

**Minutes of the Elgin South Area Forum Meeting held on
Tuesday 16th August 2011 at 7.00pm in the NEON Building**

Present

Aileen Marshall (Chair)	Mary Dow (Secretary)
Steven Christie (Vicechair)	Christine Clerk
Rebecca Kail	Marilyn Kelly
Gillian Mackey (Linkwood Residents Assoc)	Linda McKenzie

In Attendance:

Gill Bailey (TMC Comm Supp Officer)	Cllr John Divers
Alastair Kennedy (C&RBoECC)	Cllr Graham Leadbitter

Apologies:

Louise Ellerby	PC Christopher Harris, Grampian Police
Gavin Morgan (TMC CL&D (Youth))	Cllr John Sharp
Lyn Young	

ITEM NO	ITEM DISCUSSED	ACTION
1.	Aileen Marshall welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted. Gillian Bailey advised that the Community Self-Assessment Inspection would be taking place in early September 2011 and members were welcome to attend and take part. Members may be asked to meet with Inspectors at some point in the near future.	
2.	Minutes of meetings held on 21st June 2011 and 19th July 2011. The minutes were accepted as a true record: Minutes 21st June 2011 Proposed: Steven Christie Seconded: Alastair Kennedy Minutes 19th July 2011-08-17 Proposed: Steven Christie Seconded: Christine Clerk	
3.	Matters Arising from Minutes 21st June 2011	
6.5	Climate Change Action Plan – Rebecca Kail advised that she had attended the follow-up workshop and that a small working group has been established.	
4.	Community Issues	
4.1	Elgin High School Improvements – Mary Dow agreed to send a letter of support of the forum to the EHS Parent Council's endeavour to secure match-funding from the Scottish Government to Mike Russell MSP and John Swinney MSP, with a copy to the opposition leaders. It was agreed that separate letters should be sent from the ESAF and the C&RBoECC, with copies given to each other and collated through the Elgin High School Parent Council. The letters should be sent before 6 th September 2011 (Cabinet meeting).	MD
4.2	Linkwood Residents Association – Gillian Mackay advised that some Linkwood residents had concerns regarding the level of service provided	

	<p>by the Management company (ScreenAutumn Ltd). Linkwood is a mixed tenure development and private residents have concerns that tenants in the new houses may not have to pay towards the maintenance. Residents would like to have an itemised bill i.e. cost of cutting grass, emptying bins etc. as they feel they are not getting the service they are paying for.</p> <p>Aileen Marshall advised that she was aware of a new legislation coming into effect in 2012 regarding the Code of Conduct for Management companies. Gillian Mackay advised she was looking out for the consultation on the new bill. Gillian Mackay to e-mail Aileen Marshall if she required this to be brought up at the Cabinet meeting on the 6th September 2011.</p> <p>Gillian Mackay advised that she would like residents, ScreenAutumn and Springfield to meet and discuss their concerns. She will be writing to Sandy Anderson, Springfield Properties regarding this.</p> <p>Aileen Marshall advised that she had the ESAF full support into looking into this and finding a suitable solution. Aileen Marshall suggested the Forum could write to ScreenAutumn and for Gillian Mackay and Mary Dow to discuss further.</p>	GM
4.3	<p>Asda Steps – Rebecca Kail advised that she has composed letters to Network Rail and Asda suggesting they meet with each other to discuss a solution. Rebecca Kail to e-mail letters to Mary Dow for forwarding from ESAF.</p>	RK/MD
4.4	<p>Elgin Allotment Association – Rebecca Kail advised of two potential sites for allotments; west of the Dookit Park and the other next to Seafield School. The Elgin Allotment Association are currently consulting with local residents of the Dookit Park and leaflets had been circulated. Rebecca Kail advised that responses have been quite encouraging regarding the allotments but not regarding the area i.e. vandalism and parking. A meeting has been arranged on 20th August 2011 for local residents to attend and Rebecca advised that the Allotment Association would work with residents on issues such as parking and hopefully be able to put some of their fears to rest. The Allotment Association are keen to involve residents and find out what parts of the park are important to them. The same process with Seafield residents will take place in the next couple of weeks.</p>	
4.5	<p>Community Care Consultation – Aileen Marshall advised that the joint meeting with the C&RBoECC and the Elgin North Area Forum was very positive. The joint response to the consultation had been circulated.</p>	
4.6	<p>C&RBoECC – Aileen Marshall thanked Marilyn Kelly for attending the meeting and taking notes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Chair of the Elgin High School Parent Council gave an update on their endeavour to secure match-funding from the government. - Shoplifting problem. - Disabled parking in City Centre now moved. - Pelican crossing by Manitoba Avenue was due to be completed before the schools returned. This will possibly take place during the October holidays. 	
4.7	<p>The Forum registered their interest in attending a Community Fair to be arranged by the C&RBoECC next year.</p>	
4.8	<p>Steven Christie advised that a notice board has now been erected in Cockmuir Place displaying plans for the area. The C&RBoECC will then have use of this after the improvements to the area are complete.</p>	

