

Minute of a meeting held on Tuesday 11th March 2025
at Elgin Community Centre

Alastair called the meeting to order, welcoming those present to our new venue for the duration of the Town Hall Refurbishment

ITEM	CONTENT	ACTIONS
Guest: Pat Patterson Fair Trade Elgin	<p>Pat has come along to the meeting to ask the members for permission to close the Fair Trade Elgin bank account and to transfer the remaining funds to the Community Council. Fair Trade Elgin was originally a sub group of the Community Council and did a lot of work to promote fair trade within the town. Sadly, Edward Wallace and Mary Wall (both signatories) have passed which is why Pat is seeking our permission to close the account.</p> <p>Members agreed to the request and will give pat any assistance she may require closing the account.</p> <p>Chair Treasurer</p> <div style="text-align: right;">Date Date</div>	
1.Previous Minutes	11th February 2025 Proposed: Joyce Bremner Seconder: Alastair Kennedy	
2. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BID ballot – what happens if the forthcoming ballot rejects the continuance of the BID? - BID will no longer operate, the road sweeper was not purchased – any funds will be returned to any creditors. The lights on Lady Hill monument have now been replaced with colour changing LED's. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The junction at Morriston Road onto the A941 is nearing completion, however there are concerns raised about Morriston Road where it splits to meet Duffus Road. Motorists approach this area at considerable speed which is a popular crossing point for people going to the nearby Spynie Store & Post Office. The housing developers at both Spynie and Findrassie may have to redesign this junction as part of their obligations. It was mentioned that the council building at Beech Brae is to close, and the site may also become a housing development which will also impact the junction. Beech Brae is to become the temporary home for the Moray Vaccination Centre as of 2nd April 2025. Letter to the NHS Board. There was discussion about this and the content of the proposed letter to the board expressing our concerns about the NHS and services available in Moray. The possibility of any meeting with the board being a public meeting was also raised. Brian volunteered to write the letter which will highlight our concerns regarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cataracts surgery – out with Moray Endoscopy clinic – closing in April Orthopaedics – still limited The 5 year plan or lack of Patients having to travel out of area for clinic appointments, surgery and being awarded their expenses board and travel - hardly cost effective Discussion also raised the possibility of the letter being copied to the Health Minister. It will be sent to the board in the first instance. 	
3. Road Safety	<p>Brian spoke about the recent road safety event he had attended and that he found it very informative.</p> <p>He mentioned the deregulation of parking, and that it would not be as expensive as had been previously mentioned due to neighbouring authorities having done so – we can ‘piggy back ‘ on to them.</p>	
4. Finance	Report circulated with minutes; no questions raised.	
5. Planning	Nothing to raise	
6. Levelling Up	Nothing to report	

9. Interment Charges	Alastair has written to the Chief Executive and the council leader both Moray Council – No responses as yet.	Both issues ongoing
Interment Charges	We have now heard that there is a proposal to raise the charges for interment in Moray. These proposals would see the cost of an adult burial in Moray being more expensive than Edinburgh.	
10. Resilience	Brian has been working on a new version of the resilience booklet for Elgin. The ICE CREW initiative from the NHS has been paused.	
11. Library Consultation	<p>The Elected members present were asked about the reversal of the decision to close libraries – Overwhelming public support against closures – there maybe some co-location of some libraries in the future.</p> <p>Joyce mentioned surveys and that low responses can still drive changes</p> <p>Alison – We live in a world of surveys</p> <p>Surveys if important should be postal – not everyone is pc savvy</p> <p>We have been ‘consulted to death’ regarding the A96 – yet nothing ever happens.</p>	
12. Seagulls	<p>This issue is never far from our agenda</p> <p>We plan to conduct a two part gull count – first before the breeding season gets underway and 2nd 3-4 months later. The aim is to get bird numbers prior to and after breeding.</p> <p>* Count 1 took place on 26th March – report attached</p> <p>Again, the conversation turned to Nature Scot – and how ineffective they have been towards the seagull menace. Yet they have granted permission to a Moray residence to cull brown hares which are protected – in a bid to protect trees, surely hare proof fencing would be a better alternative.</p> <p>Cllr Elaine Kirby mentioned that Douglas Ross was due to raise the issue of seagulls in parliament (tomorrow) and that she would pass on any comments we may have to Douglas tonight .</p>	
13. Brown Bins	<p>Only 15 households took up the split payment option – not worth the resource.</p> <p>Could the fee be added to council tax – would have to be opt in</p> <p>Incidents of fly tipping are down – only 3 prosecutions</p> <p>Elgin is still the only waste centre that requires a booking</p>	

