

**Minutes of the Elgin South Area Forum Meeting held on  
Tuesday 20th August 2013 at 7.00 pm in the NEON Building**

**Present:**

Aileen Marshall (Chair)  
Daniel Scott  
Margaret-Anne Ramage

Christine Clerk (Treasurer)  
Elizabeth Scott  
Catherine Sinclair (Minutes)

**In Attendance:**

Cllr John Divers  
Ann Griffin (Community Support Unit)

Cllr Graham Leadbitter  
Ian Todd (Community Support Unit)

**Apologies:**

Steven Christie (Vice Chair)  
James Wiseman  
Rebecca Kail

Linda McKenzie  
Mary Dow  
Marilyn Kelly

ITEM NO	ITEM DISCUSSED	ACTION
1.	<b>Welcome</b> Aileen Marshall welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	<b>Apologies</b> Apologies were noted. Sincere condolences to Steven Christie on the loss of his brother.	
3.	<b>Community warden/Police Report</b> No report	
4.	<b>Minutes from Previous Meeting</b> Proposed: Daniel Scott    Seconded: Margaret-Anne Ramage	
5.	<b>Matters Arising</b>  <b>Item 6 SPICE Update</b> Elizabeth Scott reported on the situation regarding dog mess on Thornhill and said B&Q car park has had noticeably less litter recently.  New large bins at the top of Glen Moray Drive, recently installed, have made a big difference to litter in the area	
6.	<b>Community Issues/action group updates</b>	
6.1	<b>Elgin High School</b> The strategic group is to meet 16.9.13. Any reports will go the strategic group initially, then to the parent council before wider dissemination.  <b>Edgar Road residents Group</b> No update	
6.2	<b>Western Link Road</b> Plans for the road have been submitted for pre-planning consultation. We have been advised the road will be submitted in toto but Cllrs have been advised the Edgar Road and High School related improvements will be submitted separately, earlier than the north part of the road. A link was circulated 25/7  Traffic flows during the closure of New Elgin Road were discussed. Wards Road, Edgar Road junction, and lorry deliveries to Wards Road proved problematic. Glen Moray Drive coped well with increased traffic although there were issues with speed and crossing the road. There is a need for traffic management on Glen Moray Drive and such measures need to be	

	<p>in place before any road development, new housing or new shops. Concerns include a lack of detail on the plan, no crossings. no plans to deal with Wards Rd junction, the 'orphan' portion of the road. There is another public exhibition on 25-26/9.13 in Elgin library.</p> <p>It was agreed the Chair would discuss how to proceed with Rebecca Kail and James Wiseman and if a separate meeting is required, this information will be circulated  <b>ACTION: Chair to pursue</b></p> <p>New Elgin Road has overrun by at least 2 weeks with some holes being dug 3 or 4 times. It was felt any Forum action would have little effect.</p> <p><b>6.3 SPICE update</b>  The Comfort Scheme is being looked at and it has been noted that lack of public conveniences in the daytime and at night are two separate problems requiring different solutions. Funding is being sought. Some members are due to meet with mentors from Keep Scotland Beautiful 'It's Your Neighbourhood' team on 21.8.13. The next meeting is at 7pm in Cedarwood 5.9.13 and all are welcome.</p> <p><b>6.4 Welfare Benefit Changes</b>  The Moray Council has produced a new welfare and benefits directory, which looks to be a useful single point of information.</p> <p><b>6.5 Bus Issue</b>  Christine Clerk met a lady in a wheelchair at Asda bus stop who waited over an hour for no bus, it was found timetables were too high, too small and unclear to read.  A reply from Stagecoach said responsibility for shelters lay with The Moray Council. Irena Patterson, Moray Disability Forum, had also been contacted and provided some information. Two issues - one of access to timetables and one of the non-arrival of a bus were highlighted. A discussion was held on how best to progress the matter.  <b>ACTION: Chair to write one letter to Stagecoach, Chris Hall, The Moray Council and Don Toonen (Equalities Officer) The Moray Council, and to cc Elgin Community Council. Liaise with Irena Paterson as appropriate</b></p> <p><b>6.6 Moray Community Care Model - consultation</b>  As this was received late, the response date has been extended till 27.8.13. The Chair reported that the OPRG had reservations about it: the feedback form didn't feel like a feedback form; the 3 tiers won't bring much change; it's not clear how it interfaces with the 5 tier Older Persons' Care Model; by the time people ask for care they often need Tier 3 care, not 1 or 2; GPs do not seem to be 'on board'; there is potential for conflict in joint budgeting and any savings may go to NHS Grampian.</p> <p>Ann Griffin explained the main change in the care model is that 1st tier care is moving to the community, e.g. BALL groups, libraries etc., meaning socially isolated clients do not end up in a day services. Sandy Henderson is the public representative on the Health and Social Care group and concerns can be fed to him via Moray Forum.  <b>ACTION: Respond individually</b></p> <p><b>6.7 Any other Community Issues and Updates</b>  - <b>Housing Allocations Policy Consultation</b>  Deferred to September meeting to allow input from Steven Christie. Deadline is 30.9.13  <b>ACTION: Look at least at feedback form before next meeting</b></p> <p>- <b>Break-ins/sneak-ins in New Elgin</b>  Margaret-Anne Ramage reported on an increase in housebreaking in New Elgin, including one house that was entered twice. When Police attended one incident the officer said due to a change of shift it would be</p>	<p><b>AM</b></p> <p><b>AM</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p>
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	<p>8 days before anyone would be back in touch. Given Police Scotland's number one priority for Moray is to address anti-social behaviour and disorder and to increase detection rates for robbery, this was felt to be unsatisfactory. Questions were asked as to how Police issue warnings and why social media and their website could not be used to alert the public.</p> <p>One victim is disabled so did not lock is door to allow carers access. It was explained that security and a community alarm scheme is available for disabled householders.</p> <p>The importance of reporting minor incidents to the police was highlighted.  <b>ACTION: Contact police rep and Insp. Ewan Strachan</b></p> <p><b>- Elgin CARS</b>  The Chair attended an interesting meeting. There is a budget of £3.3 million over 5 years to repair and enhance buildings in Elgin City Centre, which dovetails with plans such as Elgin City of the Future and the Castle to Cashmere trail. Grants are available for High Street premises, and 2 apprentice stonemasons will be employed.</p> <p><b>Hi-trans event 13th September</b>  Christine Clerk to attend.</p>	<p><b>AM</b></p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b>  Balance is £6850.57. £40 paid out for last minutes.  Members to apply for any expenses before September.  <b>ACTION: Ask same auditor to check accounts</b></p>	<p><b>AM</b></p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>Forum Issues</b></p> <p><b>Insurance</b>  The forum liability insurance has been renewed. It appears The Moray Council has paid for this but also given money to the forum for the cost.  <b>ACTION: Forward insurance details to Ian Todd</b></p> <p><b>Minutes &amp; Forward Planning</b>  September minutes: Catherine Sinclair. October TBA.</p> <p>NB: Aileen Marshall is demitting office in November. Please bear in mind ENAF went into abeyance due to lack of office bearers.  A potential administrator, Sarah Howie, was approached but was unavailable at present. Office bearers will discuss handover strategies.  <b>ACTION: Give serious thought as to who should be Chair</b></p> <p><b>Forum Action Plan</b>  2013/14 to be added to page 8 as a timescale, sport &amp; leisure and taxi consultations to be added. Nobody had any objections to the priorities. All to examine plan and see if it can be adopted at next month's meeting or the AGM  <b>ACTION: Look at forum action plan</b></p> <p><b>Use of forum monies, request from Moray Forum</b>  Office bearers met with John Ferguson, The Moray Council.  Money could be given to groups such as SPICE for admin costs e.g. hire of venues, printing of leaflets. If SPICE wish to apply for funding, they will have to make a bid. There were no objections to them doing so.  <b>ACTION: Advise Steven Christie</b></p> <p><b>IT purchases for the forum</b>  It may be possible to buy a laptop via The Moray Council  <b>ACTION: Give urgent consideration to purchasing hardware and backup, investigate if the forum is eligible for free or discounted software.</b></p> <p><b>Moray Forum Request</b>  Moray Forum requested all forums to give £50 towards the cost of a</p>	<p><b>AM</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p> <p><b>ALL</b></p> <p><b>AM</b></p> <p><b>MAR</b></p>

