

A Meeting of the City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council was held in the
COUNCIL CHAMBERS on Tuesday 8th APRIL 2014 at 7.00pm.

1.	<u>Sederunt and Apologies.</u> (* Associate, ** Youth)	<u>ACTION</u>
a.	<p><u>MEMBERS</u></p> <p>Alastair KENNEDY(Chair), Bryan WATSON(Vice Chair) Gordon METHVEN(Sec'), Steven MILNE(Treasurer), Bob ANDERSON, David CHAPMAN*, Steven CHRISTIE, Anne GLOVER, Eric MARRIOTT, Donnie McLEAN, Pat PATERSON, Mary WALL, Eddie WALLACE, Jim WISEMAN(Minutes).</p> <p><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u></p> <p>Denise GORMLEY (Moray Council), Cllr Barry JARVIS, Krystian KACZALA (Stagecoach) Hazel LAWSON (Northern Scot), PC Yvonne SQUARE (Police Scotland)</p> <p><u>APPOLOGIES</u></p> <p>Gordie WELLS Cheryl ROBB Cllr Graeme LEADBITTER, Cllr Patsy GOWANS Cllr John DIVERS, Cllr James ALLAN. Daniel PICKINGS**, Laura MILLER**, Cllr Mike SHAND, Kathy GRANT (Community Warden)</p> <p><u>WELCOME</u></p> <p>Alastair Kennedy welcomed everyone to the meeting</p>	
2.	<p>PREVIOUS MINUTES 11th MARCH 2014</p> <p>The minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Anne Glover, seconded by Eddie Wallace and there were no objections.</p>	
3.	<p>MATTERS ARISING.</p> <p>Page 2 item 3d – Poppy wreaths – Alastair Kennedy was awaiting a reply from Roddy Burns to his letter on the subject.</p> <p>Page 2 item 5a – Bishopmill Post Office – James Wiseman still to send letter of complaint.</p>	AK JW
4.	<p>AGENCY UPDATES</p>	
a.	<p>POLICE SCOTLAND – Yvonne Square</p> <p>PC Yvonne Square reported a rise in thefts from unlocked vehicles and theft of keys from houses. She advised that Police Scotland were patrolling the areas affected but asked advised that residents should take precautions to ensure the security eg locking doors and ensuring keys are securely stored and not within reach of doors or letterboxes.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy asked about response times and gave two examples of long response times that he was aware of. PC Yvonne Square advised that response times were dependant on resources and grading of calls by the resource centre but was unable to comment on the specific incidents but volunteered to find out more and report back.</p> <p>Gordon Methven asked if Command were happy with the level of funding locally and if not the Community Council could make representations to assist. PC Yvonne Square said that whilst it was noted that the number of support staff had gone down, the Police Officers “just get on with it.” And provide the best service they can with the resources available.</p> <p>Anne Glover instigated a short discussion on cat flaps in relation to security.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy asked about Licencing and Taxi’s and was referred to Ray Walker for Licencing and Julia Bremner for Taxi’s.</p>	YS YS
b.	<p>STAGECOACH – KRYSYIAN KACZALA</p> <p>Krystian Kaczala apologised for missing the last meeting at short notice which was due to personal circumstances then remarked on Alastair Kennedy’s tale of woe in the previous minutes and explained that the number 10 service uses 9 vehicles with toilets but has to use one vehicle which does not have toilets to fulfil the 21 day service schedule.</p> <p>Anne Glover complained about the lack of timetables at the bus depot and the lack of assistance from staff. Krystian Kaczala advised that a new timetable which will improve punctuality starts on</p>	KK

