

The City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council

Held in Moray Council Chambers on Tuesday 11 February 2020 at 7.00pm

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

1.1. **OFFICE BEARERS:** Alastair Kennedy, Chairman; Jim Wiseman, Vice Chairman; Sheila Cochrane, Secretary; Steven Christie, Treasurer;

1.2. **MEMBERS:** Douglas Clark; David Chapman*; Jeff Gable; Aileen Marshall; Pat Paterson; Eddie Wallace;

1.3. **IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllr Paula Coy; Cllr Graham Leadbitter; Cllr Ray McLean; Jack Wright, Stagecoach; David Allen, Elgin Sports Community Trust; Simon Nesbit, Elgin Sports Community Trust;

1.4. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr John Divers; Cllr Maria McLean; Cllr Frank Brown;

1.5. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Stagecoach was taken first as the representative had an early start the following day.

1.6. STAGECOACH

Jack Wright is the new operations manager in our area for Stagecoach.

Stagecoach are restructuring their management and rebranding their livery across the UK. Areas are being reviewed which will enable better community Liaison.

Notification of a consultation on timetable changes had been circulated to members.

Changes to Elgin bus station are proposed but no date is set. The changes include better lighting and a public address system. Stagecoach are aware of the need for real time information to be displayed and are working on it although there are some difficulties with the technology to be overcome.

Jack Wright tendered his apologies for our next meeting.

1.7. ELGIN SPORTS COMMUNITY TRUST

David Allen gave a presentation on the Elgin Sports Community Trust (ESCT) which was started in 2017, is a registered charity and has a well developed plan for Lesser Borough Briggs. The plan is for construction of a 3G sports pitch as the catalyst to enable other potential sport related improvements in Elgin. The proposed £650,000 development has an opportunity to be fully funded by Mott MacDonald and Volker Fitzpatrick who are currently working at RAF Lossiemouth and want to leave a legacy. ESCT had alleviated all the previous concerns of the Elgin Community Council and the presentation was well received.

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES 14 January 2019

It was agreed to remove names from certain items on the previous minutes. The minutes of the previous meeting were not read out and a proposer and seconder were sought. Eddie Wallace proposed, Jeff Gable seconded with no objections therefore the minutes were adopted as a true record of that meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1. DEVELOPMENT TRUST[Action: Jeff Gable]

Jeff Gable agreed to progress this. Some initial information was provided. A workshop is available in Forbes, details were previously circulated to members. The JCC may have experience to tap into.

3.2. MEMBERSHIP

Alastair Kennedy enquired after the absent members and highlighted the need to encourage new members.

3.3. 340/341 BUS SERVICE and DIAL M FOR MORAY[Action: R&T]

A meeting has been set up between the roads and transportation committee and Donald Macrae about 340/341 route and Dial M for Moray.

3.4. WEBSITE

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A subgroup met to discuss the website and are to meet again in the near future.

3.5. THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS AND COMMON GOOD FUNDS[Action: Steve Christie/Douglas Clark]

Our role in decisions about the Common Good Fund is unclear particularly with the introduction of the Community Empowerment Act. It is thought that decision taken by the trustees would benefit from consulting Community Councils.

4. AGENCY UPDATES

4.1. STAGECOACH

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5. ELECTED MEMBERS' UPDATES

Councillor Rae McLean gave an update that the main topic of debate had been the budget and the challenge of setting a budget that did not affect front line services.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Steven Christie advised that his end of year report had been submitted to Moray Council.

Our Transform Scotland membership had been paid.

7. REPORTS AND UPDATES

7.1. PLANNING

7.1.1. ELGIN SPORTS COMMUNITY TRUST - See above

7.1.2. JCC

The next meeting of the JCC is on Thursday 13th February 2020 and will be an open meeting to discuss what things are going well.

The Participatory Budgeting for which Alastair Kennedy had obtained funding will also be progressed.

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

James Wiseman advised the new case officer had resolved all the concerns about the consultation process without prompting. The extensions granted allowed a proper response and this was acknowledged in an updated Elgin Community Council response to the Hamilton Drive planning application. The other comments made on behalf of Elgin Community Council reiterated our concerns expressed in the local plan consultation about boundary maintenance obligations.

7.1.4. TOWN CENTRE MASTERPLAN[Action: Alastair Kennedy, James Wiseman, Steve Christie]

The Town Centre Master Plan also covers decarbonising the High Street. An extra meeting was set for 25th February 2020 for Alastair Kennedy and James Wiseman to give an update on information they had been shown for the City Centre which touches on many of the topics discussed at Elgin Community Council over the years. Gary Templeton's planning team are genuinely seeking involvement from Elgin Community Council on this project.

Steve Christie to book Cedarwood.

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7.1.5. FAIRTRADE.....[Action: Eddie Wallace]

Eddie Wallace read out a report on Fairtrade Fortnight 2020: Get Involved, 24th February to 8th March 2020. A speaker from Malawi is visiting Scotland and is to visit Elgin on 29th February 2020 - details of the venue and time to follow. Any contributions or help will be welcomed.

Elgin Fairtrade Group are organising a poster competition and will be serving refreshments to the Children and Young People's Services Committee.

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

An update on local health issues was suggested.

9. AOCB

DR GRAY'S

The ongoing discussions about maternity services in Elgin and the apparent desire of NHS to centralise these in Aberdeen was discussed. The proposed meeting of the Keep Mum Campaign with Jane Freeman was noted.

DRUGS FORUM

Jeff Gable had attended the Drugs Forum meeting on the relative benefits of smoking versus injecting drugs. Jeff also intends to attend the next Health and Wellbeing Forum meeting in The Inkwell.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 10th March 2020 at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin.

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