

A Meeting of the City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council was held in the
COUNCIL CHAMBERS on Tuesday 11th FEBRUARY 2014 at 7.00pm.

1.	<p><u>Sederunt and Apologies.</u> (* Associate, ** Youth)</p> <p><u>MEMBERS</u></p> <p>Alastair KENNEDY(Chair), Bryan WATSON(Vice Chair) Gordon METHVEN(Sec'), Steven MILNE(Treasurer), Bob ANDERSON, David CHAPMAN*, Steven CHRISTIE, Eric MARRIOTT, Daniel PICKINGS**, Donnie McLEAN, Anne GLOVER, Steven MILNE, Mary WALL, Eddie WALLACE, Pat PATERSON, Jim WISEMAN(Minutes).</p> <p><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u></p> <p>Cllr Barry JARVIS, Cllr Graeme LEADBITTER, Cllr Patsy GOWANS, Kathy GRANT (Community Warden) Krystian KACZALA (Stagecoach), Jo MILLICAN (Northern Scot), John MORGAN(Fire & Rescue) Laura MITCHELL</p> <p><u>APPOLOGIES</u></p> <p>Aidan MILNE**, Cheryl ROBB, Cllr James ALLAN, Cllr John DIVERS, Laura MILLER** Cllr Mike SHAND.</p> <p>SPEAKER – John Morgan of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (Moray & Aberdeen)</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the speaker John Morgan of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.</p> <p>John Morgan outlined the Moray Local Fire and Rescue plan 2014-17 which is currently the subject of a consultation. Copies of the proposed plan were distributed. John Morgan gave a presentation about the plan and sought comments. All comments to go to Bob Anderson who is preparing a Community Council response.</p> <p>The Community Council and Councillors were concerned that good fire prevention could lead to a reduction in the service or lack of preparedness. John Morgan advised that this would not happen because preparedness is decided by population statistics and not the number of shouts.</p> <p>The following minor points were also noted.</p> <p>The Fire & Rescue Service offer free home visits and will fit appropriate smoke detectors free of charge. The capabilities of smoke detectors has advance in recent years and can now be set more precisely set to serve a range of specific needs..</p> <p>Alcohol and Drugs contribute to fires but the Fire & Rescue Service would refer any high risk cases to partners in community planning. Road Safety is also covered by partner organisations.</p> <p>Licenced premises are considered for capacity at the licencing stage. Concern was raised by the Community Council that some places seem overcrowded at times. John Morgan advised that calculating safe capacity depends on an interplay of several parameters not just the area. Access and egress is checked for public buildings but not for domestic ones although periodic checks on routes of access and egress from any building is wise.</p> <p>Gordon Methven highlighted the discrepancy between Police advice to lock doors and take the key out and Fire safety advice to leave keys in. John Morgan advised that individuals are encouraged to resolve this problem when making a personal Fire Action Plan along with decisions about any specific escape equipment required. When doing this bear in mind that the fire & Rescue Service can easily reach second floor windows for rescue.</p> <p>See Summary of response from Bob Anderson</p> <p>CO-Option of Donnie McLean</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy advised that Donnie McLean had been interested in joining the City and Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council. There being no objections, Donnie was duly co-opted. Alastair Kennedy advised Donnie that he would not be able to vote on co-options for one year.</p>	<u>ACTION</u>
		All-BA

2.	PREVIOUS MINUTES	
a.	<p>Minutes of Meeting held on 14th January 2014</p> <p>Anne Glover corrected Item 6B in that the Ladyhill Flowerbeds were not taken over by SPICE. The flowerbeds at Ladyhill were still being looked after by her Ladyhill Flowerbed Group which is a group of itself. It is important for the ongoing engagement of support for the group that their work is recognised as their own. It was also acknowledged that by Anne that they are now more associated with SPICE than the Community Council.</p> <p>With that understanding, the minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Gordon Methven, seconded by Steven Christie and there were no objections.</p>	
3.	Matters Arising.	

