

**Minutes of the Elgin South Area Forum Meeting held on
Tuesday 20th November 2012 at 7.00pm in the NEON Building**

Present

Aileen Marshall (Chair)
Steven Christie (Vice Chair)
Christine Clerk, (Treasurer)
Linda McKenzie
Daniel Scott

Rebecca Kail
Mary Dow
Marilyn Kelly
Elizabeth Scott
Catherine Sinclair

In Attendance:

Cllr Graham Leadbitter
Ian Todd, Community Support Manager
PC Brian Donaldson, Grampian Police

Cllr John Divers
PC Christopher Harris, Grampian Police

Apologies:

David Willox
Alastair Kennedy

James Wiseman

ITEM NO	ITEM DISCUSSED	ACTION
1.	Aileen Marshall welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	Apologies were noted.	
3.	The minutes of previous meeting 16 th October 2012 were accepted. Proposed: Steven Christie Seconded: Christine Clerk	
4.	There were no Matters Arising	
5.	Community Issues/Action Group updates	
5.1	Police update Inspector Ewan Strachan is not on the ESAF mailing list. Chris Harris will email the Chair his address to be added to the list. There has been recurring anti-social behaviour in Anderson Drive. The police have done leaflet drops and door-to-door enquiries but nothing has come of this. Further steps can be taken if necessary. Residents reported drivers using mobile phones, including lorry drivers. It is always difficult for uniformed police to see this as drivers see them first. (Both PCs had to leave after this update. They did not attend the AGM)	CH/AM
5.2	Moray Council Budget Workshops 21.11.12, 7pm, TA Hall. Five ESAF members are going. There are places still available if others can attend. Ian Todd explained the format. Delegates have given positive feedback and found it useful and engaging. The Chair asked if there was scope for saving by employing smarter design. Designing Better Services is still ongoing. £30million of savings has to be made over the next 4 years as directed by Scottish Government.	
5.3	Local Plan The Chair and Steven Christie will attend the Community Leaders event on 12.12.12. There will be public consultation in January 2013. This appears to be a joined up approach with good consultation.	
5.4	Western Link Road Rebecca Kail reported on the steering group meeting.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At Wittet Drive/A96 a signalised junction is the preferred option. It will still affect Connet Hill but to a lesser degree than a roundabout. This is to be finally approved by Transport Scotland. There was discussion on how to incorporate Sherrifmill Road junction. - A parking survey has been carried out on Wittet Drive. Bays will alternate each side of the road to help control traffic. There will not be sufficient width for a cycle path. It has been suggested the prohibition against cycling on the pavement is removed on this section of road. - The roundabout at Pluscarden Road will be replaced with a signalised junction. - Different ways minimising the bridge's visual impact are being discussed. Evidence shows that underpasses are poorly used so a pedestrian crossing on the bridge is a better option. - Junction with Edgar Road – no decision has been made but the bend in the road will not be used, as it tends to lead to speeding up of traffic. The design is likely to be affected by Elgin High School, as well as the 300 houses to be built. The hope is for a signalised junction. - Edgar Road is under consultation with residents re parking needs. The feeling is that parking on the north side would not be used. <p>Rebecca Kail continues to raise our concern about the orphan bit of road and that it should be part of the Designing Streets and Places process with particular attention paid to controlling speed.</p> <p>The Outline Design will go to Planning Committee next Spring and there will be pre-planning consultation early next year (even though this is not required). The very earliest possible start date for the road is late 2013.</p> <p>There is still some public misconception that this road is an alternative to a bypass. Traffic in Elgin is 75% internal, and would not be helped by a bypass. It was suggested forum members could address this, whether or not they are against the Link Road.</p> <p>The Chair commented that we do have Richard Hartland's assurances that the road and housing development will be looked at together as much as possible and that Designing Streets principles will be incorporated.</p> <p>The Chair had attended a meeting held by Elgin Designing Streets Action Group on behalf of the Forum and made a statement.</p> <p>It was agreed to revisit the Western Link Road when it goes to Planning so all are clear on how to proceed if they wish to raise objections.</p>	
<p>5.5</p>	<p>Sandy Road</p> <p>The widening of Sandy Road as far as Muirfield Road had not been picked up when the Forum previously discussed this scheme. Were Sandy Road residents been consulted with and does this reflect good Designing Streets practice? Trees, lampposts and a new cycle path will have to be removed. A discussion was held and it was agreed the Chair would write to Richard Hartland expressing our concerns and enquiring about crossing points and Designing Streets Principles.</p>	<p>AM</p>
<p>5.6</p>	<p>SPICE Update</p> <p>SPICE has a new logo. Members are meeting with Zero Waste Scotland on 7.12.12 to discuss potential funding for parts of their plan. Jacqui Taylor is leaving BIDs but it is hoped she will stay with SPICE. A Christmas night out is planned for 15.12.12. Forum members are welcome. Let Steven Christie know if attending.</p>	

