

**Minutes of the Elgin South Area Forum Meeting held on
Tuesday 19th November 2013 at 7.00 pm in the NEON Building**

Present:

Aileen Marshall (Chair)
Christine Clerk (Treasurer)
Daniel Scott
Marilyn Kelly
James Wiseman

Steven Christie (Vice Chair)
Catherine Sinclair (Minutes)
Elizabeth Scott
Linda McKenzie
Rebecca Kail

In Attendance:

PC Yvonne Squair (Police Scotland)
Alastair Kennedy (ECC)

Cllr Graham Leadbitter
Ian Todd (Community Support Unit)

Apologies:

Cllr John Divers

Margaret-Anne Ramage

ITEM NO	ITEM DISCUSSED	ACTION
1.	Welcome Aileen Marshall welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	Apologies Apologies were noted.	
3.	Community Police Officers Information circulated 11/11/13 re Community Police Officers for each ward will be shown on the Police Scotland website. Elgin South Community Team to be added. Sneak-ins Information about arrests circulated. There are two suspects at large who are not due in court until January. The community is urged not to be complacent and to lock doors. No further sneak-ins have been reported meantime.	
4.	Minutes from Previous Meeting Proposed: Daniel Scott Seconded: Steven Christie	
5.	Matters Arising 6.7 Whisky Freight Pilot - Update The pilot is finished and data is being analysed to see if the project is viable. There is interest from freight providers and other local food businesses. ACTION: Invite Frank Roach to May meeting for an update	?AM
6.	Community Issues/action group updates	
6.1	School Estate Review Aileen Marshall to attend one of the workshops on 21/11/13. Demand has been high so places are now limited to one per organisation.	
6.2	Elgin high School Report from Martine Scott circulated 6/11/13 regarding siting the school with respect to the peat bed. She hopes to provide an update in December. An application for funding for 3G sports facilities has been made i.e. all weather football pitch.	
6.3	Western Link Road No update.	
6.4	A96 Duelling There will be a public exhibition on 20/11/13 from noon till 7pm. Discussion was held. This may be an opportunity to lobby for Elgin to be bypassed	

	<p>sooner rather than later, and to influence rest stop strategy, including provision of cycle storage, and tourist information about Elgin.</p>	
6.5	<p>Dr Gray's Issues After prompting, a quite comprehensive reply was received from Sandy Dustan. It is felt the response may reflect best-case scenario and we should continue to monitor the situation. Sandy Dustan and Richard Carey are due to visit April 2014.</p>	
6.6	<p>SPICE update A successful application to the Achieving Community Empowerment (ACE) scheme means the group will receive ten months of mentoring support and capacity building. SPICE also received an award from the Keep Scotland Beautiful 'It's Your Neighbourhood scheme'.</p>	
6.7	<p>Welfare Benefit Changes Universal Credit has been postponed again. The food bank outlet is open in Batchen Street, run by Community Food Moray. The Trussell Trust provides training and expertise using a 'franchise' format so a local organisation can use their system.</p>	
6.8	<p>Any other Community Issues and Updates</p>	
6.8.1	<p>Traffic Wardens Police are now expected to deal with any serious parking problem. Random spot checks will take place at schools at pick-up and drop-off times. The problems at both Glen Moray Drive junctions are ongoing and were noted again. Taxis are still parking outwith the High Street rank when it is full. A consultation covering rank size and location, dress code, signage etc. is expected early next year.</p>	
6.8.2	<p>Libraries A decision on library closure is expected 20/11/13.</p>	
6.8.3	<p>Community Empowerment Consultation Circulated 7/11/13 Further discussion postponed until January meeting.</p>	
6.8.4	<p>Sainsburys Sainsburys have pulled out of the mart site although McDonald Estates have not withdrawn the planning application. Ground water issues at the site remain unresolved.</p>	
6.8.5	<p>Ten Year Plan Moray Circulated via TSI Moray newsletter inviting comment on the draft. The draft will go before full council for approval and then to the Community Engagement Group and Community Planning Board. Discussion was held on why the forum, as a community planning partner, was not consulted and on the structure and content of the plan. Further discussion was held on community engagement in general.</p>	
6.8.6	<p>Allotments Consultation responses and analysis link circulated 7/11/13. The Moray Council response is worth reading and illustrates some of the frustrations Elgin Allotment Group has faced. Scottish Government will probably use a model based on local authorities having to take action once the waiting list for allotments reaches a certain level (rather than a time limit on allotment creation). Councils will have to produce an annual report including actions they have taken. The response from Highland Council is worth reading for comparison. The documents are short and informative. The most recent allotment meeting with The Moray Council had three departments present rather than one, to discuss the school site. There are problems with access to the proposed allotments at Elgin High School and the group is waiting to see if Planning will accept access by foot. Previous meetings with The Moray Council have not been minuted but Rebecca plans to ensure this happens in future.</p>	

7.	Treasurer's Report Balance is £6660.34. £26.23 was spent on an advert for the AGM	
8.	Forum Issues Minutes Catherine to take January minutes	
9.	Correspondence Taken as read SPICE Info Circ 16/10, 22/10, 27/10, 31/10, 8/11, 11/11 (2), 14/11, 18/11 Food bank Info Circ 17/10 ECC Papers Circ 20/10, 8/11 Grant Lodge Meeting Circ 28/10 SCDC Info Circ 28/10 EHS Update Circ 6/11 Schools Workshops Invite Circ 6/11 Allotments/Com Emp Consult Info Circ 7/11 tsiMoray Bulletin Circ 8/11, 15/11 Sandy Dustan Response Circ 8/11 NESCU Info Circ 11/11 Sneak-In Update Circ 11/11 Town Centre Design Charrettes Circ 11/11 Community Policing Circ 11/11 Sneak-in Info Circ 11/11, 12/11 Community Transport Funding Circ 13/11	
10.	Any Other Competent Business Bus shelter Glen Lossie Drive Vandalised three months ago ACTION: Cllr Leadbitter to contact TMC public transport	GL
12.	Date of Next Meeting Date of next meeting 21st January 2014 NEON, 7 pm The meeting closed at 8.25 pm	