

# The City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council

Held in Moray Council Chambers on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 7.00pm

1.	<b><u>Sederunt and Apologies.</u></b> (* Associate, ** Youth)	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
	<p><b><u>OFFICE BEARERS</u></b></p> <p>Alastair KENNEDY(Chair),                      Jim WISEMAN (Vice Chair).                      Patsy GOWANS (Secretary),</p> <p><b><u>MEMBERS</u></b></p> <p>Iain CATTO,                                      Douglas CLARK,                                      David CHAPMAN*,  Catriona GRAY,                                      Aileen MARSHALL,                                      Margaret PARK,  Pat PATERSON,</p> <p><b><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Paula COY,                                      Cllr John DIVERS,                                      Cllr Graham LEADBITTER,  PS Krystle ROSS (Police Scotland),                                      Nadine WEILAND (Speaker)  Sheila COCHRANE,  Barry JARVIS</p> <p><b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>Steven CHRISTIE (Treasurer),                      Jeff GABLE,                                      Mary WALL,  Eddie WALLACE,                                      Bryan WATSON.</p>	
	<p><b><u>WELCOME</u></b></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	
2.	<b><u>AGENCY UPDATES</u></b>	
a.	<p><b><u>POLICE SCOTLAND</u></b></p> <p>Police Sergeant Krystle Ross highlighted a recent operation which targeted antisocial driving. 42 drivers were educated. Whilst education was the main objective a number of crimes were detected including 28 parking offences, taxi routing and an obscured number plate. David Chapman asked if the instances of antisocial driving were in town or country pointing out that these also happen out of town.</p> <p>The recent wild fires in the Hopeman area were supported by the Police who carried out an investigation and have charged a suspect. The fire raising in Bishopmill was also discussed.</p> <p>Sergeant Ross raised awareness that this was Scottish Missing Person's week saying that 23,000 people go missing each year in Scotland and 25% of had gone missing more than 10 times. There was a discussion on the causes.</p> <p>Councillor Graham Leadbitter thanked the Police on behalf of himself and Councillor John Divers of Moray Council for their recent interventions on antisocial driving particularly some instances of badly parked lorries throughout the town.</p>	
b.	<p><b><u>STAGECOACH</u></b></p> <p>No update</p>	
3.	<b><u>SPEAKER - MENTAL HEALTH (RURAL/URBAN) by Nadine Weiland</u></b>	

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	<p>Nadine Weiland has a BA in psychology from UHI and outlined the extent of mental health issues in the UK and in Scotland. 1 in 4 people in the UK have a diagnosed mental health condition. 20% of those are suicidal. 27% of people with diagnosed mental health conditions experience only one condition. The ratio 3½ males having mental illness to 1 female having mental illness was mentioned.</p> <p>Social isolation seemed to be the main reason although it could be due to ethnicity, disability, LGBT+ , carers, housing and homelessness, prisoners, substance and alcohol abuse, poverty and relationships. The effects of these are worse in rural areas because the quality of life score is lower, people are more isolated and there is a higher stigma attached to mental illness and greater social distance is practised.</p>	
4.	<p><b><u>PREVIOUS MINUTES</u></b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018 were not read out and a proposer and seconder were sought. Douglas Clark proposed, Aileen Marshall seconded with no objections therefore the minutes were adopted as a true record of that meeting.</p>	
a.	<p><b><u>MATTERS ARISING.</u></b></p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>	
5.	<p><b><u>ELECTED MEMBERS FEEDBACK</u></b></p>	
	<p>Given the situation with the Council the Elected Members could only advise that the meeting tomorrow will be webcast.</p> <p>There was a discussion on the nature of the Budget Consultation and how it was poorly advertised and poorly attended.</p>	
6.	<p><b><u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u></b></p>	
a.	<p><b><u>FAIRTRADE</u></b></p>	
	<p>Pat Paterson outlined recent activities by the Fairtrade group mentioning encouraging uptake from the Beechtree and Cobbs which all go towards the ongoing reporting of Fairtrade activity to maintain accreditation. The Fairtrade group are seeking donations for the Food and Drink Festival in August.</p>	
b.	<p><b><u>PUBLIC TRANSPORT</u></b></p>	
	<p>Douglas Clark reported on his attendance at Transform Scotland Meeting and the following report was circulated</p> <p><b>TRANSFORM SCOTLAND MEMBERS' MEETING – EDINBURGH 23 MAY 2018</b></p> <p><u>Purpose:</u> To allow members to hear about Transport Scotland's proposals for a new transport strategy, due to be completed in draft by 2019 and then to go to public consultation.</p> <p><u>Present:</u> Colin Howden (Director of Transform Scotland) and roughly 20 members, drawn primarily from the urban Central Belt and representing walking, cycling, rail passengers and probably bus users and car drivers/owners. Also present were ScotRail (Scott Prentice), Stagecoach East Scotland and Edinburgh Trams. I think I was the only community council representative and perhaps also the only person present from a 'rural' area.</p> <p><u>Guest speaker:</u> Heather Cowan (former Forres Academy pupil), currently Head of Transport Strategy at Transport Scotland.</p> <p><u>Format:</u> Presentation by Heather followed by questions and comments.</p> <p><u>Timing of current review:</u> Some members questioned the thinking behind a review at this time and with such a tight timetable when so many other topics (Brexit was mentioned) are likely to occupy people. The reason it is being done now is to coordinate with the Strategic Transport Projects Review 2 (STPR2)</p>	D CI