<p>5.7</p> <p>5.8</p>	<p>Rebecca Kail commented that the area behind the Cottar Hoose was noticeably improved after the litter pick.</p> <p>Hardhillock follow-up David Willox reported there is no interest in forming a residents' association at present. A discussion was held on the ownership and responsibility of the land and Cllr Leadbitter advised differing title deeds may mean any solution would come down to goodwill.</p> <p>Any other Community Issues and Updates Ladyhill Covebay Nurseries again declined payment for plants supplied and gave them as a gesture of goodwill to the people of Elgin who give him good custom on his stall.</p> <p>Allotment Seminar It is two years since the policy was passed but there has been no action. There is a wish for strategies and timelines to be developed so the policy does not fade away. Interim measures should be taken in advance of the Allotment Policy being incorporated into the next Local Plan. Ian Todd sent a copy of the workshop feedback to Richard Hartland, Director of Corporate services and will send one to Rebecca Kail.</p>	<p>IT</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Treasurer's Report Since the Annual Accounts, £139.92 has been spent on minutes, admin and advertising the AGM. Final balance is £5793.57</p>	
<p>7.</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>7.3</p> <p>7.4</p> <p>7.5</p> <p>7.6</p>	<p>Forum Issues</p> <p>Minutes Rebecca Kail will do January's and Catherine Sinclair will do February's (the joint meeting with forums and NHS Grampian). Bring questions for Richard Carey to January's meeting.</p> <p>Elgin High School It was agreed to invite someone from the project along, possibly Graham Jarvis, Moray Council and to invite Andy Simpson, Elgin High School Head Teacher. A forum visit to Elgin Academy might be useful in helping to inform questions about the High School. A forum meeting could be held there. Mary Dow thanked Elgin South Area Forum for supporting the campaign.</p> <p>Dialogue Moray The Chair circulated this information, but asked if it was aimed at Moray Council staff rather than ourselves. Ian Todd advised there is also a Community Engagement Plan and that Moray Forum is on the Community Engagement Group. The Chair had no information from the CEG presented to Moray Forum.</p> <p>Membership Forms/Timesheets The Chair logged 25.5 hours and dealt with 110 emails.</p> <p>ESAF reps on Moray Forum & CRBoECC The Chair remains the forum representative on Moray Forum. No other members volunteered. Steven Christie is the forum representative at Elgin Community Council meetings and is happy to continue to be so. James Wiseman is also a member of both groups.</p> <p>SPICE representative Steven Christie requested another rep for SPICE. There were no volunteers but Steven said any members who wished to attend would be welcome.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Correspondence</p>	

	<p>Taken as read</p> <p>Dialogue Moray Community Engagement Scheme circ 17/10 SPICE papers circ 22/10 Active for Life info circ 24/10 MC Spending Priorities Roadshows circ 29/10 ENAF papers circ 29/10 TSI Bulletin circ 30/10 EHS Parent Newsletter circ 7/11 SPICE papers circ 8/11 MC Spending Priorities Workshop circ 9/11 Elgin Academy Litter Plan circ 9/11 Invitation to EDSAG meeting circ 9/11 ECC papers circ 12/11 Hospital Waiting times info circ 15/11 Castle to Cathedral Bulletin circ 15/11 Dental Services Information circ 15/11</p>	
8	Any Other Competent Business	
8.1	<p>TRACK</p> <p>This group presented to Elgin Community Council. They are trying to reinstate training facilities for local athletes and are looking for ways to raise money. Moray Roadrunners and the Athletics club are also involved. The group have met with 5 local councillors and Alan Wright. It is hoped a short-term solution at Morriston can be funded through the Common Good Fund and Community Payback. A rubberised training track is a longer-term goal with a cost of approx. £1 million. A discussion was held on possible locations, the need for security and cost of maintenance.</p>	
10.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Date of next meeting 15th January 2015, NEON, 7pm The meeting closed at 9.10pm.</p>	