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	<p>5th May and undertook to investigate the reluctance to print a timetable at the bus depot. He also advised that timetables were available online and via phone Apps but accepted that not everyone would want to access the information that way.</p> <p>Pat Paterson expressed concern that there had been an error on the information board at the St Giles Centre depot which could have resulted in people missing the bus. Krystian Kaczala said the information boards were not yet in control of Sstagecoach and he would talk to Moray Council Transportation about them and report back in May.</p> <p>Pat Paterson was also concerned about the service to Inverurie which is to go via the Kingfisher Estate which she believed would cause delays however, Krystian Kaczala explained that the time was made up by limiting the stop out of Aberdeen.</p>	KK
c.	COMMUNITY WARDEN – No Report	
5.	COMMITTEE REPORTS:	
a.	<p>PLANNING. – See Report</p> <p>James Wiseman tabled a letter (Copy attached) to the developers of Brownmuir Wind Farm for comment. David Chapman pointed out that one of the views from Inchberry had not included the wind farm at Glenlatterach which he asked to be commented upon as it is misleading on the cumulative effect. Alastair Kennedy asked for a statement about spinning reserve to be included after Gordon Methven commented on it. David Chapman further commented that some community benefits had not been paid by wind farm developers. Alastair Kennedy and James Wiseman recounted their involvement with Community Benefit and that no discussions had taken place regarding the revised scheme.</p> <p>James Wiseman advised members of progress with the Local Plan Consultation (Report Attached) and invited them to comment.</p> <p>James Wiseman advised that the Western Link Road Planning Application was registered and is available for comment. Alastair Kennedy asked for a Consultation and asked James Wiseman to request an extension of time to be requested to one week past the next ECC meeting. Councillor Barry Jarvis advised the Community Council to stick to Planning matters only. James Wiseman requested details of previous representations by the Community Council.</p>	<p>JW</p> <p>JW</p> <p>JW</p>
b.	<p>RECREATION, LEISURE AND ENVIRONMENT – See Report</p> <p>Pat Paterson advised that work on the Fair Trade advertising and submission was ongoing.</p>	
c.	<p>ROADS & TRANSPORTATION. – See Report</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy reminded everyone that volunteers were being sought to audit streets for safer streets. Anyone interested should contact Eddie Wallace.</p> <p>Eddie Wallace asked for thanks to Gordon Holland and Ralph Newlands to be recorded.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy proposed that George Littlejohn be asked to attend the 7th Annual Rail Conference at the Corn Exchange, Edinburgh on behalf of the Elgin Community Council. There were no objections. Alastair Kennedy also advised that he was to attend a meeting with a rail franchisee.</p> <p>Donnie MacLean reported that elderly people have difficulty crossing the rail bridge at the Elgin Railway Station.</p>	
d.	<p>YOUTH. – No report</p> <p>Pat Paterson advised that Laura Miller had been asked to be a baton holder for the Commonwealth Games.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy advised that Laura Miller was leaving the area and the Community Council. Daniel Pickings will continue as a youth member and further youth membership was being sought.</p>	
6.	COMMUNITY PLANNING.	
a.	<p>ELGIN SOUTH AREA COMMUNITY PLANNING FORUM</p> <p>See ESAF Minutes circulated and available on www.yourmoray.org.uk</p> <p>Steven Christie advised that anyone interested in attending the South Forum meeting with NHS</p>	

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	Grampian on 15 th April 2014 at NEON should advise Aileen Marshall of their intention to attend as soon as possible.	
b.	<p>SPICE – See minutes circulated</p> <p>Steven Christie Next Litter pick 26 & 27 April 2014.</p> <p>Saturday 26th April - meet at shops on Newmill Road (South Lesmurdie) at 10.30</p> <p>Sunday 27th April - meet in car park behind the Clydesdale Bank (bus station) at 10.30</p> <p>Pickers can stay for as long as they wish - please bring food/drink and wear sensible clothing/footwear. Children under 14 should be accompanied by an adult.</p>	
c.	<p>JCC</p> <p>2 Rep's were required for May meeting. Alastair Kennedy asserted that TSI Moray should not represent the JCC or Community Councils on the Community Engagement Group.</p> <p>Gordon Methven to attend the Rural Parliament 1st weekend in November in Birmingham. He pointed out that "parliament" in this context meant a gathering, and not decision making body.</p>	
d.	TOWN CENTRE DESIGN CHARRETTES – No report	
e.	<p>COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATION IN COMMUNITY PLANNING</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy advised that this was still ongoing via the JCC.</p>	
7.	EDUCATION	
a.	ELGIN HIGH SCHOOL – No update	
b.	ELGIN ACADEMY – NO REPORT	
c.	PRIMARY SCHOOLS	
8.	<p>TREASURER'S REPORT.</p> <p>Account #1 £3,583.97</p> <p>Account #2 £2,828.38</p> <p>The subgroup of Steven Milne, Eric Marriott, James Wiseman and Alastair Kennedy appointed to look into the Elgin Community Council budget and spending forecast has yet to meet.</p>	
9.	ONGOING TOPICS	
a.	DEANSHAUGH PLAYING FIELDS No Update	
b.	OLDMILLS No Update	
c.	<p>LESSER BROUGHBRIGGS</p> <p>JW to add subject to Local Plan.</p>	
d.	ELGIN FUND – No Report	
10.	EVENTS	
a.	<p>COMMUNITY AWARDS</p> <p>Gordon Methven advised that an event has been planned for November 2014, the categories have been selected and a venue is required.</p>	
b.	TRAINING – No update	
11.	<p>CHAIR'S REPORT – See Report</p> <p>The Chair's report attached was taken as read.</p>	
12.	<p>SECRETARY'S REPORT – See Report</p> <p>The Secretary's report attached was taken as read.</p>	

