

The City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council

Held in Moray Council Chambers on Tuesday 14 January 2020 at 7.00pm

SEDERUNT AND APOLOGIES. (* Associate, ** Youth)

1. **OFFICE BEARERS:** Alastair KENNEDY (Chairman), Jim WISEMAN (Vice Chairman), Sheila COCHRANE (Secretary), Steven CHRISTIE (Treasurer)
2. **MEMBERS:** Douglas CLARK, David CHAPMAN*, Jeff GABLE, Aileen MARSHALL, Pat PATERSON, Eddie WALLACE, Hazel LAWSON,
3. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllr John DIVERS, Cllr Graham LEADBITTER, Elizabeth MacLEAN (Police Scotland),
4. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr Paula COY,
5. **WELCOME**

Alastair Kennedy welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished them a happy new year.

The Police report below was taken first.

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES 10 December 2019

The minutes of the previous meeting were not read out and a proposer and seconder were sought. Douglas Clark proposed, Eddie Wallace seconded with no objections therefore the minutes were adopted as a true record of that meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1. DEVELOPMENT TRUST[Action: Alastair Kennedy]

The development trust is to be progressed in Iain Catto's memory. Alastair Kennedy to obtain further advice on how to progress.

3.2. RAIL PERFORMANCE

3.2.1. PUNCTUALITY[Action: Douglas Clark]

Douglas Clark gave an update. Alex Hynes has not honoured his promise to come back to Elgin and meet with affected rail users.

Scotrail have stopped taking seat reservations due to changes in the train carriages through the upgrading process.

George Littlejohn's (Rail Adviser to ECC) emailed update on rail improvements was noted. James Wiseman said that he had emailed George and asked for cost reduction to be included in the lobbying.

David Chapman and Eddie Wallace commented on the lack of information at the station for stranded passengers. Some information is present but difficult to find.

3.2.2. SAFETY[Action: James Wiseman]

Due to the Christmas period and the announcement the Abelio are losing the franchise, James Wiseman had held off contacting Abelio to highlight that passengers can become stranded if they do not put on a replacement service with equivalent capacity.

3.3. DEVELOPERS OBLIGATIONS[Action: All]

Details of the consultation had been circulated and members invited to send any comments to James Wiseman.

3.4. 340/341 BUS SERVICE and DIAL M FOR MORAY

Douglas Clark had received usage information for the Dial M for Moray service from David Stewart MSP who had obtained it via a Freedom Of Information Request from Moray Council. Douglas used the information to question the value of Dial M for Moray going on to suggest the service would be better used by adopting an Elgin circular route including the 340/341 route and any other problem areas as and when they arise.

There was a discussion about how the Dial M For Moray Service works. The R&T Committee will arrange a meeting with Donald MacRae and Douglas Clark to resolve this matter.

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3.5. CYCLIST ISSUES[Action Alastair Kennedy]

Alastair Kennedy to write to Police Scotland about the problem with cyclists using pavements where these are not dual use cycle and footways, and cycling at night without lights.

3.6. A96 DUALLING

David Chapman reported that the Inverness to Auldearn dualling of the A96 had been held up and was now a year late.

3.7. ELGIN COMMUNITY CENTRE

The status of Elgin Community Centre was queried. It remains open for the time being due to the child care activity currently based there.

3.8. BUS STATION DISPLAY BOARD IN ST. GILES SHOPPING CENTRE ..[Action Alastair Kennedy]

The display board inside the St Giles Centre requires attention as it has not been working for a considerable length of time.

There was a discussion about who owns it. Donald MacRae is to be invited to speak about the bus station signage and proposed refurbishment.

4. AGENCY UPDATES

4.1. POLICE REPORT[Action: Elizabeth MacLean]

Elizabeth MacLean went through the Elgin headlines from the Community Safety Report. Various incidents of vandalism, assault and theft were detected. Speeding at Duffus Road had been addressed and Police Scotland were complimented on this.

Over the festive period weekend there had been patrols with the Street Pastors and other agencies. The community liaison was well received. Bike patrols have started using bikes bought by Elgin BID.

It was noted that Elgin Police Station is to get a cyber kiosk which was a topic that had been on the news the day of the meeting.

Sheila Cochrane ask if the Police were tackling engine idling citing taxis in the High Street as an example. No information was available on what is or isn't being done but Elizabeth Maclean agreed to raise the matter with her Inspector.

