

A Meeting of the City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council was held in the  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.00pm.**

1.	<b><u>Sederunt and Apologies.</u></b> (* Associate, ** Youth)	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
a.	<p><b><u>MEMBERS</u></b></p> <p>Alastair KENNEDY(Chair),                      Gordon METHVEN(Sec'),                      Bryan WATSON(Vice Chair),            Steven CHRISTIE,                              David CHAPMAN*,                              Andrew GRAY            Ann GLOVER,                                      Steven MILNE,                                      Pat PATERSON,            Mary WALL,                                        Eddie WALLACE,                                      Gordie WELLS,            Jim WISEMAN(Minutes).</p> <p>Note: Andrew Gray was proposed for co-optation by Alastair Kennedy during this meeting and there were no objections.</p> <p><b><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u></b></p> <p>Cllr John DIVERS,                                      Cllr Patsy GOWANS,                                      Cllr Graham LEADBITTER,            Cllr Mike SHAND,                                      Sgt John BLACK (Police Scotland),                                      Ann DONALDSON (REAP),            Krystian KACZALA (Stagecoach).                                      Marion MANSON,</p> <p><b><u>APPOLOGIES</u></b></p> <p>Cllr James ALLAN,                                      Kathy GRANT (Community Warden)</p> <p>It was noted that Bob ANDERSON had tendered his resignation from the Community Council due to personal circumstances. On behalf of the members Alastair Kennedy wished him well and thanked him for the valuable contributions he made to Elgin Community Council.</p>	
b.	<p><b><u>WELCOME</u></b></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Ann Davidson from REAP.</p>	
c.	<p><b><u>REAP – Ann Davidson</u></b></p> <p>Ann Davidson, manager of the Rural Environmental Action Group (REAP), gave an overview of her organisation, its objectives and then explained the community garden proposal for Elgin.</p> <p>REAP are finishing a 2½ year community growing project in Keith and have applied to the Climate Change fund for funding of a similar project in Elgin. REAP believe that there is enough interest in Elgin to do this and the application was supported by the Community Council.</p> <p>If the project goes ahead REAP would facilitate a scheme to help people grow their own food and to facilitate a volunteer led community garden. Ann Donaldson explained some of the ways this was done in Keith and touched on the benefits like reducing carbon by recycling &amp; composting.</p> <p>Ann Davidson was asked to update the Community Council as the scheme progresses and when a steering group is needed.</p>	<b>AD</b>
2.	<p><b><u>PREVIOUS MINUTES 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014</u></b></p> <p>The minutes were proposed by Bryan Watson and seconded by Eddie Wallace with no objections.</p>	
3.	<p><b><u>MATTERS ARISING.</u></b></p> <p>a. <b>Page 1 item 3a – Christmas lights</b>            Gordie Wells has volunteered to get involved as the ECC rep on the Christmas Lights committee and to help with fundraising.</p> <p>b. <b>Page 1 item 3d – Website</b>            Steve Milne confirmed that the domain was closed down.</p> <p>c. <b>Page 1 item 3e – Remembrance day parade</b>            Alastair Kennedy reported that the Elgin Community Council wreath in Elgin town Centre was laid by Gordon Methven with 7 attendees from the Community Council with a smaller group attending the afternoon ceremony in New Elgin.</p> <p>d. <b>Page 1 item 3f – Illinois Gifts</b>            Discussion on response to gifts from Illinois what to do with them. Cllr Patsy Gowans offered to speak to the Museum about holding the gifts from Elgin Illinois.</p>	<b>PG</b>

A Meeting of the City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council was held in the  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.00pm.**

