

Minutes of the Elgin South Area Forum held on Tuesday 21 September at 7.00pm in Cedarwood, Elgin

### **Present**

Louise Ellerby, Chairperson	Aileen Marshall, Treasurer
William Ross, resident	Mary Ross, resident
Marilyn Kelly, Resident	Linda McKenzie, resident
Daniel Scott, resident	Elizabeth Scott, resident
Christine Clerk, Resident	Steven Christie, Bilbohall tenants Forum
Rebecca Kail, Resident	Alastair Kennedy, Elgin Community Council
Kieron Green, Chair-Elgin North Area Forum	

### **In Attendance**

Ross Pearson, Director, PPS  
Donald Anderson, PPS  
Linda Adam Community Support Officer, Moray Council  
Councillor John Divers, Moray council  
Amy Cheer, CLD (Youth), Moray council

### **Apologies**

Wilma Dow, Citizen's Advice Bureau  
Moira Sutherland, Bibohall Estate Forum  
Cllr John Sharp, Cllr Graham Leadbitter, Moray Council  
Mary Dow, Elgin High School Parents Council  
Colin Mowatt, Grampian Police  
Lyn Young, resident Elizabeth Marr

### **Presentation by PPS, representatives for Sainsbury's Proposed Store in Elgin**

Donald Anderson introduced himself as the Director of PPS who was tasked with carrying out the Public consultation process for Sainsbury's to identify concerns of individuals and organizations who might be affected by the location of a new food store in the present site of the auction Mart. The planning application will be submitted in October or November 2010 when it will be considered by Moray Council. Then it is expected that it will take another two to six months for a decision to be made. A public consultation was held in Elgin on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4th September 29, 2010 which was visited by over 200 residents from New Elgin. There has been an 85 % support of the proposal in the 140 completed questionnaires.

Flooding -. Mr. Anderson assured the meeting that the building of the store would only go ahead in conjunction with Moray council's Flood prevention scheme. SEPA would also be engaged in assuring that there were sustainable water drainage systems in place. Concerns were raised in the meeting as to the need to increase the frequency of cleaning of the drains in order to assure efficient drainage. Porous material which would be installed in the proposed store development ground would facilitate drainage.

Traffic- Mr Anderson conceded that it was a very busy junction and that two lanes might be put in place along with an additional roundabout. The meeting

was also informed that Sainsbury's concerns are only for traffic arising from accessing and exiting the proposed store and not for solving Elgin's traffic problems in general. Cllr John Divers informed the meeting that the Moray Council Roads Department and Sainsbury's representatives will meet up and link together in a traffic impact assessment. Rebecca Kail asked about the provision of access for walking and cycling to minimize the traffic. The meeting was assured that pedestrian access was already built into the design. The lack of Public transport in New Elgin was also highlighted.

Parking- 600 parking spaces will be created in the proposed new store. Residents will not be permitted to park on a regular overnight basis. The proposed store will not be open 24 hours and the access will be gated. The store managers will be able to address minor parking requirements of the residents. Concerns of the residents to the noise were addressed.

Deliveries to the store would be in the morning rather than during the night and should the delivery area prove to be noisy they will consider covering it over. When the store is closed the blinds will be drawn to minimize light pollution. Also it is expected that light dimming of the car park lighting would also take place.

Fencing of the site would be the standard 2m timber fencing although some residents have indicated that they wish more secure fencing to protect the boundary.

Filling station. Concerns were expressed at the proximity of the petrol tanks to the residential houses. Alastair Kennedy raised the concern of traffic backing up at the filling station. Asda and Tesco have also had to change the layout of their premises to deal with this problem.

The meeting was informed that Sainsbury's would work in partnership with the local community and businesses to promote the regeneration of Elgin town Centre. **Action** PPS would liaise with Elgin Community Council.

Jobs Of the 500 new jobs which will be created by this proposal, approximately a 1/3 will be full-time and the rest part-time. The posts would be filled by local people who lived within 2 or 3 miles from the shop. The store manager would be from outside Elgin.

Rail Freight delivery is not at present affordable due to the lack of sufficient Sainsbury's stores in the North.

Seagulls the meeting was assured that roof design would be taken in to consideration to avoid the problem of nesting seabirds.

Site specific concerns The meeting was informed that the proposed design of the store would incorporate an additional floor if needed without major structural changes. The imminent budget cuts and possible loss of RAF Lossiemouth would not deter Sainsbury's desire to locate in Elgin. The meeting was also assured that Sainsbury's would work with local businesses and suppliers to stock the store.

The presentation closed with the meeting being shown a display image of a similar store to give an indication of the façade. The speakers left the meeting at 20.08pm

### **3) Minutes from previous meetings**

Minutes from the ESAF meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> July 2010-Matters arising  
Louise Ellerby hopes to attend forthcoming Parent Council Meetings to inform them about the work of the Forum.

Boots Pharmacy on Edgar Road will open on Monday 27 September 2010.

#### Footpath at Linkwood Medical.

The meeting decided that it would be worthwhile to prepare a plan showing the desired location of the footpath and send this to Springfield properties with a request that a Planning application be submitted to Moray council for the footpath,  
**Action:** Liaise with Murray Ross

There has been no response from Boots the Chemist as to why posters for community events can not be displayed.

#### Litter

The litter is Asda's responsibility. Debbie Anderson the community Warden would speak to Scotrail to alert them to the litter problem and the Health and Safety issues. The glass and litter near the old Station building is Scotrail's responsibility.

