

Minutes of the Elgin South Area Forum Meeting held on

Tuesday 16th June 2015 at 7.00pm in the NEON Building

ATTENDANCE:

Present:	In Attendance:	Apologies:
James Wiseman (Chair) Aileen Marshall (Vice Chair) (Minutes) Christine Clerk (Treasurer) Steven Christie Marilyn Kelly Linda McKenzie	Alastair Kennedy (ECC) Kathy Grant, Community Warden Cllr John Divers David Willox Eddie Wallace (ECC) David Chapman (ECC) Gordon Methven (ECC) Frank Knight (TMC)	Cllr Graham Leadbitter Cllr James Allan

MINUTES:

ITEM	RECORD	ACTION
1	Welcome Jim Wiseman took the chair and welcomed everyone including Kathy Grant on her return as Community Warden, members of Elgin Community Council, and Frank Knight, Senior Road Engineer, TMC.	
2	Apologies Apologies were noted as above.	
3	Minutes From Previous meeting – May 2015 The minutes were accepted without amendment. Proposed Aileen Marshall Seconded James Wiseman	
	Matters arising <u>Item 4.c Community Warden.</u> James to put request to Andy Jamieson re retaining Andrew Mackie along with Kathy Grant as Community Wardens in Elgin. CW workload is likely to increase dramatically after all ASB issues will fall to them later this year (possible increase of 250 cases). <u>Item 5.b Network Rail.</u> ESAF welcomed the news that a replacement pedestrian bridge is to be built at Elgin Station, probably with lifts to make it suitable for bicycles, buggies and wheelchairs. <u>Item 7 A96 Dualling.</u> After discussion it was decided that a Forum response to the latest consultation was not necessary. The next stage, once a route has been identified, would be more critical.	ACTION JW
4	COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP REPORTS	
4.a	Community Warden Kathy Grant reported that in the 6 days since she had returned to work she had dealt with the following: 2 Dog-fouling (inc 1 Fixed Penalty), 2 Neighbour Disputes (1 resolved), 2 Littering, 3 Abandoned Cars. She will work with local communities to organise 4 play days during the summer, 2 in north Elgin, 2 in the south. There will be a stall at all 3 of the Elgin BID market days.	
5	COMMUNITY ISSUES	
5.a	Western Link Road Frank Knight, Senior Engineer TMC, gave us an update on the WLR. After the previous application was rejected, consideration has been given to reasons for that rejection. Advice on Designing Streets aspects had been sought and was awaited imminently, from WSP who had been involved in writing the Scottish Government's Designing Streets guidance. A workshop has been arranged for Thursday 29 th June at Moray College for	

	<p>stakeholders to consider these proposals (the only aspect of the WLR for discussion). Designing Streets aspects would include crossings, footpaths, traffic calming etc. It does not seem possible to consider how future housing along the route could be incorporated into the Designing Streets plan at present. Invited to the workshop are individuals who spoke at the previous hearing along with community organisations. James Wiseman will attend in a separate capacity. Rebecca Kail and Aileen Marshall will attend representing Forum views on the road design.</p> <p>Following the workshop and after consideration of the outcome and a response to points raised, a new planning application will be made, hopefully mid-August. Unlike the previous submission this will not be treated as a major application. This means that some aspects such as an Environmental Statement and detailed traffic modelling will not be required. These remain unchanged. There will be no public exhibition, the workshop will provide the consultation required. We feel this is an important time to consult and hope that a full response is given to points raised. Provided it clears due process it is hoped that the whole process can be concluded by Christmas</p> <p>The Edgar Road part of the scheme which is required for Elgin High School construction will commence next week. This means that the work to Greenwards boundary will be completed by the end of the school summer holidays. From there onwards it will be construction access only. There will be a temporary 20mph limit. Letters will go to Greenwards parents to advise re parking, drop-off etc. Residents are being advised of contacts both to Balfour Beatty and TMC.</p> <p>The meeting went on to discuss with Frank Knight a detailed response to the recent ECC paper on the WLR. Points made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The WLR will definitely not be signed west to east. Signage will be for south (A941) only 2. Alexandria Road will remain as the main and quickest route through Elgin 3. Full discussion on the Edgar Road/Wards/Glen Moray Drive junction. Traffic modelling appears to show that lights are not required but we remain to be convinced, particularly regarding pedestrians, cycles etc. We feel this will need further consideration. 4. Regarding crossings and traffic lights misgivings on Wittet Drive, these will be addressed along with other Designing Streets aspects at the workshop along with traffic management and traffic calming. 5. There will be 20mph limits at schools and 30mph along the whole route. There will be street lighting along the whole route. <p>Following this discussion, Eddie Wallace, David Chapman and Gordon Methven left the meeting along with Frank Knight.</p>	<p>ACTION RW,AM</p>
<p>5.b</p>	<p>Substation at Wardend Place No action yet despite James Wiseman reporting the matter. JW to re-visit, John Divers to report to Health and Safety</p>	<p>ACTION JW, JD</p>
<p>5.c</p>	<p>Play Park at Greenwards Graham Leadbitter has been working on this. New bark has been laid but no further developments. A possible problem with litter bins has been identified. Linda McKenzie to watch the situation. John Divers will provide her with a phone number for reporting Problems.</p>	<p>ACTION LM, JD</p>