	<p>e. <b>Page 1 item 3g - Membership</b> Alastair Kennedy asked for ideas on how to increase membership.</p> <p>f. <b>Page 4 item 11f – Ladyhill Steps</b> Consideration is being given to feeding this in to the Town Centre Charrette and Bob Anderson is no longer available to progress this matter.</p> <p>g. <b>Page 1 item 4b(2) – Newfield Road</b> See R&amp;T Report</p> <p>h. <b>Page 2 item 4b(4) – New bus route at Birnie</b> See R&amp;T Report</p> <p>i. <b>Page 2 item 4d - Community Engagement</b> Gary Templeton was seeking feedback on the Development Plan consultation through Community Engagement Group. Meeting to be arranged - Alastair Kennedy / James Wiseman</p> <p>j. <b>Page 2 item 5a(1) – Local Development Plan</b> The Reporter has been appointed to resolve all unresolved objections and we are following progress.</p> <p>k. <b>Page 2 item 5a(2) – Elgin High School</b> James Wiseman reported that he had responded to the planning application with comments of the Elgin South Forum supported by Elgin Community Council. Cllr John Divers expressed concern that it had come in as an "objection", which could hold up delivery of the school, rather than as a "representation". There was a discussion on the difference between an Objection and a Representation. James Wiseman thanked Councillor Divers for highlighting the potential for delay and said that neither ESAF nor ECC wanted to hold up the school but out of respect for the members who took the time to consider the application it is important that their response is properly considered. To that end, James Wiseman had seen the need to present it as an "objection", however, both organisations are happy to meet as soon as possible to discuss what can and can't be done to resolve the objections.</p> <p>l. <b>Page 2 item 5b(1) – Veteran's cottages</b> Ongoing</p> <p>m. <b>Page 2 item 5g &amp; 5h – Agenda</b> Gordon Methven reminded members of the new agenda item for member's business not covered by committee and proposed an item for community concerns.</p> <p>n. <b>Page 3 item 9c – Grant Lodge</b> Grant Lodge to go back on the agenda as Elgin Community Council are involved with the short life working group.</p> <p>o. <b>Page 4 item 11a – Flooding on Maisondieu Road</b> Alastair Kennedy gave an update on the reply he had received from Scottish Water.</p> <p>p. <b>Page 4 item 11b – Parking on verges of Edgar Road</b> Alastair Kennedy gave an update on this.</p> <p>q. <b>Page 4 item 11c and d – Future speakers</b> BT and Roads Dept were suggested.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>AK</p> <p>AK/JW</p> <p>JW</p> <p>AK/JW</p> <p>AG</p> <p>GM</p> <p>AK</p> <p>AK</p> <p>AK</p> <p>AK</p>
4.	<b><u>AGENCY UPDATES</u></b>	
a.	<p><b><u>POLICE SCOTLAND – Sgt John Black</u></b></p> <p>Police Scotland have attended 300 calls in October 2014 and investigated 167 crimes. One theft by house breaking was noted. 18 vandalisms were also noted, spread throughout the town, with no particular pattern.</p> <p>In response to local priorities, more officers have been trained to address antisocial driving behaviours including the use of speed detection equipment.</p> <p>In support of ongoing local engagement, a number of officers were deployed on the Remembrance Day Parade.</p> <p>Anne Glover asked for advice about parking on Seafield Street. Parking spaces for coaches are reserved at the bowling green using cones which prevents other people parking when the coaches are away and she asked if the cones can be removed. Sgt John Black suggested the Community Council could address this by local discussion with the bowling club.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion on the new drink drive limits and the A9 speed cameras.</p> <p>Pat Paterson reiterated concerns about the conflict between pedestrians and vehicles on the bridge over the River Lossie at Lady's Walk. Eddie Wallace advised that the matter was in the hands of the appropriate department and had been so for 3 months. Cllr Graham Leadbitter said that the problem was the legal requirements for road signage and suggested that there might be some leeway because the bridge is private.</p>	<p>EW</p>
b.	<b><u>STAGECOACH – Krystian Kaczala</u></b>	

A Meeting of the City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council was held in the  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.00pm.**