#### Position of Secretary

Linda Adam and Louise Ellerby would be meeting up with a potential candidate for the position in the next few days.

Minutes accepted as a true record  
Proposed Steven Christie  
Seconded Marlyn Kelly

Minutes of the meeting held on the 17 August 2010 in NEON-matters arising  
The date of the Fun Day was incorrect and was Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October between 10.00am and 2.00 pm. Volunteers for the Forum Stall were sought  
10.00 -11.00am Christine Clerk  
11.00 -12.00noon Aileen Marshall  
1.00pm to 2.00pm Louise Ellerby

Minutes accepted as a true record  
Proposed Aileen Marshall  
Seconded Steven Christie

### **5. Community Issues/ Action Group Updates**

#### Themed Forum meeting

Donald Duncan, Director of Education for Moray Council has indicated that he would be prepared to address the Forum but not next month. Eileen Bush from Voluntary Sector Moray has agreed to provide a speaker. The meeting was informed that the next meeting would have to be about the consultation process for the proposed budget cuts. The consultation Process will end on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. The meetings of the Community Support Unit and the Forum would be arranged not to clash. The next meeting of the Forum was set for Tuesday 19 October 2010. The proposed themed meeting would have to be set aside to consider the Budget cuts.

#### Urban Freedom

Rebecca Kail reported that the project is progressing well. A cycle to school campaign was helping parents and children feel safer when walking or cycling to school. A Bike Library offers a variety of bikes for free hire.

#### Real time Bus Timetables

Look out for the silver columns at the bus stops which will indicate that real time bus information is available for that stop. The meeting was advised that initially this will only be available at some stops.

#### Elgin Transport Plans

A new crossing over the railway. A link from lossie Wynd to Elgin Railway Station. A link from the Elgin Railway to Thornhill Road. A new footbridge to replace the existing bridge over the railway line which would be fully disability friendly. The new footbridge would also incorporate additional exit points. There was also to be an upgrade of the path to Elgin High School. These projects will start this financial year.

Ebus is available temporarily to address gaps in transport provision in Elgin. Walkers and cyclists were sought to advise as to what is missing in the infrastructure. Dr Grays has been highlighted as a difficult place to access.

#### Allotments

No updates. The allotment group is clarifying a list of possible sites and hope in the future to build up a relationship with the planning staff. The Moray Garden Share scheme is being cited as an example of how the allotments will be used. The Group is looking for funding to secure the services of an Allotment Development Officer. The group hope to work with schools using the allotments.

#### New Cycle Route

A discussion arose in the meeting concerning the proposed cycle route from the Elgin railway station through Doocot park; Cemetery Drive and on towards Manitoba. Concerns were expressed by residents at the increase of passers by behind their properties.

Rebecca Kail was asked if there was a necessity for a separate transport sub-group.

**Action** Book the Transport sub-group into the next meeting a bit earlier.

### Street workers

Amy Cheer addressed the meeting concerning issues with young people. The Street worker team lost a member of staff in the last round of budget cuts. This has resulted in a reduced staff presence in working with young people. The Team rely on tip offs from the Grampian Police and the general public as to possible trouble spots.

### Community engagement

Aileen Marshall had nothing to report except that the Community Engagement Group was under threat of being disbanded.

### Area Forum Handbook

Linda Adam reported that the area forum handbook had been completed last Thursday and the model constitution has been approved. Electronic and hard copies of the handbook will be available on the Family fun Day. The meeting was also informed that a PowerPoint presentation was available with training in its use for any forum members who wished to promote the forum to another organisation. There was to be a meeting of the Linkwood residents in NEON in New Elgin Hall next week. This event was hoped to also increase membership of the forum. It was hoped to also target Bilbo hall Tenants Forum.

### **6) Treasurer's Report**

Aileen Marshall advised the meeting that there was no change in the balance of funds which still stood at £4028.93p

### **7) Correspondence**

The meeting was informed that there had been a Civic Licence Fee Review and as a consequence there were fee increase for Taxi drivers, Late Hour Catering and selling of knives.

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October at 2.00pm in the Council Chambers, Elgin there would be a meeting to consider the system of developer contribution works. Aberdeen city has dedicated staff for this purpose but not the Moray council. The Forum has been invited to send a representative.

There will be a seminar on Wednesday 22 September of the Community Planning board to coordinate the community planning partners in order to encourage them to engage with the business community.

The meeting was informed that a Regional sports Facility in Elgin High School had been delayed. The Parents Council have been meeting with Elgin community Council to try to resolve the delay.

The meeting decided that a letter should be sent to Elgin High School Parents Council to acknowledge the support of the Forum in their campaign for a Regional sports Facility in Elgin high School.

**Action** Louise Ellerby

**8) Questions for Next Months speaker**

As next months meeting was to consider the budget cuts proposal the questions could be decided later.

**9) AOCB**

The meeting was informed that The Big Lottery Fund was in Elgin on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010 to promote thee 400million available for community projects. It was possible to register by phoning Brenda Harvey on Elgin 564379.

The meeting was asked who is responsible for cleaning out Tyock Burn. Cllr John Divers responded that it was the responsibility of the Moray council who have spent £500,000 on cleaning out the burn to date. The meeting was also informed that a cleaning programme was in place for Tyock Burn to stop water backing up.

**10) Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 7.00pm at NEON.

DRAFT