

The City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council

Held in Moray Council Chambers on Tuesday 14th April 2015 at 7.00pm

1.	<u>Sederunt and Apologies.</u> (* Associate, ** Youth)	ACTION
a.	<p><u>MEMBERS</u></p> <p>Alastair KENNEDY(Chair), Gordon METHVEN(Sec'), Steven MILNE(Treasurer), Steven CHRISTIE, David CHAPMAN*, Ann GLOVER, Donnie MacLEAN, Pat PATERSON, Mary WALL, Eddie WALLACE, Gordie WELLS, Andrew GRAY,</p> <p><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u></p> <p>Cllr John DIVERS, Cllr Kirsty REID, Cllr Graham LEADBITTER, Krystian KACZALA (Stagecoach), Andrew MACKIE (Community Warden), Ian CATTO, Oliver BAYLIS, William HENDERSON Hazel LAWSON (Northern Scot), Darren ROSS (Grampian Police) Speakers – Graham JARVIS Paul WATSON Alison HANNAN</p> <p><u>APPOLOGIES</u></p> <p>Jim WISEMAN Cllr James ALLAN, Cllr Patsy GOWANS Cllr Mike SHAND Bryan WATSON(Vice Chair),</p>	
b.	<p><u>WELCOME</u></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	
c.	<p><u>SPEAKERS – Graham Jarvis, head of Lifelong Learning and Support, Paul Watson, Senior Education Advisor</u></p> <p>They were accompanied by Alison Hannan, Community Support Officer. The purpose of the presentation was to provide members with an understanding of a proposal paper soon to be put before elected members to vary the catchment areas of Bishopmill, East End, Greenwards, New Elgin, Seafield and West End primary schools in Elgin, including establishing zones for two new primary schools in the north and south of Elgin. The matter has been put out to public consultation and all submissions expressing views on the proposals must be submitted by 5.00pm on 29th May 2015 for them to be taken into account.</p> <p>It is intended that a response to issues raised within the consultation will be published before the Children and Young Peoples Services Committee on 9th December 2015.</p> <p>Following the presentation questions were raised regarding the provision of School Crossing Patrols and the dangers of crossing the A96. It was confirmed such concerns would be taken into consideration in the proposals.</p> <p>Following the presentation the Chair thanked the speakers for attending and they then left the meeting.</p>	
d.	<p><u>CO-OPTIONS</u></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy proposed that three potential members in attendance be co-opted onto the Community Council. This was seconded by Anne Glover. There were no objections and Iain Catto, Oliver Baylis and William Henderson were therefore accepted as co-opted members.</p>	
2.	<p><u>PREVIOUS MINUTES 10th February 2014</u></p> <p>The minutes were proposed by Steven Christie and seconded by Donnie Maclean with no objections.</p>	
3.	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING.</u></p> <p>a. Page 1 item 3b - Gifts from Illinois. - Anne Glover Ongoing. Anne Glover to find storage location and propose a reciprocal gift.</p> <p>b. Page 1 item 3l – Lighting up the cathedral – Alastair Kennedy Alastair is awaiting a response from Historic Scotland following an initial enquiry he had made on the subject. Due to the lack of response he may need to try a different route of contact. It was proposed this item be added to the agenda as an ongoing topic. There were no objections.</p>	<p>AG</p> <p>AK</p>