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	<p>Visit to Police Station was held as part of the meeting with the Justice Subcommittee.</p> <p>Visit to the Life Science Centre was held. Following the visit to the Life Sciences Centre by Alastair Kennedy, Eddie Wallace, Anne Glover, Eric Marriott and James Wiseman a nomination was submitted for a My Place Award.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy's letter to Schools on Bullying and the availability of the Community Warden to assist resulted in two responses and generally regarded as a disappointing response. No further action was proposed.</p> <p>The Poppy wreaths in the High Street were further discussed. It was previously noted that the poppy wreaths placed in the High Street, including the Community Council's one, deteriorate rapidly in winter and become shabby in appearance which was seen as being disrespectful and we think they should be removed after a suitable period of time. Alastair Kennedy is to write to Roddy Burns and the British Legion to seek guidance on the matter.</p> <p>Crossing of roads near schools was investigated by Eddie Wallace and David Chapman who concluded that whilst young people do wander about a bit, driver attitudes were perhaps of greater concern. A report will follow.</p> <p>Name badges are being concluded by Eddie Wallace. Members to provide feedback on examples provided.</p>	<p>AK</p> <p>EW+DC</p> <p>All-EW</p>
4.	Agency Updates	
a.	Police Scotland – No Report	
	Alastair Kennedy commented that "no report" from the Police was unusual.	
b.	Stagecoach	
	<p>SERVICES: Krystian Kaczala advised that improvements to the 5 & 10 service in Elgin, and the Aberdeen Inverness service which is to be split, were out for consultation via the Stagecoach website and face to face sessions including Elgin bus Station 5-7pm on 18th February 2014.</p> <p>TIMETABLES: Some errors in the published timetables at bus stops were raised however, Krystian Kaczala advised that the timetables were printed by Moray Council and the correct information had been provided. The electronic real time information service was discussed again and Krystian Kaczala is working on resolving the issues within his control which is only one of the electronic boards.</p>	
c.	Community Warden	
	<p>Dog Fouling: A meeting was held with Moray Council to tackle dog fouling in Elgin.</p> <p>Fly Tipping: Two tickets were being issued for Fly tipping in Elgin. Donnie Mclean advised that the fly tipping hot spots he was aware of were in the Pitgaveny area and not as bad as they used to be.</p> <p>Daniel Pickings advised that the litter bin at the back gate of Elgin Academy was always overflowing which may not be fly tipping but needs addressed.</p> <p>Noise: Pat Paterson raised an issue about Noise from motor bikes late at night in the Covesea Road area. Kathy Grant asked for specific details.</p>	KG
5.	Committee Reports:	
a.	Planning.	
	<p>Bishopmill Post Office: The responses received from the Post Office during the consultation about moving the Bishopmill Post Office from Bishopmill to Morrision Road was seen as derisory and it was agreed that a letter would be written to the CEO of the PO to express our annoyance.</p> <p>Brown Muir Exhibitions are scheduled as follows and a date is required for a Community Council meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wed 12/03/2014 Lhanbryde Community Centre, Robertson Road, Lhanbryde, IV30 8QQ 2 - 7pm • Thurs 13/03/2014 New Elgin & Ashgrove Public Hall, Land Street, Elgin, IV30 6BN 12 - 5:30pm • Fri 14/03/2014 Fogwatt Hall, Fogwatt, I30 8SL 2 - 7pm • Fri 21/03/2014 Rothes Grant Hall, 46-48 New Street, Rothes, AB38 7BJ 2 - 7pm • Sat 22/03/2014 Inchberry Hall, Orton, IV32 7QB 10 am - 2pm <p>Alastair Kennedy advised that he had informed Lossiemouth Community Council and would propose a suitable meeting for the Elgin Community Council.</p> <p>Eric is looking at the Planning amendment to Scotia Homes and Robertsons development at Spynie.</p> <p>Castle to Cathedral to Cashmere event was attended by James Wiseman. The project was at a pivotal point where the idea was being tested with a reference group before funding was sought. James advised that the concept was great and the supporting detail is there. A few ideas were generated at the event including James's one about bite sized information for each point of interest so everybody in Elgin can be ambassadors. The project needs community engagement and James</p>	<p>JW et al</p> <p>AK+JW</p> <p>EM</p> <p>JW</p>