4.2. STAGECOACH

See above 3.4, 3.1.

5. ELECTED MEMBERS' UPDATES

The Councillor's in attendance reported that the participatory budgeting paper had been approved.

PLANNING PROCESS[Action: James Wiseman]

James Wiseman reported difficulties with the timescales for planning application particularly because one particular application had caused problems for people. There were a number of problems with the handling of application 19/01614. Details published of the relevant Councillor were incorrect. There was no allowance made for the holiday period. The drainage report would not open on the website. Updates to the expiry dates for the different consultations were changed without notifying the affected consultees.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Steven Christie had circulated the balance sheet and there were no issues raised.

The suspension of community council grants is due to be lifted. Stephen Christie confirmed the most recent grant payment was received in December 2018.

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7. REPORTS AND UPDATES

7.1. PLANNING

7.1.1. Town Centre Masterplan[Action: Alastair Kennedy, James Wiseman]

James Wiseman reported that himself and Alastair Kennedy are to attend further workshops about the Town Centre Master Plan the next one being on the 23rd January 2020. This was further to previous engagement exercised attended by various members.

7.1.2. PLANNING APPLICATION 19/01614 HAMILTON DRIVE[Action: James Wiseman]

James Wiseman outlined the proposals for the Hamilton Drive site and explained the link to comments made by Elgin Community Council in the Local Plan consultation 2014 and again for the Proposed Plan 2020. It was noted that the Community Council had been approached by a member of the public about this application. There were no comments to add and the response to the consultation is due 20 January 2020.

7.1.3. WEBSITE [Action: James Wiseman, Hazel Lawson, Alastair Kennedy, Eddie Wallace]

Hazel Lawson gave an update about the website. A style guide is being produced. There are some issues to be addressed about the administration of the website and roles of those involved. A meeting is to be convened between Eddie Wallace, Hazel Lawson, James Wiseman and Alastair Kennedy to finalise these matters. The issues were about the scope and aims of the website, roles and responsibilities, and advertising.

8. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING[Action: Alastair Kennedy]

Moray Council Speaker to talk about the sign at the bus station.

9. AOCB

JCC

The JCC are developing a social media policy.

MONEY FOR MORAY

The Money For Moray event has been postponed. Alastair Kennedy described the difficulties he had experienced with obtaining funding for Money For Moray. The administration appeared somewhat chaotic which is of concern. However, we must press on with the Money For Moray work. There is a meeting in the Youth Café on 21 January 2020 from 10:30 to 12:00

LESSER BOROUGHBRIGGS[Action: Alastair Kennedy, James Wiseman]

A Community Asset Transfer (CAT) has been requested by the Elgin Sports Community Trust (ESCT). The consultation period started on 13 January 2020 and runs to 7 February 2020 and the decision is targeting the 5 May 2020 Moray Council Policy and Resources Committee. It was understood that it was inalienable Common Good land and members thought that the public would not want to see the land lost to the Common Good. Alastair Kennedy read out a letter from a solicitor in support of the CAT. There was also some concern that the constitution of ESCT would allow the Trustees and Office Bearers to change dramatically which could affect ownership of the land were it to be sold. The Elgin Sports Community Trust have their AGM on 31 January 2020.

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION PLANNING PERFORMANCE AND FEES

Alastair Kennedy highlighted the Scottish Government consultation on Planning Performance and Fees. No action to be taken.

STRATEGIC TRANSPORT REVIEW

Alastair Kennedy highlighted the Strategic Transport Review online survey.

LOCALITY PLANS

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Moray Community Planning partnership are holding Locality Planning events on realignment of children's services. Details were circulated by the Secretary.

SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE PLANS.....[Action: Alastair Kennedy]

It was agreed that we could all respond as individuals to the consultation on Fire and Rescue Plans which has a closing date of 18 March 2020. If they were available we could have them speak at the next meeting. Alastair Kennedy to arrange.

NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK

Engagement for the National Planning Framework 4 is underway. It was not thought necessary to engage with this because it is more about process than planning in Elgin.

RECYCLING

Pat Paterson questioned the practicality of the green bags that are replacing the orange glass recycling boxes.

A96 CROSSING AT HOSPITAL[Action: Eddie Wallace, David Chapman]

It was noted that there is no signage for the hospital around the area where work is going on at Dr Gray's Hospital. Eddie Wallace and David Chapman to draw this to the attention of BEAR Scotland.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 11 February 2020 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone and closed the meeting.