11. Elected Members	Sandy The St Giles Centre – liquidation applied for The Swan system may help schools with their internet issues – it may take up to 6 months for a progress report. There has been cross party agreement on some saving measures – over the next year. Explanation of Cllr wage increases and how it was met.	
13. AOCB	Public convenience's In light of the closure of the St Giles Centre the Chamber of Commerce – looking at the caravan system of porta loos. Shop Mobility – Unfortunately the shop is now closed Notice boards – there are two notice boards at the entrance to the Cooper Park – unfortunately we don't know who is responsible for them, nor who would use them – most groups favour social media for advertising etc. QR codes – PUBLIC SHOULD BE AWARE OF ANY SUSPICIOUS LOOKING QR CODES ON ANY PUBLIC PAYMENT MACHINES (CAR PARKS) AND THESE SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE POLICE / COUNCIL. Allan spoke about on going issues with the play area at the Glassgreen site at the top of New Elgin. He mentioned a forthcoming meeting with a representative from the Factoring company and will update at the next meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please see attachment D 	
NEXT MEETING	TUESDAY 8TH APRIL 7pm, ELGIN COMMUNITY CENTRE	

A**Attendance record****Meeting date 11th MARCH 2025**

NAME		ATTENDING	APOLOGIES
Alan Bell		✓	
Alastair Kennedy	Chair	✓	
Alison Stockley		✓	
Anne Mitchell		✓	
Brian Irvine	Vice Chair	✓	
David Chapman		✓	
Douglas Clark		✓	
Diane Burgess		✓	
Graham Jarvis			✓
James Wiseman			✓
Joyce Bremner		✓	
Katherine Bowditch	Minutes		
Kian Wyne			
Steve Christie	Treasurer	✓	
Amber Dunbar	Cllr Moray Council	✓	
Elaine Kirby	Cllr Moray Council	✓	
Jereme Fernades	Cllr Moray Council	✓	
John Divers	Cllr Moray Council	✓	
Peter Bloomfield	Cllr Moray Council		✓
Sandy Keith	Cllr Moray Council	✓	
Debra Duke	CCLO Moray Council		
Mark Crowley & Sophie Dinak-Martin	Community Wardens		
David	P&J		
Sean Angus	Press		
Jim Talbot		✓	
Pat Patterson		✓	



*The City and Royal Burgh of
Elgin
Community Council*

Public gull count – conducted on 26th March 2025

As part of Elgin Community Council's approach to dealing with one of the most common complaints brought to us, we conducted a gull count on Thursday 26th March 2025. Through our Facebook page we invited the public to stop for a few moments wherever they were in Elgin on that day and count how many gulls they could see round about them at that time. Forty three people took part, some conducting multiple counts covering different areas of the town.

Where there was more than a single count conducted in a specific area, the figures were added together and divided by the amount of persons conducting a count in that area giving us an average count to which we added +1 bird where the figure needed rounding up.

Although we gave specific details as to where the count information should be posted, it is possible that some information was posted on shared posts which we couldn't retrieve hence the final figure is possibly higher than recorded.

A second count will be held in 3 months' time with a view to see if there is a significant change in gull numbers at that point, which in normal circumstances would be towards the end of the breeding cycle.

	Gull Count	Average	Total	Nest sites
Academy Street	9, 11, 10	10	10	
Alma Place	5		5	
Asda (Elgin)	50, 22	36	36	
Ashfield Drive	27		27	
Ashgrove Road	90, 63	77	77	
Black Friars Road	40, 21, 27	40	40	
Chanonry Road	12		12	
Chanonry Road (South)	76		76	
Cooper Park	14		14	
Deanshaugh Road	80		80	
East Road	22		22	
Edgar Road	15, 39, 45	33	15	
Elgin Bus Station	50, 16	33	33	
Elgin High School	30		30	
Elgin - Cedarwood	22		22	
Fleurs Road	5		5	
Fraser Avenue	13		13	
Golf View Crescent	33,21,11, 28	24	24	6
Hebenton Road	11		11	2
Institution Road	31, 16	24	24	
King Street	2, 8	5	5	
Kirkton Place	25		25	6
Linkwood College	25		25	
Linkwood Road	52		52	
Lossie Green	32		32	
Lossie Wynd	39		39	
Maisondieu Road	78, 52,	65	65	
Mannoch Court	21		21	
Moray Council HQ	23		23	
Moray Street	7, 10, 60	26	26	
Mossend Place	18		18	4
New Elgin Primary	27		27	
North Guildry Street	10		10	
Robertson Drive	16		16	
Shaw Place	130		130	
South College Street	18		18	
South Guildry Street	10,5,28	22	22	
Southfield Drive	20		20	

Springfield retail park	30		30	
Tesco (Elgin)	39		39	
Town Centre	59, 28	44	44	
Tyock Industrial Est	16		16	
Victoria Road	15		15	2
Wardend Place	18		18	
Totals			1,233	20

Miltonduff 85 Mosstowie 20 - count in rural areas outside town boundary



Attachment **B**

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Finance Report

March 2025

Opening Balance	£5,342.61
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Minutes	£x,x40.00
Bank service charge	£x,xx4.25
Total expenditure	<u>£x,x44.25</u>
<u>Income</u>	
Grant payment – Moray Council	£1,161.76
Refund – Bank service via interest collection	£x,xx4.25
Total income	<u>£1,166.05</u>
Current Balance	<u>£6,464.37</u>