	<p><b>Newfield Road:</b> Eddie Wallace reported the successful outcome of reinstating the bus serving Larch Court. He explained that after a long involvement and many discussions a solution suggested by David Chapman at a meeting with Larch Court residents and Stagecoach was tested and found to be operable. The solution involved minor changes to the parking arrangements to allow a bus to turn without a banksman. Eddie Wallace praised the Larch Court residents who had not given up on this issue and acknowledged the support of Moray Council Transportation section. He particularly highlighted the help given by Stagecoach who arranged for a bus at very short notice to test the solution. Krystian Kaczala reported that his Managing Director was happy to reinstate the route.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy pointed out that Eddie Wallace had clarified that it was an Elgin Community Council member who came up with the solution and said that a number of members had expressed concern that a recent press article had been misleading in that regard. Larch Court residents were also praised for their efforts in finding a solution which was also missing from the P&amp;J press article. Clarification had been sought from the newspaper and the matter is to be corrected with a photo opportunity when the bus service restarts.</p> <p><b>Winter:</b> Krystian Kaczala reported that Stagecoach were preparing for winter and putting resources in place to minimise delays.</p> <p><b>Lossiemouth Bus Service:</b> Pat Patterson reported that the 16:10 and 16:30 service to Lossiemouth did not pick up at Tesco today (11/11/2014). Another passenger had said that this is quite common. Krystian Kaczala said that there was a vehicle issue today which was a one-off event and he wasn't aware of any other incident. Alastair Kennedy commented that there was no way to know if a service is affected. Krystian Kaczala aid that social media improvements are planned to assist in this regard.</p>	KK
c.	<b><u>COMMUNITY WARDEN – NO REPORT</u></b>	
d.	<p><b><u>CONSULTATIONS</u></b></p> <p><b>Polling Places:</b> Members are encouraged to respond to the consultation on polling places if they see any issues.</p> <p><b>WIFI:</b> Alastair Kennedy asked if anyone was aware of Wifi “not spots” for a consultation ongoing regarding a mast at Dufftown.</p> <p><b>Youth Crime:</b> Alastair Kennedy read out a questionnaire regarding youth crime and is to respond. Gordon Methven suggested that youth crime is not a problem in Elgin and it was thought that this appears to be the case. Cllr John Divers commented that he sits on the youth justice committee and youth crime has dropped substantially in recent years.</p>	ALL ALL AK
e.	<p><b><u>DATA PROTECTION</u></b></p> <p>Gordon Methven reported that the Data Protection Registration Renewal had been received and passed to the Treasurer for payment.</p>	SM
f.	<p><b><u>NATIONAL CONSUMER WEEK</u></b></p> <p>National Consumer Week is targeting Door Step Crime and has issued advice on the nominated neighbour scheme whereby cards can be obtained from the moray Council Access Point advising door step traders of a nominated neighbour to contact.</p>	
5.	<b><u>COMMITTEE REPORTS:</u></b>	
a.	<p><b><u>PLANNING</u></b></p> <p><b>New Elgin High School:</b> See discussion in matters arising.</p> <p><b>Brown Muir Wind Farm:</b> James Wiseman advised members of the new application in respect of Brown Muir Wind Farm and that it appeared to be an improvement on the previous scheme from an Elgin point of view and he recommended that a response along the lines of the one sent after the exhibitions earlier this year would be appropriate provided the scheme is unchanged.</p>	JW JW
b.	<p><b><u>RECREATION, LEISURE AND ENVIRONMENT</u></b></p> <p><b>Lady Hill:</b> Anne Glover reported that the slates that had fallen off the roof of the Veteran's Cottages at Lady Hill had been cleared up by others. The base of the Urn had been cleaned. There was a discussion about the price list for next years flowers.</p> <p><b>Fair Trade:</b> Mary Wall advised that the Fair Trade group had taken a stall at the Baptist Church coffee morning and plan to take a stall at the next Farmers Market to promote awareness of Fair Trade which will contribute to next year's return.</p> <p><b>Christmas Lights:</b> Gordie Wells attended the meeting of the Christmas Lights committee last Monday. The fundraising target is £40,000 for the lights and he had taken part in a photoshoot with the barometer. There are to be fundraising activities at the switch on ceremony on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2014 and Gordie Recommended</p>	AG MW GW

A Meeting of the City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council was held in the  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.00pm.**

	that everyone attends the switching on of the Elgin Christmas Lights. Bag packing is planned for Marks & Spencer's later this month.	
c.	<p><b><u>ROADS &amp; TRANSPORTATION – See Report</u></b></p> <p>See Stagecoach minute above regarding Larch Court and Newfield Road. Alastair Kennedy congratulated the R&amp;T team on a successful outcome.</p> <p><b>Trunk Roads:</b> Bear Scotland have the contract to maintain their trunk roads for the next 7 years with provision for up to 10 years.</p> <p><b>Admin:</b> Gordon Methven asked ECC members to include the Elected Members of Moray Council if circulating reports late.</p>	All
d.	<b><u>YOUTH. – No Report</u></b>	
e.	<p><b><u>SOCIAL MEDIA</u></b></p> <p>Bryan Watson reported 381 followers on Facebook and 123 followers on Twitter. Bryan Watson offered to repost any link to the Christmas Lights social media. Gordie Wells advised that the Christmas lights appeal did not have it's own social media sites as yet. Alastair Kennedy added that a recent national survey on use of IT by community Councils showed Elgin on top.</p>	BW
f.	<b><u>MEMBERS BUSINESS – No Items</u></b>	
g.	<b><u>CHAIR'S REPORT – See Report</u></b>	
h.	<p><b><u>SECRETARY'S REPORT – See Report</u></b></p> <p>Gordon Methven added that he had attended the Rural Parliament 3 day meeting. Electoral Reform was discussed and a report was submitted to the Scottish Government. He felt it was a great networking opportunity. The 'Open Space' sessions worked well, where people grouped together around issues they highlighted and felt strongly about, and tried to reach consensus. The workshops were less flexible and Gordon felt they had been deliberately arranged. There was a feeling the organisers and Scottish Government were trying to manipulate the answers they wanted in support for their mandate to scrap local and community councils and follow a Swedish model of devolved government. Community Councils (and local authorities) did come in for a lot of criticism at the event, with some wishing them to be scrapped. There was a feeling with frustration about the top-down, central approach. Some rural communities did want Community Councils (or an equivalent body) to have real powers and to be paid for their work. Gordon noted that increasing the responsibilities of Community Councils without pay would not be sustainable. Gordon feels this is an important area to follow and be involved in and all Community Councils should attend, not just one JCC member, in order to influence what happens next, and stand a chance of having Community Councils with 'real powers'. An official report will follow from Scottish Rural Parliament.</p>	
6.	<b><u>COMMUNITY PLANNING.</u></b>	
a.	<p><b><u>ELGIN SOUTH AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING FORUM</u></b></p> <p>See ESAF Minutes circulated and available on <a href="http://www.yourmoray.org.uk">www.yourmoray.org.uk</a></p>	
b.	<p><b><u>SPICE</u></b></p> <p>See Minutes circulated.</p> <p><b>In Your Neighbourhood:</b> Steve Christie highlighted that SPICE received a commendation from In Your Neighbourhood.</p> <p><b>Litter Pick:</b> The litter pick generated some 30 bags of rubbish including beer cans which implied drinking in public offences may be being committed.</p> <p><b>Shrub Removal:</b> Volunteers are required for cutting shrubs on a date to be agreed.</p>	
c.	<p><b><u>JCC &amp; COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATION IN COMMUNITY PLANNING</u></b></p> <p><b>November JCC Meeting:</b> Eddie Wallace to attend.</p>	EW
d.	<p><b><u>TOWN CENTRE DESIGN CHARRETTES – No report</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Patsy Gowans advised that funding had been received and the town centre charrette event will be run in spring. Gordon Methven added that the Town Centre Charrettes were under scrutiny at the rural parliament.</p>	

