



*The City and Royal Burgh of
Elgin
Community Council*

Minutes

*of a meeting held on Tuesday 14 May 2024 in the lounge,
Elgin Town Hall at 7pm*

Police Scotland

- No police present

Digital Health and Care

- Began in early 2022 but has been extended until May 2026
- Aims to become a long-term asset to Moray
- Investment of £5 million as part of the Moray Growth Deal
- Looking at digital health and care on a national scale
- Funding for this project comes from the UK government
- The need and interest for digital health and care is growing fast leading to a want to grow the industry in the area
 - A more economic element for this industry as there is an aim for offices and jobs
- Moray is becoming a front runner for digital health and care
- Digital health and care will not be replacing face to face contact
- The ageing population is affecting health and social care drastically
 - Greater demand and need
 - Digital health and care could help to speed up the process for people, getting them the help they need
 - People should be able to get appointments more quickly
 - Frees up capacity a bit
 - 2038 before this starts to level off
 - There are more people needing services and less people to deliver them ◦ Moray is worse off in this area compared to other places
 - People tend to come to Moray to retire whereas the young leave for better things
- This group looks at what digital health and care can do to link people with the resources they need and reduce statutory resources
 - This could improve efficiency
 - Looking to give ownership of information to the individual
 - Allow the individual to hold their information and share it where needed ◦ The data collected on an individual could be fed into an AI system to detect subtle changes to help certain conditions
 - AI and sensors to be used more as preventative measures

- It can pick up on unusual trends, such as gait, and can be used to measure risk of falling
- Testing is currently taking place in Forres and Lossie
- Want to develop and test solutions to implement into the system
 - Currently they develop and test prototypes as a proof of concept and then pass it on
 - They own the basic IPs for the products
 - They don't implement, they focus on the research and development ●
- Received a national award for upcoming technology
- Looking to make it more accessible and thought about the possibility of creating community hubs
 - Mental health will be the last to be developed do the tough nature of the subject ●
- Looking at appropriate housing kits
 - There is a demonstration environment in the college, options to go in and see ●
- They are looking to recruit citizens who can help co-develop
- Very person centred

Stagecoach

- No representative present

Matters Arising

- Thomshill still wanting a meeting to happen
 - Dates to be determined

Missing Members

- There are a couple members that have not been here for many months
- Gordy and Neil
 - Emails to be sent to chase them up
 - If they are gotten rid of now, they could rejoin at another date

Finance

- No big differences
- £42 bill

Freedom of Information Request

- Brown bin charges being discussed
 - Food waste keeps being put into green bins
 - If a brown bin is filled only with food waste, it will be gotten rid of
 - Between 2021-2022 there were 22,230 bin permits sold which is now down to 17000
 - Estimated to go up by 1000-2000

- Increasing the permit charge decreased the income the council was getting for it
 - Purple and blue bins are checked
 - Bins are tagged if the wrong things are found in them
 - If there is no sticker on the brown bin, they will open it to check for food waste ●
- Recycling centre being discussed
 - Police don't want traffic to back up onto the A96
 - In a bad location
 - Not eco friendly
 - The appointment system being used dissuades people from using it pushing them further afield
 - Possible temporary suspension of the system to see how it would be ○
- Dropping off waste can still be done impulsive as there are same day slots

Place Plans

- Collate information from engagement events
- Aspirations raised and passed on from the event
- See what information Emma has the Elgin Town Hall and the Grant Lodge and the links to the place plan
 - Wait to see what we can do, if anything

Elgin Town Board

- People from outside of Elgin have a different perspective, something that could be very valuable however that was not put across in the formation of the board ● Guidance from the Prime Minister and the Government said that the locality of the board should be from Elgin
 - Every other town board Joyce has seen was from their local area
 - There's nothing we can do now but the guidance has clearly not been followed
- The challenges raised by the Elgin Community Council were seen to be personal
- The board is politically balanced
- There are still no minutes up for the Elgin Town Board
- Feels very much like a council set up

News on Subgroups

- Meeting on the 30th May and 5th June at the Elgin Town Hall 1600-1800
- Meeting on the 15th May and 5th June online
- Get back to Elgin Town Board for an update on subgroups

Cloddach Bridge

- Capital budget was agreed
 - Bridge budget agreed after
- The Bishopmill bridge has been deferred

- It was high up on the list to be sorted then moved down
 - Bishopmill bridge years out of turn, it has essentially become a casualty in the situation
- Cloddach was lower down on the list but moved up to due to emergency
 - £1.5 million for the bridge
- £1.5 million underspend on the bridge
 - Earmarked on underspend
 - Optimism bias of £4.72 million
- If it was decided not to build the bridge, £400,000 would have to be returned to the landowner as well as returning it back to the original state

Parking

- No better
- People are avoiding tickets however when there is no ticketing it becomes fair game ●
- 313 parking tickets were issued
- Common good fund to last about 6 months

Planning

- No changes

Social Media

- No changes

Education

- No changes

Resilience

- A meeting to take place in the Elgin Town Hall
- Starting with a basic plan, less complicated
 - Building itself up
- Facebook page to be set up
- Communication has been prioritised
- No date for the next meeting

Community Councils in Moray

- A meeting is to be hosted for all representation
- Alistar to work with Debrah to find a date and, hopefully, a venue

JCC

- No real changes
- Poor attendance
- Support seems to be lacking

Elected Members

- Papers went up to meeting for logical development plan
 - Some out for consultation
 - Process is continuing
- International workers day event took place
 - Well attended
- Cultural quarter developing
 - Funding for the town hall could short fall for Grant Lodge
 - One to be done before the other and the Elgin Town Hall was decided to be the easiest choice
- Papers up in housing and community safety
 - Still a long way to go
 - Performance indicators
 - Extra youth workers and community wardens to be employed
 - More staff hopefully to take pressure off of the community
- Deputy First Minister affordable housing budget decreased by 27% (£2.377 million) ◦ Dropped from £8.5 million to £6 million
 - Affecting extra housing being bought/built
 - Impact will not truly be seen until the future

ACOB

- A consultation on the future of the fire service to be arranged
 - Not enough members
 - Trying to recruit
- Grampian health surface plan gotten worse
 - Little things adding up to become a huge problem
 - Are there statistics for the number of appointments not delivered?
 - Invite someone from the Grampian health board to raise complaints to
 - Sean Codey to be contacted
 - He covers the whole of Moray when it comes to health care
 - Things seem to work over all for the moment
 - Orthopaedics leaving which is causing lots of issues
 - Are the same services being provided?
 - Waiting for services in Elgin means you might not get it
 - North East of Scotland seems to be very Aberdeen-centric
- Vets stopped their 24 hour service on the weekend
 - If you have an emergency you have to drive/taxi up to Inverness

Gulls

- Contacted by pest controllers
- Nature Scot tightened up on guidelines on nesting
- Cannot request a nest removal until the birds are on the eggs
 - Licence required to remove the nests are taking too long
- Sonars are making a big difference but there are still gaps
 - One to be put on the astros

Date of the next meeting: 11th June 2024