

**Minutes of the Elgin South Area Forum held in New Elgin and Ashgrove Public Hall on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at 7.00pm**

**Present**

|                 |                           |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Louise Ellerby  | Chairperson               |
| Aileen Marshall | Treasurer                 |
| Christine Clerk | Resident                  |
| Steven Christie | Bilbohall Tenants Forum   |
| Lynn Young      | Elgin High Parent Council |
| Marilyn Kelly   | Resident                  |

**In Attendance**

|                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Linda Adam             | Community Support Officer |
| Cllr John Sharp        | The Moray council         |
| Cllr Graham Leadbitter | The Moray Council         |
| Cllr John Divers       | The Moray council         |

**Apologies**

Linda McKenzie  
Rebecca Kail

**1. Welcome**

Louise Ellerby welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2a) Minutes of previous meeting held on Tuesday 18 May 2010.**

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Proposed by Aileen Marshall      Seconded by Louise Ellerby

**3a) Matters arising**

Elgin Ear was progressing slowly. Listening posts are being distributed around various locations in Elgin. Grampian Police have donated money to support the Elgin Ear. This would soon be reported in the Northern Scot. Pupils in Elgin Academy have made the Listening boxes.

Pharmacy contract

The Appeals Panel for the Pharmacy will be sitting on the 11<sup>th</sup> August.

Linkwood Medical Centre

Murray Ross of the Elgin Community Council has sent letter to Linkwood Medical Centre about the pathway giving access to the rear of the medical Centre. Linkwood Medical has responded by saying that the pathway is the responsibility of Springfield Properties. The meeting was of the opinion that an additional pathway was required to access the cycle storage at the rear of Linkwood Medical. A suggestion was made that it would be more convenient if the cycle storage was moved to the front of Linkwood Medical. . It was still felt by the meeting that adequate signage should be in place to direct cycle users to the cycle parking at the rear of the building.

**2b) Minutes of previous meeting held on Tuesday 15 June in NEON at 7.00pm**

The minutes were accepted as a true record with the following corrections

- NEON instead of New Elgin Primary School

- Moray Council instead of Moray District Council.  
Proposed by Steven Christie      Seconded by Marilyn Kelly

### **3b) Matters arising**

Linda Adam informed the meeting that copies of the minute had been sent to Elaine Brown and Sandy Thompson. It was hoped that the information requested in item 2, Question 7 would be sent to the forum.

Aileen Marshall informed the meeting about a forthcoming event 'Reshaping Care for Elderly People', in Elgin town Hall on Thursday 22 July from 2-4.00pm.

Eileen Marshall offered to write a letter to Boots Chemists to urge them to put up posters advertising any forthcoming health related community events and to ask for their comments as to why it is company policy not to do so. **Action: Aileen Marshall**

Lyn Young of Elgin High School Parents Council reported on the Greenwards Fete on Saturday 26 June 2010. The weather had been very good and £1,000 had been raised. The exhibition at Elgin Library had also been well attended. The money raised is to help fund achievement prizes.

Linda Adam informed the meeting that she would be attending future Parent Council meetings to inform them of the work of the forum and invited members of the Forum to either do a presentation or to accompany her. It was suggested that a small leaflet might be produced which would briefly outline the work of the Forums. The next meeting of the Parents Council would be at Greenwards on the 30<sup>th</sup> August 2010 at 7.15pm. The Parents Council AGM was to be in September. Aileen Marshall suggested that it would be best to wait until after the AGM when the new office Bearers would be in post.

## **4. Community Issues**

### Litter on Railway

The Community Council reports on the litter problem might be available. Cllr John Sharp attended the last Community Council meeting and said that a group had been formed to deal with the litter. Cllr John Divers informed the meeting that he had met up with some groups already who were dealing with the litter situation. **Action:** Steven Christie to speak to Alastair Kennedy of Elgin Community Council about the litter.

The meeting was informed that Andy Jamieson was the anti-social behaviour officer and also the Graffiti officer who had responsibility for the litter. **Action:** email to Andy Jamieson for an update on the litter situation

### Wards Road closure

The meeting was asked for information on Wards Road which has already been closed for two weeks. The road closure has caused serious disruption. The meeting was informed that underground cables were being replaced. It was not known how long this work would take.

### Support worker

The meeting was informed that a Community Support Worker for Elgin north and south had been appointed. The opinions and comments of the informal group interviews and the forums had been taken into consideration. The new Support Worker, Kerri Sommerville would be in post from the 23 August 2010 and will attend the September Forum meeting.

Louise Ellerby, thanked Aileen Marshall for the Group updates.

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Aileen Marshall reported that there was £4028.17 in the bank account and that the books were available for inspection at the meeting.

The meeting was informed that there are still restrictions on how the forum's money can be spent. Cllr Leadbitter informed the meeting that the Moray Council is at present in talks about how this money can be spent. The chair undertook to write to John Ferguson about the decision of the Forum as to their chosen option for distribution of the Council Grant. **Action:** Louise Ellerby

### **6. Secretary Post**

A discussion arose as to how this post might be filled. Linda Adam informed the meeting that an annual honorarium could be paid for this service. It was thought that someone known to the forum could be approached and also advertisements could be put up in the local Post Office and supermarkets.

**Action:** Linda to put something together for the office bearers to peruse.

### **7. Correspondence**

The meeting was informed that Sainsbury's wants to occupy the site of the current Mart. The developer, McDonalds proposes a supermarket, café and petrol station. A company representing Sainsburys called PPS has approached the Forum in order to give a short presentation on its proposal which will be afforded at the September meeting. It was suggested that we hold a joint meeting with Elgin North, as Sainsburys has wider appeal than just Elgin South. Elgin North had approached us to see if this were feasible. Aberdeen Mart has not yet decided whether they want to relocate. On prior occasions when planning had been applied for this site, the Council had instructed that provision had to be made to continue the market. Louise had informed PPS that discontinuation of the mart would probably be an issue for local people. There will be a public launch of the proposal on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of September in the Museum Hall, Elgin.

A discussion arose within the meeting and concerns were expressed that there had been no consultation with the existing Saturday stall holders within the Mart building and that the proposed café was in direct competition with the existing mart cafeteria.

### **8. Questions for next Month's Speakers**

Louise Ellerby informed the meeting that a questionnaire had been received concerning public perception about Grampian Police and its services. The meeting was invited to respond to the questions which were read out. A

Consensus of opinion on the answer was noted down and the chair undertook to return the questionnaire to Inspector Colin Mowat prior to his attendance at the forthcoming themed forum.

**Action:** Louise Ellerby

The meeting was informed that both Grampian Police and Grampian Fire and Rescue Service would be represented at the August themed meeting.

Questions were sought from the assembled meeting and noted by the Chair.

These were to be forwarded on to next months speakers. **Action** Louise Ellerby

#### **9) AOCB**

The meeting was informed that the Moray Voluntary Service Organisation (MVS) intend to dissolve at an EGM on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> August and to reform as Voluntary Action Moray.

There being no further business the meeting was closed by the Chairperson.

#### **10) Date, time and venue of next meeting**

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2010 at 7pm in NEON (New Elgin Primary School Annexe)