5.d	<p>Allotments</p> <p>Correspondence from Rebecca Kail had been received regarding the Allotments group's long and unsuccessful dealings with TMC. They were now proceeding with an Official Complaint against the Council. We consider this saga to have been a failure of community engagement and are willing to offer support if wished. We await developments, including a permanent replacement for Richard Hartland. It was noted that the Community Empowerment legislation should be in place soon.</p>	ACTION JW
5.e	<p>Litter Picks</p> <p>Planned Litter Picks: 27th June Newmill Road to the Chinese Church. Next one possibly the link path between Asda and the Level Crossing. SPICE meeting on Thursday coming. Some new signs have been erected. Funding was received from <i>Zero Waste Scotland</i> and <i>Keep Scotland Beautiful</i>. Andrew Mackie, previous Community Warden had assisted with the signs.</p>	
5.f	<p>Findrassie Development</p> <p>Following the submission of the joint response from ECC and ESAF, Iain Catto from ECC had had a meeting with the developers in his LEADER capacity. The developers had been very impressed with the response, particularly with the knowledge and detail involved. Although it had been very much a team effort, ESAF wished to give particular thanks to James Wiseman for putting the report together into finished form.</p>	
5.g	<p>School Rezoning - Update</p> <p>ESAF noted the response from Paul Watson to our submission on the re-zoning proposals. Re the admissions policy he <i>'would like to insert something along the lines of: the Moray Council takes a decision to make temporary arrangements which override the established admission priority order, for explicit reasons and for specified timescales (e.g. temporary provision prior to a new school being established).'</i> We are generally happy with community engagement aspects of this consultation.</p> <p><u>Elgin High School</u>. Unfortunately the delay could be as long as 6 months, not the 6-8 weeks hoped for. We await guidance from the ONS on behalf of the UK government to ensure that the funding model meets new European accounting rules.</p> <p><u>New Leisure Centre</u>. The meeting regarding this proposal for Elgin South on 22nd at Moray College was noted. We are particularly interested in whether this might sit alongside the urgently-needed new Primary School</p>	
5.h	<p>Health & Wellbeing</p> <p>Little to report apart from contact with Richard Lochhead's office regarding our recent meeting. We await further information.</p> <p>It seems there is a new FB page called <i>Affa Sair</i> which gives a platform to those in the Moray Area who suffer chronic pain. It appears that they will also be putting pressure on NHS Grampian to get an Elgin pain clinic re-established as promised.</p> <p>It was decided to establish contact with Malcolm Wright, new CEO NHS Grampian. With a view to attending one of our meetings in the near future</p>	ACTION JW
5.i	<p>Any Other Community Issues</p> <p><u>House in Glenlossie Drive</u>. A spare piece of ground has been identified as suitable for house building. It is not clear what stage this is at. No-one is aware of specific plans but it may have been put on the market with outline planning permission. We will try to seek further information.</p> <p><u>Amphitheatre in Cooper Park</u>. The idea actually came from the Elgin Fund and not as newspaper reports. Because a decision on the use of waste soil from the Flood Alleviation Scheme had to be made quickly, it was decided to proceed with construction, notwithstanding any proposals due from the recent Elgin Charrette.</p>	ACTIO All
6	<p>ELGIN SOUTH AREA FORUM</p>	
6.a	<p>Treasurer's Report The balance is £7028.25. It is understood that Forum funding arrangements will be unchanged. It was suggested that, since funding is population-based, Elgin South may now be due a greater share!</p>	

6.b	Moray Forum Next Moray Forum meeting has been postponed to 6 th July.	
6.c	Next Meeting It was agreed not to hold a July meeting unless required. A Management Team meeting may be planned before the August meeting. Christine Clerk to be minute-taker for August.	ACTION JW
7	AOCB None	
8	Date of Next Meeting Date of next meeting is 18 th August 2015 at NEON	

Correspondence List

- 14/6 Moray Walking Festival
Meeting Agenda
Shaping Community Learning and Development
- 4/6 3rd Sector News
- 29/5 Social Enterprise Training
Grampian Opportunities
Who wants an Allotment?
- 24/5 School rezoning (2)
Edgar Road
- 15/5 A96 Dualling