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	<p><a href="https://www.transport.gov.scot/news/the-future-of-transport-infrastructure/">https://www.transport.gov.scot/news/the-future-of-transport-infrastructure/</a>, which has also been launched this year and to ensure that everything ties in with National Planning Framework 4.</p> <p><b>Content:</b> Scotland's National Transport Strategy (NTS) was produced in 2006 and refreshed in 2016. The aim now is to develop, through working groups and stakeholder consultation, a new strategy with a goal of publishing a consultation draft in 2019. The emphasis of the NTS 2006 had been on reducing (car) journey times. Members voiced criticism that, despite considerable investment in rail (EGIP, Highland Mainline and Aberdeen-Inverness) there had been a bias towards investment in roads. Thus, the new strategy would focus on setting out the kind of transport system Scotland aspires to over the next 20 years.</p> <p>There had been a call for evidence in 2017 that had produced 66 responses and that call has now been closed. (Does anyone remember hearing anything about this earlier?) Follow this link for more information  <a href="https://www.transport.gov.scot/media/41506/call-for-evidence-summary-report.pdf">https://www.transport.gov.scot/media/41506/call-for-evidence-summary-report.pdf</a></p> <p>Several members commented that there appeared to be no explicit commitment to integrated public transport and yet members believed that there could be no major modal shift from cars to public transport without the sort of integration that is seen in several other European countries.</p> <p>Heather's response was that while there is no explicit commitment to integrated public transport, this will feature as part of the review.</p> <p>I commented that I welcomed the reference to island connectivity but was disappointed that there was no mention of improving rural connectivity and I thought that was an unfortunate omission. I cited the Moray and Aberdeenshire coasts and said that in many respects they are less well connected now by public transport than they had been in the 1950s (maybe not the best example because that was probably unsustainable even then and Ernest Marples took the axe to almost all our rural rail lines in the 1960s).</p> <p><b>Conclusion:</b> We should keep a watching brief on how the review of the NTS goes and take full advantage of opportunities to feed in a rural perspective. This might be better done through the Moray JCC, with individual community councils providing their input to the JCC. (I don't know enough about protocols with JCC and would be guided by Alastair and other ECC community councillors as to how best to ensure our voice will be heard)</p> <p>It was recommended that the JCC submit a response because rural areas need to be involved in the process because completion of the road network needs to be done before the expansion of rail which is more of a problem in the North than the South.</p> <p>Douglas Clark also raised the issue of poor punctuality of the Lossie bus. This is to be investigated once communications with Stagecoach are re-established. There was a discussion on poor customer awareness by drivers when heavy and disabled people try to board a bus.</p>	
c.	<b><u>CARE LOCATIONS</u></b>	
	No discussion took place since Jeff Gable was not present.	JG
d.	<b><u>SENTINAL CARDS</u></b>	
	Patsy Gowans reminded everyone that Paul Briggs suggestion about Sentinel Cards to be taken up with Network Rail.	<b><u>IC</u></b>
e.	<b><u>PLANNING</u></b>	
	There were no planning updates.	
f.	<b><u>SPICE</u></b>	
	Steve Christie gave an update on the hanging baskets which are delayed due to an issue with the brackets. The Eight Acres flower bed planting was organised by Alastair	

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	Kennedy and the Town Hall Fountain by Councillor Ray MacLean	
<b>g.</b>	<b><u>LADYHILL TREES</u></b>	
	There were no objections to the removal of 8 trees.	
<b>h.</b>	<b><u>ELGIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEBSITE</u></b>	
	Alastair Kennedy reported that this was progressed at the extra meeting held in May. A new GDPR compliant privacy policy has been obtained.	
<b>i.</b>	<b><u>GRASS CUTTING</u></b>	
	Douglas Clark raised the possibility of using wild flower meadows as an alternative to grass cutting and the use of weed killer. Proposal to be discussed at a special meeting.	AK
<b>j.</b>	<b><u>GDPR</u></b>	
	GDPR was discussed at the extra meeting and Alastair Kennedy is discussing it with the website builder in relation to email accounts and privacy policy. Further work is required on this topic.	
<b>7.</b>	<b><u>CORRESPONDENCE</u></b>	
	None	
<b>8.</b>	<b><u>CHAIR AND TREASURERS REPORTS</u></b>	
	Neither report was circulated	
<b>9.</b>	<b><u>A.O.C.B.</u></b> Upcoming events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locality Plan for East New Elgin 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018 13:30 - 16:30</li> <li>• Learning Day on funding shared ownership 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018.</li> <li>• Road closures on Lesmurdie Road 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018.</li> </ul> Margret Park agreed to attend a workshop on Integration of Health and Social Services. Iain Catto asked members to promote the Elgin Gift Card promoted by Elgin BID. Pat Paterson raised the issue of Victoria Crescent being used as a rat-run and the potential impact on the residents particularly those under care. David Chapman asked about progress on the Town Hall CAT.	
<b>10.</b>	<b><u>NEXT MEETING</u></b> 7:00pm Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2018 Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin.	
<b>11.</b>	<b><u>CLOSE</u></b> There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone and closed the meeting.	

Minutes taken by James Wiseman.