	<p>transport and passenger event/forum. All ages are to be invited and Older People's Change Fund money cannot be used for those under 65 years of age. Part funding may come from the £4000 remaining from the Change Fund. Discussion was held and it was felt this is not a forum priority. A decision was deferred until after the next Moray Forum meeting, awaiting further information.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Update forum after Moray Forum meeting</b></p> <p><b>Elgin North Area Forum</b> A discussion paper is going to the Community Planning Board. One suggestion is that money is transferred to SPICE. The CSU has capacity to support revival of the forum if office bearers can be found.</p> <p><b>Forum Handbook</b> An updated version will be available shortly.</p>	<b>AM</b>
10.	<p><b>Correspondence</b> Taken as read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ESAF Local Plan Response Acknowledgement Circ 19/6</li> <li>PEL Briefing Note Circ 25/6</li> <li>Social Enterprise Awards Scotland Circ 25/6</li> <li>SPICE Comfort Scheme Info Circ 2/7</li> <li>Late Hours Catering Licence App Circ 2/7</li> <li>Elgin CC Papers Circ 8/7</li> <li>IYN July Update + Amend Circ 10/7</li> <li>Universal Credit Training Offer Circ 10/7</li> <li>EFAS Info Circ 10/7</li> <li>Right to Buy Consultation Report Circ 12/7</li> <li>N Scot Ad Opportunity Circ 15/7</li> <li>Traffic Monitoring Info Circ 17/7</li> <li>MC Welfare Reform Directory Circ 18/7</li> <li>SPICE Papers Circ 23/7</li> <li>WLR Plans Info Circ 25/7</li> <li>IYN Info Circ 26/7</li> <li>Towards a Litter Free Scotland Circ 4/8</li> <li>Elgin CARS Launch Circ 5/8</li> <li>Castle to Cathedral E-Bulletin Circ 7/8</li> <li>Moray Community Care Model Consult Circ 8/8</li> <li>Bus Issues Correspondence Circ 8/8, 12/8, 15/12</li> <li>Correspondence re Roddy Burns Forum Attendance Circ 9/8</li> <li>IYN August Update Circ 9/8</li> <li>ECC Papers Circ 13/8</li> <li>tsiMoray Newsletter Circ 13/8</li> <li>HITRANS Event Invitation Circ 14/8</li> <li>Housing Allocations Consultation</li> </ul>	
11.	<p><b>Any Other Competent Business</b></p> <p><b>Gulls</b> Discussion was held on the severe noise pollution and nuisance behaviour of gulls this year. This has been raised before and some businesses put in measures, but only for a year. The forum had also requested anti-bird measures be a condition of new builds. It was suggested this be fed into the Local Planning consultation next time.</p>	
12.	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b> Date of next meeting 17<sup>th</sup> September 2013, NEON, 7 pm <b>The meeting closed at 9.40pm.</b></p>	