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	c. Page 5 item 12a – Forward report and agenda from Patient forum. - Anne Glover	AG
4.	<u>AGENCY UPDATES</u>	
a.	<p><u>POLICE SCOTLAND – Darren Ross</u></p> <p>PC Ross reported there had been 130 crimes / offences dealt with in Elgin during the last month. 26 assaults of which 7 were domestic, 2 serious and 1 within licensed premises. There were no housebreakings but there was one theft of a motor vehicle, 16 general thefts and 16 thefts by shoplifting. There were 9 breach of the peace. There was one drunk driver and 2 speeders.</p> <p>Councillor Reid asked if police were aware of dogs being stolen in Elgin. PC Ross was unaware.</p> <p>Eddie Wallace commented on the police now actively policing parking in the area around Elgin High Street and South Street. Alastair Kennedy said this was very welcome as it was something the community council and especially Gordon Methven had been requesting more of since the traffic warden service had been removed.</p> <p>Anne Glover asked about disabled drivers parking at the top of North Street blocking the entrance to the pedestrian area on High Street. PC Ross advised most disabled drivers would be educated for such offences but if the obstruction was blatant a fixed penalty could be issued.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy thanked PC Ross for the input and he then left the meeting.</p>	
b.	<p><u>STAGECOACH – Krystian Kaczala</u></p> <p>Krystian explained there had been fare increases in most areas but that fares were to remain the same in Moray. From 20th April there will be a new timetable for services 10, 31 and 35 to provide a bus every 15 minutes. Stagecoach are introducing AVL (Automatic Vehicle Location) which sends a signal from the bus every 20 seconds to control. This will enable controllers to monitor delays etc and communicate with drivers via a text display on their ticket machine which will only operate when the vehicle is stationary and the handbrake on. The controllers will see a display which shows the vehicles as red if they are too early, green if they are on time and blue if the buses are late. It will take time for staff to get used to the system which should be installed by the end of May / beginning of June. It will provide Krystian with the ability to analyse data more effectively.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy asked if this will allow problems to be dealt with earlier and Krystian said it should help.</p> <p>Pat Paterson asked about the digital display at the bus station. Krystian advised this was actually maintained by Moray Council but he was hopeful the information from AVL will be available to be displayed on that also. If so it would help the situation there.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy advised that Hitrans were distributing leaflets about cards for disabled people who need assistance that they could show to drivers. Krystian said he was aware and was enthusiastic about this.</p> <p>A discussion followed about how best to get the information out and where people could get these cards. Krystian is to follow up and send us more information. Eddie Wallace said he would also investigate.</p> <p>David Chapman asked if drivers were allowed to assist disabled people in boarding or alighting from the vehicle. Krystian said the drivers were encouraged to help unless they had a medical condition themselves which prevented them from doing so.</p> <p>Anne Glover highlighted a situation reported to her where a wheelchair user had booked the space on a bus for her use only to find the space blocked by prams when she tried to board. Krystian said that when such information is passed to them drivers are issued with a note so they can ensure the space is available. He didn't know what had happened on that particular occasion. He further advised that there had been different views issued by the courts as to who is responsible to ensure space is available. One court reasoned it was impractical to expect a bus company to enforce space is kept clear of prams if parents ignored the driver whilst another reasoned it was the bus companies responsibility.</p> <p>Eddie Wallace asked how much of Scotland will be covered by AVL. Krystian said it was planned to hopefully role out AVL to the whole of Scotland depending upon the coverage in certain areas.</p> <p>Donnie Maclean commented he had received a complaint from a lady who said there always seems to be breakdowns on route 36. Krystian disputed this and advised there had been one breakdown last week but their stats showed there to be only around 0.05% breakdowns. The buses are checked every 21 days for defects. He will bring the information with him next time he attends a meeting.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy thanked Krystian for the input and he then left the meeting.</p>	
c.	<p><u>COMMUNITY WARDEN – Andrew Mackie</u></p> <p>Andrew Mackie reported his month's activities:</p> <p>Other Anti-Social behaviour – there have been 9 jobs. These were for neighbour disputes, youth annoyance and graffiti.</p> <p>Noise complaints – 5</p>	

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	<p>Dog fouling – 5 incidents, 1 fixed penalty issued.</p> <p>Litter/fly tipping – 4 incidents, 2 fixed penalties issued and two warnings.</p> <p>Feeding seagulls – 2 incidents.</p> <p>Abandoned vehicles – 9 reported</p> <p>Initiatives – Community warden carrying out joint litter patrols with High School staff during lunchtimes. Inputs to various groups on CW role including cubs and Moray College (Social Science). Beat doorstep crime leaflets have been delivered to a number of addresses.</p> <p>Councillor Leadbitter asked if the abandoned vehicles were in the Fogwatt Lane or Oakwood areas. Andrew replied that they weren't.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy thanked Andrew for the input and he then left the meeting.</p>	
5.	<u>COMMITTEE REPORTS:</u>	
a.	<p><u>PLANNING</u></p> <p>There was no report however Alastair Kennedy commented about the application for Deanshaugh playing fields and said it was unacceptable the way the information came out. He further said the community council had to read about it in the newspaper and thanked the Northern scot for their coverage. A meeting has now been arranged with planners but the information has been given to us two weeks too late for us to provide a meaningful response to the application.</p>	JW
b.	<p><u>RECREATION, LEISURE AND ENVIRONMENT</u></p> <p>There was no report. Anne Glover commented Ladyhill Gardens was looking lovely.</p>	
c.	<p><u>ROADS & TRANSPORTATION – See Report</u></p> <p>Eddie Wallace advised he had sent letters to the Moray Council regarding issues surrounding abuses of the blue badge scheme and also regarding parking on verges. He had received no response whatsoever and was disappointed. He then sent emails querying the lack of response and has since received acknowledgement of the correspondence. He will report on whatever feedback he receives.</p>	EW
d.	<u>YOUTH. – No Report</u>	
e.	<u>CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – Gordie Wells</u>	
	Fundraising is ongoing. The cheque from the community council for this has still to be submitted.	GW
f.	<u>GRANT LODGE</u>	
	The Grant Lodge Trust has asked for a consultant to report on a range of sustainability options and this will hopefully be with them by the end of the week. From this they will prepare a report for the Policy and Resources Committee by the end of May.	
g.	<p><u>SOCIAL MEDIA</u></p> <p>No report</p>	
h.	<u>WLR SUBGROUP – Gordon Methven</u>	
	There will be no further need for this subgroup to meet until another planning application is submitted. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda until this happens.	GM
i.	<u>CHAIR'S REPORT – See Report</u>	
j.	<u>SECRETARY'S REPORT – See Report</u>	
6.	<u>COMMUNITY PLANNING.</u>	
a.	<p><u>ELGIN SOUTH AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING FORUM</u></p> <p>See ESAF Minutes circulated and available on www.yourmoray.org.uk</p>	