A Meeting of the City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council was held in the  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.00pm.**

7.	<p><b><u>EDUCATION</u></b></p> <p>Cllr John Divers commented that there is ongoing school zoning in Elgin. This involves the need for a new school and there are questions around the population of that school. Cllr Graham Leadbitter advised that draft proposals would be available for consultation early 2015 for the Elgin Catchment. Bryan Watson asked if plot CF 4 could have been used but it was stated that that plot was not big enough.</p>	
8.	<p><b><u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u></b></p> <p>Still on track. There is a lack of expenses being claimed, the awards ceremony is on budget, as is all other expenditure.</p>	
9.	<p><b><u>ONGOING TOPICS</u></b></p>	
a.	<p><b><u>DEANSHAUGH PLAYING FIELDS – See Matters Arising</u></b></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy commented on the planning application to retain the ramp to Deanshaugh Playing Fields at the expense of a football pitch and recalled the previous discussions where it was agreed that the ramp would be temporary.</p>	JW
b.	<p><b><u>ELGIN FUND COOPER PARK – See Matters Arising</u></b></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy reported that the planning conditions associated with the proposed amphitheatre in the Cooper Park had been resolved.</p>	
c.	<p><b><u>GRANT LODGE</u></b></p> <p>Andrew Gray was co-opted and was asked to become involved in the Grant Lodge project who's next meeting is 2/12/2014 in the youth Café.</p>	AG
10.	<p><b><u>EVENTS</u></b></p>	
a.	<p><b><u>COMMUNITY AWARDS</u></b></p> <p>Gordon Methven reported that the Community Award panel had met and finalists are being lined up. The event is 21<sup>st</sup> November by invitation only. A contribution of £185 was received from Moray Community Planning Partnership to build links with the Community via Moray Council who are one of the partners.</p>	GM
b.	<p><b><u>TRAINING – No update</u></b></p> <p>The JCC are arranging training on the Role of a Community Councillor and Conflict Management. Some difficulties have arisen but these are expected to be resolved soon for the courses to proceed.</p>	
11.	<p><b><u>A.O.C.B.</u></b></p> <p><b>Access to Streets:</b> Eddie Wallace advised that a date had been set for the next session of access to streets following on from the training offered previously.</p> <p><b>Circulation List:</b> Eddie Wallace asked for a new Elgin Community Council circulation list.</p> <p><b>Spotlight Magazine:</b> Mary Wall asked why the minutes were not published in the Spotlight Magazine and said that people have been asking her about it. Anne Glover commented that it was up to the editors to decide what goes in to the magazine and we have no control over it possibly because we didn't pay for inclusion of the minutes. Alastair Kennedy to contact the Spotlight magazine.</p> <p><b>Dog Fouling:</b> Anne Glover raised the problem of dog fouling at Lady Hill. Alastair Kennedy suggested contacting the Community Warden. Cllr John Divers added that there was no excuse for dog fouling as it can be disposed of in normal waste bins as well as the dog bins since it all goes to landfill.</p>	EW GM AK AG
12.	<p><b><u>NEXT MEETING – 9 DEC 2014</u></b></p> <p>7:00pm Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014 Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin.</p>	
13.	<p><b><u>CLOSE</u></b></p> <p>There being no further business the Chair thanked all those present for attending and closed the meeting at 21:03</p>	

A Meeting of the City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council was held in the  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.00pm.**

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

Proposer: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconder: \_\_\_\_\_

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_ Mr Alastair Kennedy

Date: \_\_\_\_\_