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	<p>offered to be the ECC contact.</p> <p>Eric Marriott attended the Grant Lodge meeting.</p> <p>The Planning Team is still working on getting the weekly wards list regularly to the specified contact.</p>	<p>EM</p> <p>JW</p>
b.	Recreation, Leisure and Environment	
	<p>FAIRTRADE GROUP</p> <p>Fairtrade Fortnight is coming up, starting Saturday 22 February. Awareness of what Fairtrade is all about is increasing here in Elgin all the time. The Elgin Fairtrade Group is pushing forward a bid to gain Fairtrade status for Elgin, a fitting aim for a city in a country which gained its Fairtrade status last year.</p> <p>A number of events are planned for the Fortnight starting with a stall at the Farmers' Market on Sat 15. Then an evening meeting at the Elgin Youth Cafe (EYC) is planned for Thursday 27 February starting at 7pm. A coffee farmer who has come over from Nicaragua will be telling her story of how Fairtrade has helped her in her life and others in his community. All are welcome and entrance is free. Tea and coffee will be served – all Fairtrade of course!</p> <p>For the duration of the fortnight EFTG will be running a shops/cafes quiz which will involve those businesses in the centre of Elgin who use or sell Fairtrade. Clue sheets will be on sale at W H Smith and at the Farmers' Market stall for 50p a sheet. There will be a prize draw at the end of Fairtrade Fortnight.</p> <p>A coffee morning is planned for the Weds 5 March when Elgin Academy pupils will be serving tea, coffee and homebakes made by themselves from Fairtrade ingredients to Councillors and the Children and Young Person's Committee at the Council Chambers.</p> <p>If anyone feels that they would like to join the Elgin Fairtrade Group (EFTG) to help with their different ventures then please get in touch with the chairperson, Mary Wall.</p> <p>The Leisure & Recreation Review was attended by Eric Marriott who expressed concerns shared by other groups that there was an unfair representation from certain groups at the review, and the hope that it is not going to be decided on a who shouts the loudest basis. Councillor Barry Jarvis referenced the facilities planning model and assured us that all voices will be heard, adding that the leisure and Recreation review was complicated by the schools review going in parallel.</p>	
c.	Roads & Transportation.	
	<p>Roundabout Safety issue with Stagecoach – The findings of the committee given to the complainant, in which we find no reason for the removal of the scheduled bus service in the dispute. He may well take the issue further.</p> <p>Elgin Academy Crossing Haugh Road Bridge – The scene has been surveyed and awaiting feedback from Academy in order to complete the findings and finalise the report.</p>	
d.	Youth. – No report due to exams	
6.	Community Planning:	
a.	<p>Elgin South Area Community Planning Forum</p> <p>Update was received from the High School team.</p> <p>Information was provided for the multimember ward plans.</p> <p>Next Meeting 18st February 2014 to be chaired by Catherine Sinclair.</p>	
b.	<p>SPICE</p> <p>See Minutes Circulated.</p>	
c.	<p>JCC:</p> <p>Next meeting Thursday 13th February 2014. Eric Marriott and Gordon Methven to attend.</p>	AK
d.	Town Centre design Charrettes – No update	
e.	<p>Community Council Representation in Community Planning</p> <p>A meeting was held between James Wiseman, Alastair Kennedy and Gordon Methven to discuss community involvement in community planning which is currently non existent..</p>	All
7.	<p>Education –</p> <p>Eric Marriott raised a concern that cut backs would be proposed for schools while money is seen to be wasted on mistakes on Moray Council projects.</p>	

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a.	Elgin High School – No update	
b.	Elgin Academy – No Report	
c.	Primary Schools – No Report	
8.	Treasurer's Report.	
	No 1 Account £3,704.58 No 2 Account £1,328.38 after agreed contribution to SPICE (See January 2014 minutes). Alastair Kennedy reminded members to submit expenses if incurred on Community Council business.	
9.	Ongoing topics	
a.	Deanshaugh Playing Fields – Material is starting to be spread out.	
b.	Oldmills – A mobile sawmill is on site to carryout repairs	
c.	Lesser Boroughbriggs – No Update	
d.	Elgin Fund – Cooper Park – No Update	
10.	Events	
a.	Community Awards A committee has been set up to take the community awards scheme forward. An event is proposed late 2014. Anne Glover advised that a shield was available but needed refurbishment.	GM
b.	Training Planning training is planned for April.	AK
11.	<u>Chair's Report</u> – See report	
	9th January - JCC agenda setting meeting with Community Council Liaison Officer (CCLO) 10th January - Meeting with Steve Cooper & Grant Wilson from the Moray Council about installing big-bellied bins, access to Ladyhill cottage, Ladyhill becoming a war memorial and tidiness of Elgin in general. Steve Cooper has asked for on-going dialogue through future quarterly meetings 13th January Meeting with LEADER manager as EU requires a locally led development strategy (LDS) to be written for the next LEADER programme. 16th January - South Lesmurdie group meeting. A fairly positive meeting at which it was agreed to leaflet-drop the area to encourage a better buy-in to ensure the group has the support of the community to continue looking at a community hub. 20th January - meeting with MSPs from Justice Committee. Members agreed that current policing is working but we are not becoming complacent. Complained about situation with Traffic Wardens and the earlier consultation which we feel was already agreed to happen. The poor approach to the consultation on other items was discussed also. 21st January - meeting of Elgin South Area Forum. I attend these to retain the link and good relations we have built up with ESAF. 22nd January - LEADER meeting to evaluate consultancy bids for assisting with writing the LDS which needs to be Moray-wide and will look at the needs and aspirations of communities across Moray. 22nd January - I was invited to attend a presentation from Cruse Bereavement regarding a schools initiative which looked at whether or not young people need support during and after a bereavement. Unsurprisingly, it was found there is a need for such a service. A focus group was agreed but I made it clear I didn't have the capacity to do more than help from a distance. 24th January - Met with an education rep. regarding our earlier discussions about bullying as one school felt it had been singled out as a school with a bullying problem. I made it clear that was incorrect, had no idea how that conclusion had been reached since there had been nothing in the minute and nothing in the letter we sent to Parent Councils. That was fully accepted I believe. 28th January - Community Engagement Group meeting. This is the only route that Community Councils are represented within Community Planning (CP) in Moray which is unacceptable. I made it clear that CCs are still unhappy with the lack of proper engagement in Moray and the Chair will take that back to the CP board....again. I understand that since that time CP has been heavily criticised by Audit Scotland for exactly that. 29th January - LEADER Local Action Group meeting. Community Councils will now be asked to be involved in discussions on the future of EU funding in Moray. 30th January - SPICE meeting which included an introduction to the initiative Achieving Community Empowerment (ACE) which was successfully applied for by SPICE. 4th February - Met with representatives from the Education Department, Elgin Academy and FES which is the contractor at	