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13.	<p>A.O.C.B.</p> <p>Alastair Kennedy had been asked for £178.80 for an entry in the Coach Driver's Yearbook. Bryan Watson said it was difficult to measure the value of this and there was general agreement to cancel the subscription but also to ask if the Moray Chamber of Commerce wanted to take it over?</p> <p>Eric Marriot raised the point that the pond should be cleaned out prior to the tourist season. It was agreed to ask Dave Gowans when the cleaning was planned for.</p> <p>Eric Marriot advised that the next meeting of the Grant Lodge committee is 12 April 2014.</p> <p>Gordon Methven mentioned that he had seen a refuse vehicle going the wrong way round a roundabout. Eric Marriot advised that he too had seen bad driving from a refuse lorry. Cllr Barry Jarvis advised Eric Marriot that Eric should have received an acknowledgement of his complaint. Donnie McLean confirmed that he was aware of the complaint as part of his job and will report progress.</p> <p>Pat Paterson advised that moray Road Runners were having to get involved in maintaining the Morrision Running Track which should have been done by the Community Justice Services. Cllr Bary Jarvis to follow up.</p> <p>Bryan Watson asked for comments on the Elgin Community Council Twitter account from which he had been tweeting recently. The account currently has 67 followers.</p> <p>Eric Marriot raised awareness of some beech trees which are to be felled in the Oakwood and he intends to draw up a petition on the matter.</p>	AK AK DM Cllr BJ
14.	<p>NEXT MEETING</p> <p>7:00pm Tuesday 13th May 2014 Council Chambers, High Street, Elgin.</p>	
15.	<p>CLOSE: There being no further business the Chair thanked all those present for attending and closed the meeting at 9:00pm.</p>	

CITATION: These Minutes were adopted as a True Record of Proceedings:

Proposer: _____

Secunder: _____

Chair: _____ Mr Alastair Kennedy

Date: _____

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Brown Muir Wind Farm Letter

Thank you for attending Elgin Community Council last month to explain Vento Ludens new proposals for Brown Muir Wind Farm and to outline your programme of public exhibitions. Some of us took the opportunity to attend your exhibitions to speak to members of the community and the protesters who attended your exhibition. The turnout you reported of 130 visitors doesn't sound like many but there was press coverage over a number of days and we have not heard from anyone who felt excluded from the exhibitions.

We are grateful for the work you have done to significantly reduce the visual impact from Elgin in response to the widespread public objection. With the benefit of our recent training from Moray Council on the visual aspects of wind farms, and being able to talk to your visual impact consultant, we can see that you have reduced the visual impact from Elgin by removing the turbines from the top of the hill and Vento Ludens commitment "that they changed the layout to remove the turbines that were causing the greatest concern and they will not be revisiting that decision, now or in the future." adds some comfort. We can see that you have done what you can with the views from the side.

Elgin Community Council has sought to have a balanced view of the subject and we have had a presentation from wind farm opposers in the past. At Lhanbryde and Inchberry we spoke to the current protest group to ascertain their view. Their immediate concerns were about the visual impact and future extension which we now believe you have addressed as far as possible. The other concerns they expressed were about the overall prevalence of wind farms in Scotland which we found was widely shared and which we agree with. Renewables? Yes! Windfarms? Not the best.

However, it would be unfair to target your that criticism at your wind farm alone. At the presentation and exhibitions we also noted that there will be no shadow flicker and the noise aspects are within prescribed limits. We are concerned about the health aspects and were heartened to hear that there were subtle changes could be made to operation of the wind farm should any disturbance occur and that continued dialogue during operation would be important.

