press only existed because Elgin routes were able to support it.</p>	EW AK
h.	<p><u>HEALTH AND WELLBEING</u></p> <p>Nothing to report</p>	

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i.	<u>LICENSING</u> Nothing to report	
j.	<u>EDUCATION</u> Aileen Marshall had circulated photos of the new high School and was hoping for a site visit before it opens on 6 th October.	
k.	<u>ELGIN SOUTH GROUP</u>	
	<p>Aileen Marshall provided the following report which was discussed.</p> <p>Elgin South Group Meeting 3/5/17</p> <p>Main points from the meeting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In Attendance: Marilyn Kelly, Linda McKenzie, Aileen Marshall. Apologies Christine Clerk 2. Linda brought up the lack of bike stands in the middle of town, made worse by the removal of stands to accommodate the Dandy Lion. There has been a lot of talk round this issue. Has anything concrete been decided? 3. It would be good to have any update on the crossing at Sandy Road/Birnie Road. 4. There is impressive work going on around the level crossing. However the recent one-day closure did cause real traffic problems around the Laich and Asda roundabouts. At times the traffic backing up along Edgar Road snarled up anyone trying to leave the retail park. There were also reports of tailbacks as far as the Caber on New Elgin Road and Moray College in Hay Street. Not sure if anything can be done to help in the future closures – eg (as some have suggested) would temporary traffic lights help or hinder? 5. Next Meeting Wednesday 7th June. 	
l.	<u>YOUTH</u>	
	No representative	
m.	<u>GRANT LODGE</u>	
	Alastair Kennedy reported that a Community Asset Transfer is being discussed and it is possible that Earthtime may use it.	
n.	<u>SOCIAL MEDIA</u>	
	Bryan Watson said that the Facebook site was going well and recent boosts had increased visibility. He asked for photos and reports. It was suggested putting an edited agenda on Facebook.	BW
o.	<u>CHAIR'S REPORT</u>	
	<p>Alastair Kennedy had circulated the following report.</p> <p>7/04/17 Although it isn't particularly relevant to members I attended the funeral of Jennifer Shaw. I had known Jennifer for many years through various organisations, including ECC. She was an elected member for a number of years, was chair of the Federation of Village Halls and Associations for a long spell and was very much a community activist.</p> <p>10/04/17 This was a further meeting of Keep Moray Beautiful (KMB). Sadly there were few public agencies in attendance. Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) had done some work on producing a logo for the group. As there is "spring-clean" campaign due to start in May it was felt a logo would assist with publicity. The group felt it would prefer to keep the branding in line with KSB so the chosen logo is similar.</p> <p>11/04/17 This was our own meeting which unfortunately clashed with a Grant Lodge Trust meeting.</p> <p>18/04/17 This was the LEADER meeting in Forres to unofficially launch the new LEADER programme. All staff are now in place so discussion took place about the Local Development Strategy and whether it needed updating. Further discussion took place about where and when to hold the official launch.</p> <p>18/04/17 This was the evening we held the Husting in the Alexander Graham Bell centre which we agreed was reasonably successful. I have now had the account which is + VAT which we never considered.</p> <p>19/04/17 I had a meeting with the CCLO, Jane Martin to discuss the JCC agenda amongst other items. Moray's Disciplinary Procedure has again been lauded as a good piece of work which should be replicated throughout Scotland.</p>	

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	<p>21/04/17 I attended the event in the Cooper Park which was held as a centenary remembrance service for the Battle Of Arras during which 250 men from Moray died with many others injured. The service was opened by Grenville Johnston, Lord Lieutenant with music provided by the Fishwives Choir, readings etc. from two armed forces padres. The history of the battle was told by Derek Bird and Jill Stewart. The event finished with soldiers in WW1 uniform appearing over the amphitheatre through drifting white smoke and was very effective. Unfortunately there were a couple of rain showers and it was bitterly cold.</p> <p>21/04/17 That evening was the Moray Community Awards event, once again in the Alexander Graham Bell Centre. There had to be further chairs brought out so we had a full house. The evening went very well after being opened by Gordon Methven. The MC was Gary Coull and we had two MSPs in attendance. A motion is to be laid before the Scottish Parliament recognising the volunteers and those who organised it.</p> <p>24/04/17 I had been contacted by a couple from Roseisle via Jane Martin about a problem with a core path which runs along inside the boundary of their land and which is causing problems. I visited the couple, one of whom I knew many years ago. I had been contacted as they had heard so much good things about ECC and the JCC they thought I could possibly help. There is definitely a problem, or rather a host of problems. I agreed to consider the situation further for them but was clear that a successful outcome is unlikely due to the legislation covering core paths and the right to roam.</p> <p>25/04/17 This was a KMB meeting which I had to let Steven down as I was unable to attend due to a back problem.</p> <p>26/04/17 To follow up on the problem with the core path I met with Michelle Gillibrand who is the convenor for the Local Outdoor Access Forum (LOAF). To get the whole history of the problems we agreed to meet with Ian Douglas from Moray Council on 03/05/17.</p> <p>If anyone wishes further information on any of the above please get in touch.</p>	
p.	<p><u>SECRETARY'S REPORT</u></p> <p>No report</p>	
5.	<p><u>COMMUNITY PLANNING.</u></p>	
a.	<p><u>SPICE & KEEP MORAY BEAUTIFUL</u></p> <p>The next meeting of SPICE is on 18th May 2017</p> <p>The Keep Moray Beautiful Action Plan is being revised.</p> <p>SPICE is proposing to clean up Elgin on or around 18th June.</p>	
b.	<p><u>JCC & COMMUNITY COUNCIL</u></p> <p>The next meeting of the JCC is Thursday 11th May 2017</p>	
6.	<p><u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u></p> <p>Steven Milne advised that the main account was at £2,722 with some cheques to go out.</p>	
7.	<p><u>ONGOING TOPICS</u></p>	
a.	<p><u>PAIN CLINIC</u></p> <p>Catriona Gray reported that discussions about access to the Pain Clinic were ongoing.</p>	
8.	<p><u>EVENTS</u></p>	
a.	<p><u>HUSTINGS</u></p> <p>The event was declared a success and it was suggested that this should be carried out for future local elections. Gordon Methven advised that this should go in our operating plan. A special meeting was arranged for 16th May to create our operating plan.</p>	All
b.	<p><u>COMMUNITY AWARDS</u></p>	
	<p>Gordon Methven reported that the event on the 21st April was very successful attended by some 200 people which made it very worthwhile.</p>	

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c.	<u>TRAINING</u> Alastair Kennedy to arrange training for new Community Councillors after the October elections..	AK
9.	<u>A.O.C.B.</u> There is a Pitgaveney Estate open day on 28 th May 2017 ITV Good Morning Britain are coming to Elgin regarding the general election. Steve Christie thanked colleagues for the support on the subject of bullying at school and stated his intention to follow the new policy implementation.	All SC
10.	<u>SCOTTISH RURAL ACTION</u> Alastair Kennedy to raise the need for a Moray representative with the JCC on Thursday	AK
11.	<u>NEXT MEETING</u>	
	7:00pm Tuesday 13 th June 2017 Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin.	
12.	<u>CLOSE</u> There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone and closed the meeting.	