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	It was announced there is to be a meeting on health with Richard Lochhead on Thursday 16 th April.	
b.	<p><u>SPICE</u></p> <p>The next meeting of SPICE is on Thursday 16th April, 6.30pm at Cedarwood.</p>	
c.	<p><u>JCC & COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATION IN COMMUNITY PLANNING</u></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy advised there was to be a consultation meeting with the Planning Department of Moray Council at 7.00pm on 20th April at Elgin Academy when advice will be provided regarding best practice for community groups responding to the Moray Development Plan. There will also be input on the draft developer contributions consultation and on rural groupings when considering planning applications.</p> <p>Alastair further advised that the draft paragraphs he circulated regarding changes to the constitution in respect of resignations are to be considered at a meeting with Mark Palmer on Thursday 16th April.</p>	
d.	<p><u>TOWN CENTRE DESIGN CHARRETTES</u></p> <p>The written report from the town centre charrette is due out soon.</p>	
7.	<p><u>EDUCATION</u></p>	
a.	<p><u>New Elgin High School – No Report</u></p>	
b.	<p><u>Elgin Academy – No Report</u></p>	
c.	<p><u>Primary Schools – No Report</u></p>	
8.	<p><u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u> – Steven Milne reported the accounts are in order and reminded everyone to submit their claims. Members are not expected to fund community council business from their own pockets.</p>	
9.	<p><u>ONGOING TOPICS</u></p>	
a.	<p><u>DEANSHAUGH PLAYING FIELDS –</u></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy advised that a meeting has been arranged with planners for Thursday 16th April which Jim Wiseman and Alastair Kennedy will attend.</p>	
b.	<p><u>ELGIN FUND COOPER PARK</u></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy advised we had applied for an amphitheatre in the Cooper Park on behalf of the Elgin Fund. The application was initially successful but has now been refused due to advice from the consultants involved in the town centre charrette who claimed it would be detrimental to future funding applications. We have received no information as to how an opinion from a consultant can cause an already accepted application to be refused.</p>	
10.	<p><u>EVENTS</u></p>	
a.	<p><u>COMMUNITY AWARDS</u></p> <p>Gordon Methven advised that planning for the event in November is ongoing. The facilitator is to send a formal invitation to us regarding sponsoring the main award again this year.</p>	AK
b.	<p><u>TRAINING –</u></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy advised of future training events regarding the role of community councillors and conflict avoidance and mediation.</p>	
11.	<p><u>A.O.C.B.</u></p> <p>Oliver Baylis said he would be interested in forming a sub group to look into the primary school re-zoning consultation. Members were asked to consider whether they wished to be involved.</p> <p>Donnie MacLean mentioned concern about pedestrian crossing facilities at Pansport as drivers treated the road like it was Brand's Hatch. Councillor Leadbitter said he remembered this had been looked into in the past but junction locations etc had prevented a signalled crossing from being installed. Eddie Wallace said the roads and transportation committee would look into the matter.</p>	

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12.	<u>NEXT MEETING -</u> 7:00pm Tuesday 12 th May 2015 Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin.	
13.	<u>CLOSE</u> There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone and closed the meeting.	

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

Proposer: _____

Seconder: _____

Chair: _____ Mr Alastair Kennedy

Date: _____