In conclusion, we are satisfied that you have made good efforts to mitigate the adverse impacts of the Brown Muir Wind Farm and I hope this response is helpful to you. Should you need any clarification or further input from Elgin Community Council please give me a call on Tel.07854228177.

Regards

James

On behalf of the Elgin Community Council

Wiseman

A Meeting of the City & Royal Burgh of Elgin Community Council was held in the
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Planning report April 2014

We have sought 3 consultations and will respond on one of them ie The Moray Council Planning Application Consultation for 14/00496/APP Marleon Field.

Post Office letter hasn't been sent yet.

Local Plan is under consideration and we have worked out a collaborative approach with the Planning Team to achieve our respective objectives. We are also collaborating with the ESAF o responding to the local plan. Happy to take any input from anyone and final output will be delivered in May.

We have assessed the community view on Brown Muir Wind farm and conclude that the developers have gone out of their way to reduce the visual impact from Elgin and have given assurances that cover pretty much everything we were concerned about. Response will be drafted for agreement.

Regards

James Wiseman

Report on Proposed Local Plan Meeting 03 April 2014



A joint meeting between ECC & ESAF looked through the Proposed Plan and identified 13 areas of interest. We had three copies of the plan to share and it was very productive. Alastair Kennedy commented on the diversity of views and suggested that it was unlikely that anyone would disagree although the process of ratification at a regular meeting is necessary.

13 areas were identified for further investigation; they were Tourist Information Centre, Gypsy Travellers, Housing mix, Digital Communication, Parking, Surface Water Drainage, Allotments, A96, Hospitals etc, Junction improvements and transport links, Schools, Common Good, Cemetery's

The following action list was created and if anyone can add value to these points please do so.

1. Eddie/Alastair to review and advise group on Proposed Plan against Roads Drawing in previous Local Plan.
2. Alastair to review and advise group on Proposed Plan against Moray Economic Development Plan/Elgin City for the Future?
3. Comments required on Action Programme in Local Plan - <http://www.moray.gov.uk/downloads/file91871.pdf>
4. JW to request information Green field/Brown field housing Sites numbers and distribution.
5. Bob to review and advise group on R13 Housing. Any new housing to incorporate Rights of way; Green Space; Amenities;
6. Steve to coordinate comments on Social Housing and integration of that with other housing including balance of social rented versus affordable purchased. Propose removal of the commuted payment option from Policy H8 <http://www.moray.gov.uk/downloads/file91737.pdf>
7. Aileen to review and advise group on alignment of school capacity location and future housing location.
8. Aileen to review and advise group on provisions for older folks step down housing, old folks homes, etc
9. Steve to review cemetery provision.
10. Potential comment: Request Link between Gypsy Travellers and Housing in the Country is firmed up from an aesthetic point of view.
11. Potential comment: TIC to be located in High Street
12. JW to request information on Allotments and whether they are mentioned at all.
13. Gordon to review and advise group on the subject of Common Good.
14. R6 might be common Good Land or some sort of unclaimed land.
15. Alastair to court publicity to highlight the importance of the Proposed Development Plan, encourage comments, offer james's email address (jameswiseman@tiscali.co.uk) for comments.
16. Eddie to review and advise on transport issues including move lorry park and services to east end industrial area, A96 considerations, Rail Freight, etc.
17. James to request information on how much was the A96 considered.

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18. James to ask Rebecca Kail to comment on Allotments
19. Comments required on Digital Communications (Gordon?)
20. Gordon to review and advise group on Parking.
21. James to review and advise group on Surface Water drainage in relation to facilitating development, and investigate drainage provisions and suds.

JAMES WISEMAN 4/4/2014

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Progress report for ECC meeting 8th April 2014 of Roads and Transportation Committee

Pupils Safety Issue: Further to the last Progress report on Elgin Academy Pupils safety issues with Haugh Road bridge and after input by the youth members I have been in contact with Mrs Grant a Deputy Head at the Academy. Mrs Grant will prepare a statement for addition to our report. We await this document.