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	<p>Elgin Academy. This is an on-going discussion about how the school links with the community and how the area around the school is looked after to ensure there is no negative impact on the neighbourhood by problems like litter. There will be research done on Big-bellied bins to find out if they would be cost-effective to be used across the Moray school estate.</p> <p>5th February - Met with Business Gateway to start writing a "Transition Strategy" which is looking at what requires to be done between winding up the current LEADER programme now and the new programme in 2015.</p> <p>5th February - The same afternoon there was a LEADER meeting re. LDS. This meeting included the consultants who will be write up the LDS on behalf of the LEADER LAG. They will contact some or all Community Councils at some point over the next few months.</p> <p>5th February. Later that evening myself and five other members of ECC toured the new Life Sciences building at Moray College. It was interesting and is a fantastic facility which will be a great benefit to Elgin and Moray. We had been asked by the designer to support a submission for a Civic Award and were happy to do so after our tour. I wrote the letter of support next morning which was received with thanks.</p> <p>6th February - Met with two other members to discuss Community Planning in Moray.</p> <p>7th February- Meeting with LEADER manager to finalise the events calendar for a Swedish group, containing mini-brewers and apple juice producers which will arrive in Elgin on Monday 10th February.</p>	
12.	Secretary's Report	
	<p>Community Awards – Alastair Kennedy, Steven Christie and I met with Jenny Devlin, tsiMoray to discuss the way forward. We have received a number of positive replies to the letter we sent out and will be holding a meeting with interested parties on Monday 10th February.</p> <p>Community Engagement – Alastair Kennedy, James Wiseman and I met to discuss the way this works in Moray. In particular, how we feed into and receive information from the Community Planning Board. We agreed to investigate further through the JCC. Alastair Kennedy will raise the matter again at the JCC meeting on Thursday 14th February.</p> <p>Correspondence – I received an outstanding bill from Moray Council regarding £21.00 from 2012 which I had intended passing on to our treasurer Steven Milne. As far as I am aware we had never received this bill and that was the reason it had remained unpaid. I was extremely annoyed to receive a couple of days later a threatening letter from a debt collecting agency employed by the Moray Council. I phoned the Council and a nice lady at finance was very apologetic. I paid the bill but am concerned if this is way that Moray Council handles all such matters. My daughter advises she has frequently seen customers in tears in the Post Office holding threatening letters from debt collection agencies regarding paltry amounts owed to the Council. They apparently do not send bills nor bill reminders by recorded delivery so there is no way of proving that people have actually received bills before they are passed to debt collectors.</p> <p>We also received a letter from SAC Consulting regarding renewables. If we need any consulting work done for community owned wind turbines or solar panels they suggest we contact them. The letter is here if anyone is interested.</p> <p>All other correspondence has been circulated by email.</p> <p>Consultations – The list has been sent out on another attachment.</p>	
13.	A.O.C.B.	
	<p>Bob Anderson raised a concern that the toilets in New Elgin Hall had been described as "worse than the St Giles Centre". Steven Christie advised that this had been actioned and work was due to be undertaken in the near future..</p> <p>Steven Christie tender his apology for the next meeting.</p> <p>Eric Marriott asked about the Moray Council's use of lorry parking at Brumley Brae and whether there was a better option to buy rather than rent? Councillor Patsy Gowans said that Steve Cooper would consider that at the next area based review.</p> <p>Donnie McLean raised a point about cars being parked on Council Ground opposite B&Q.</p>	
14.	Date of next meeting: Tuesday 11 th March 2014 in the Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin..	All
15.	CLOSE: There being no further business the Chair thanked all those present for attending and closed the meeting at 9:12pm.	

CITATION: These Minutes were adopted as a True Record of Proceedings:

Proposer: _____

Seconder: _____

Chair: _____ Mr Alastair Kennedy

Date: _____