

*Elgin Community Council Zoom Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 10 August 2021
7pm*

1 *Welcome and Apologies*

Alastair Kennedy welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Attendees - Alastair Kennedy, Sheila Cochrane, Steven Christie, Eddie Wallace, Douglas Clark, James Wiseman, Graham Leadbitter, John Divers, Graham Jarvis, Gordie Wells, Hazel Lawson, Jack Wright.

Apologies - David Chapman, Brian Irvine, Paul Briggs.

2 *Previous minutes*

The minutes were proposed by Eddie Wallace and seconded by Steven Christie. There were no objections and it was accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3 *Matters Arising*

Stagecoach update - Jack Wright gave a brief update on Stagecoach. They are back to 100% service but the 'pingdemic' is affecting staff numbers. The travel shop/waiting area is now up and running again. Further to recent conversations about Stagecoach service, prices and punctuality, Jack invited Elgin Community Council to send him a list of specific problems.

Dr Gray's waiting times update/NHS Grampian Questionnaire - The questionnaire had been completed by a sub-group and submitted.

Flood Relief Channel at Landshut bridge - The Flood Relief Channel was discussed. Councillor Leadbitter had forwarded our concerns to the relevant officer in Moray Council and the situation is to be monitored. Members believe that the presence of large amounts of silt and vegetation growing from the channel will impact on the effectiveness of Elgin's flood defences.

Deanshaugh Goalposts - Further to our previous agreement to fund goalposts for a pitch at Deanshaugh playing fields it was agreed to commit the sum of £500 towards the cost.

4 *Stagecoach*

Douglas' paper had been discussed by email prior to the meeting and it was agreed that Douglas would first consult with other CCs then send a letter to Stagecoach.

5 Planning

There were no applications of note this month.

6 Treasurer's Report

Steve Christie gave an update on the account balance and recent New Elgin East LOIP activity.

7 Elgin Town Centre Masterplan update

It was noted that the Elgin Town Centre Masterplan closing date had been extended.

8 Cooper Park

James Wiseman is representing the Community Council on the judging panel of a primary school art competition.

9 Seagulls/Waste Collection/Virtual Meeting - Karen Adams MSP

There was a discussion about seagulls, noise, nests and safety. Councillor Divers advised that the service provided by the Council to remove gulls' nests had not been taken up as much as it could have been by Elgin residents. He highlighted that it was a free service and people should not be hesitant in contacting the Council. He also said that the area covered by the service was to be increased. Having expressing interest, the Community Council has been invited to send a representative to attend MSP Karen Adams' virtual meeting.

10 Website

It is hoped that the website will be up and running soon.

11 Elgin City Status Application

The response from Moray Council was noted.

12 Elected Member updates

John Divers told us what was going on at Moray Council.

13 Community Council Elections/Final decision towards contribution

It was agreed to contribute £150 to the JCC advertising campaign. It was also agreed to purchase banners and deploy them at suitable locations. Alastair Kennedy to action.

14 AOCB

A complaint was raised about the standard of housing at Meadow Crescent. Councillor Divers was somewhat surprised as no complaints had been received by Moray Council and he advised that the affected parties send him details of the issues which he would pass on to the appropriate department.

There then followed a tribute from Alastair Kennedy.

'I would like to pay tribute to all of our members tonight. The last year and a bit has been difficult and some of us have struggled with these virtual meetings. Nevertheless, we've still managed to meet and get things done albeit much of that by email. Over the past CC session a lot has been achieved but like most CCs we don't blow our own trumpet. Things get done, heads go down again, we move on to the next action - and probably forget the thing we achieved last week. I also want to say, having attended various other CC meetings through my JCC role, Elgin CC members at meetings are an example I'm proud to hold up as an exemplar. Our CCLD often tells other CCs they should attend one of our meetings and learn from it. The 'behaviour' for want of a better word, of the members has made chairing a pleasurable task as every member, without exception, is prepared to listen to all points of view and respect those views, never talk over others and doesn't try to hog the meetings.

Before I finish. I also want to pay tribute to our two elected members present. They are absolute stalwarts. Before the last Council elections we would normally have four or five out of the six locally elected members and they all interacted. I believe the lack of attendance by the other councillors speaks volumes.

Anyway, I hope each and every one of you stands again. I have always maintained that membership must be as much or as little time as a person is able to give so if someone has only a few hours here and there then that MUST be absolutely fine. So if you know of anyone interested in standing please make that point to them. We have a wee bit of paperwork to complete to stand again but we'll sort that out when the form becomes available.

Thank you all very much for your time spent - basically working for The City and Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council.'

15 Items for next meeting

There were no items.

16 Date of next Meeting Tuesday 14 September 2021

If any member has an item they would like to raise, please contact the Chair or the Secretary in advance so as to ensure it can be included in the next Agenda