Car dealerships misuse of grass verge areas: The subject was raised at our meeting with Gordon Holland, Manager of Transportation of Moray Council and he kindly investigated the issue with the car dealership adjacent to National Tyre off Edgar Road, he wrote back saying "I have found out that the service road which goes between the ASDA petrol station & the tyre place is a "private unadopted " (PU) road, i.e. it is not adopted and therefore the Council cannot do anything about the cars for sale which are parked on the grass verge. That grass verge will belong to some private owner - I do not know who."

As my main concern was the above misuse of a grassed area by Elgin Autos I do accept the other dealerships on the East Road do not abide by an agreement given in the past, and as for what we do next, I don't know, as they are not ruining the grassed area while using it to display their wares is it worth progressing the issue? If so I will be only too happy to do so.

Meeting with Gordon Holland: David and I had a very useful meeting and were given details of all the contacts within the Transportation Department and their workings. We also discussed some details of past and ongoing issues for examples of how the system works, in doing so we have been given us a much clearer picture of how the department operates and we look forward to helpful relationship in the future.

Meeting with Ralph Newlands of Bear Scotland: As with the above session we were given an opportunity to understand the workings of the function that Bears Scotland has to offer our part of the truck road network i.e. the section of the A96 which passes through Elgin. He told us the franchise was being put out for tender later this year by Transport Scotland and he also explained how the company performs in that normal maintenance is their main function and will respond beneficially to reports coming from the ECC. If however there is a need to spend large sums of money on changes to the network there is a separate annual budget set aside for that purpose. If that money is spent then you will have wait for the following year's money becoming available. I missed out asking when the financial year starts, is it January or April, although he did say it was already spent so I can assume it isn't January, but I will check it out.

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Chair`s report for April meeting

12/03/14

Community Engagement Meeting (CEG). Among items being discussed was a proposal to form 7 new adult groups and 7up children`s groups to monitor and evaluate the 10 year plan. See below...

Reference Groups should comprise of representatives from the following:

- Young People
- Citizens Panel
- Business community
- Service Users / Forums
- Elderly
- Community Groups / Organisations

I raised concerns at the time about where the people to populate these groups will be found.

We also had a presentation from Barbra Allen from Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC) –This follows SPICE accessing the Achieving Community Empowerment (ACE) initiative so it seems likely the CEG will do the same

17/03/14

I attended, with Gordon, Steven and others a Community Awards meeting in the Inkwell. Good progress was made with the date of the ceremony being agreed as .

The main themes that awards will fit under were agreed as the five Community Planning themes.

18/03/14

I delivered a letter to Jill Stewart at council HQ asking her to thank the people who delivered the recent training for Community Councils. I`ve had many favourable responses from other Community Councils also.

I met with Tracey Rae, CCLO to set up the agenda for the JCC meeting in May. Tracey is on holiday but the JCC constitution states that the agenda must be available a month before the meeting.

Through my connection with LEADER I attended the official opening of the “Dry Dive” facility at Spey Bay. This was my second viewing. It`s well worth a visit and is free.

25/03/14

Some problems had arisen with Buckie & District CC. I had been asked to attend their meeting on 18/03/14 but it was cancelled last minute. A new date was agreed so that office bearers could be chosen. That was done so the CC can now work officially.

27/03/14

I attended a LEADER Local Action Group meeting in Newmill Village Hall, Keith. Part of the meeting involved the progress of a Locally Led Development Strategy (LLDS) for Moray which will be the vehicle which determines how all future EU funding gets allocated. As I said before, I would expect Community Councils to be part of the process for drawing up the LLDS.

I attended a SPICE meeting in the evening which will be reported on by Steven.

Alastair Kennedy
Chair

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Secretary's report April 2014

18th March – I attended the Advisory Forum meeting for the Rural Parliament in Birnam, Dunkeld as a rep of the JCC. Documents have been circulated around the JCC regarding this.

27th March – I attended the SPICE meeting at Cedarwood. There will be a report on this at Tuesday's meeting

2nd April – The Community awards group met at the Inkwel, Academy Street, Elgin. We have agreed award categories and are looking at the beginning of November for the awards ceremony. We are also looking into setting up a group with a constitution that will represent all the partner agencies.

3rd April – I attended the joint ECC/ESAF meeting at the Community Centre to investigate our response to the draft local proposed plan. I expect James will report on that at the meeting.

Correspondence – We received a copy of the Moray Council Local Proposed Plan that I passed to James. We also received a number of leaflets and circulars that I binned as junk mail.

Gordon Methven
Secretary