4.9	<p>Seagulls – Aileen Marshall advised that she had been approached by a member of the public regarding a neighbour feeding seagulls and attracting them to the area. Mary Dow agreed to write to Environment Health to ask for advice on feeding seagulls and how can people deal with them.</p>	MD
5.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>The balance of account stood at £5,327.84.</p> <p>It was suggested that some of the money be used for a Community Newsletter. It was agreed to discuss further at the next Office Bearers meeting.</p>	AM
6.	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Join the dots – circulated 30th July 2011. - Local Licensing Forum – circulated 30th July 2011. - See Me Grants – circulated 30th July 2011. - Moray Economic Strategy – Aileen Marshall noted disappointment in the meeting being arranged the same time as the Forum and would therefore not be able to attend. - Volunteer Centre Newsletter – circulated 8th August 2011. - Moray Transport Seminar – circulated 8th August 2011. - VAM Newsletter – circulated 8th August 2011. - Adult Support and Protection – circulated 10th August 2011. - RBS Community Force – circulated 10th August 2011. - NE Work Skills Project – copy available from Aileen Marshall. - London 2012. <p>Aileen Marshall advised that she has received an invitation to attend the Cabinet meeting on 6th September 2011 and if anyone had any questions they wish to be raised to let her know.</p>	ALL
7.	<p>Questions for next month's speaker – Jill Stewart, Head of Housing and Property</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of Allocations Policy. - How can Housing Officers ensure tenants do not cause anti-social behaviour and how will they enforce this? - Do you make special arrangements to protect older people from anti-social behaviour and will that be changed? - What support is given to vulnerable tenants, and if they do not accept this support what can be done about this? - How successful is the support offered to tenants and does this work? - Why does it take so long to allocate houses? - In terms of maintenance on the Linkwood estate, what is Moray Housing responsible for? - What are Housing Departments plans in terms of promoting community between the different tenant groups in mixed tenure estates? - Are there any plans for community housing? 	

<p>8.</p> <p>8.1</p> <p>8.2</p> <p>8.3</p> <p>8.4</p> <p>8.5</p> <p>8.6</p> <p>8.7</p>	<p>Any Other Competent Business</p> <p>Northern Scot Article – Aileen Marshall advised that she has written to Sarah Rollo and Mike Collins of the Northern Scot to thank them for carrying the article on New Elgin.</p> <p>Linkwood and Westfield Residents Associations – Aileen Marshall advised that she had made contact with both Gillian Mackay and Bill Stewart respectfully and they were now on the mailing list.</p> <p>Moray Forum Grant Allocation – Aileen Marshall advised that two articles had recently been published in the Press and Journal regarding this. Aileen Marshall agreed to report back following the Moray Forum meeting.</p> <p>Christine Clerk asked if the community shelter in the Dookit Park was going to be removed.</p> <p>Cllr John Divers advised that if vandalism continued then the top section would be removed.</p> <p>Christine Clerk asked if the dog waste bin situated in the cul de sac at the back of Baillies Drive could be moved onto the path away from houses.</p> <p>Linda McKenzie asked if the graffiti at the side of a wall in Cockmuir Place could be cleaned.</p> <p>Cllr Graham Leadbitter agreed to action these points.</p> <p>Linda McKenzie raised several issues regarding weeds on pavements, rusty street signs and litter on the Bilbohall estate. Aileen Marshall asked Linda McKenzie to speak to Steven Christie regarding these issues.</p>	<p>AM</p> <p>GL</p> <p>LM/SC</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Tuesday 20th September 2011 at 7.00pm in NEON Building.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.20pm.</p>	