

Minutes of the Elgin South Area Forum Meeting held on

Tuesday 21st April 2015 at 7.00pm in the NEON Building

ATTENDANCE:

Present:	In Attendance:	Apologies:
James Wiseman (Chair) Aileen Marshall (Vice Chair) (Minutes) Christine Clerk (Treasurer)	Alastair Kennedy (ECC) Andrew Mackie, Community Warden Anna Rogers, SFRS	Steven Christie Marilyn Kelly Linda McKenzie Cllr John Divers Cllr Graham Leadbitter Cllr James Allan

MINUTES:

ITEM	RECORD	ACTION
1	Welcome Jim Wiseman took the chair and welcomed everyone including Anna Rogers from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.	
2	Apologies Apologies were noted as above.	
3	Minutes From Previous meeting – January 2015 The minutes were accepted without amendment. Proposed James Wiseman Seconded Aileen Marshall	
4	Matters arising There were no matters arising	
5	Community Warden/Police/SFRS Update SFRS We were pleased to welcome Anna Rogers, Moray Station Manager to her first meeting. Elgin has one full-time and one part-time crew. The FT crew is 28 strong. She also covers the PT crews at Lossiemouth and Fochabers and the voluntary crew at Gordonstoun. The SFRS is deeply involved in community planning providing a multi-member ward plan for Elgin. This allows quarterly reports right down to ward level. The SFRS work closely with other agencies, attending a weekly Hub meeting to facilitate this. She finds this extremely positive. Part of their job involves home safety visits (420 carried out), visits to sheltered housing etc. They are keen to use all such visits, and indeed other incidents and contacts, to spread the word about fire safety as widely as possible. They also deal with deliberate fire-raising, working on prevention strategies and diversionary activities including street sport. Other activities of include dealing with road traffic accidents and road safety events, also flooding events for which they have large pumping capability. Moray is well provided with specialised equipment and awaiting new national resources to be based here. Moray works very closely with other areas in the integrated fire and rescue service. We appreciate the SFRS's willingness to have a continuing close relationship with ESAF and we will happily consider their invitation to hold a meeting in the Elgin Station. Community Warden Andrew Mackie reported as follows. - 9 Anti-social behaviour jobs - neighbour dispute, youth annoyance and graffiti - 5 noise complaints, mostly barking dogs - 5 dog-fouling incidents, 1 Fixed Penalty Notice served.	

	<p>- 2 feeding seagull incidents - 9 abandoned vehicles - Initiatives include joint litter patrols with EHS. It is hoped to extend this to Elgin Academy. Inputs to various groups including Cubs and College and <i>Beat Doorstep Crime</i> booklets delivered.</p> <p>There are proposals to extend the role of Community Wardens in various ways. This may lead to workload pressures.</p>	
6	COMMUNITY ISSUES & UPDATES	
6.a	<p>Schools Sports and Recreation Matters Elgin High School (EHS) A planning application 15/00607/APP has been submitted for surplus earth from the building works to be permanently removed to the north end of the EHS site.</p> <p>Re zoning Consultation meetings appear to be going well. AM will attend meeting on Monday 27th April and will try to find out any issues that have arisen. AK brought up the problem of East End pupils having to cross or walk up the A96. James agreed to contact schools to try to ascertain the views of parent groups. He will also confirm the attendance of Paul Watson at our May meeting ahead of the end of the consultation period.</p>	Action JW
6.b	<p>Roads and Transportation WLR James to circulate the ECC thoughts for information. It is not clear if any change in Moray council administration could affect future WLR decision-making.</p>	Action JW
6.c	<p>Health and wellbeing Meeting with Richard Lochhead. We appreciated Richard Lochhead taking the time to meet with us re Dr Gray's and related health issues. He will take forward several of the issues that were raised. The main points arising from the meeting are as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We met with Richard Lochhead following press reports of his concerns regarding Dr Gray's which he had taken to Scottish Health Secretary Shona Robison. As these concerns were very much in line with those of ESAF, we thought, in the context of our ongoing dialogue with NHS Grampian, it would be useful to share these with him. • We discussed the present fragmented management structure at Dr Gray's and how this may be further impacted by the addition of the Joint Board (Health and Social Care). We have particular concerns re genuine local accountability under these circumstances. • Children's Ward. We shared information regarding our concerns for its future. • We talked again re the problem of patients, often with serious problems, having to see consultants in Aberdeen instead of consultants coming here. • Further example given re surgery for detached retina. Although there is someone at Dr Gray's able to perform the urgent procedure required, the necessary equipment is not available. Patients are referred to Aberdeen although the travel involved is less than ideal for this condition. • We talked about the lack of community hospital facilities in Elgin leading to little provision of step up/step down beds within the town. • The lack of plans for any expansion of GP services within Elgin to cope with its growing population was a concern. • Other mentions were GP appointments, carers' terms and conditions and an illustration on how toenail-clipping problems can have a much wider impact! • RL would be happy to meet with us on an annual basis if wished. <p>We would certainly hope to continue to share information with him.</p>	
6.d	<p>Housing and Welfare No report</p>	
6.e	<p>Environmental matters including SPICE No report</p>	
6.f	<p>Town Centre Charrette To the best of our knowledge a final report is being prepared. It is not known what the status of this will be in terms of directing action.</p>	

6.g	<p>Any Other Community Issues and Updates</p> <p>Bus Stop on Speyside Route. Stagecoach are now on the case via ECC.</p> <p>Access to Police Station and Cost of Calls. The access arrangements to Elgin Police Station were confirmed as circulated. The cost of calls both to Police and Doctors was considered, particularly the cumulative cost when multiple calls from a mobile are required.</p>	
7	<p>TREASURER'S REPORT</p>	
	<p>The balance is £7068.25. No official word as yet to the outcome of the consultation on Forum funding.</p>	
8	<p>FORUM ISSUES</p>	
	<p>a Planning Ahead The May meeting confirmed as NEON. CC will be minute-taker.</p> <p>b Forum Action Plan No update</p> <p>c Membership JW to consider approaching existing ESAF contacts. There was some consideration of other actions that could be taken in terms of agendas etc</p>	<p>Action JW</p>
9	<p>Moray Forum</p>	
	<p>No new information. The next meeting is imminent.</p>	
10	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p>	
	<p>All correspondence has been circulated and was taken as read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 20s Plenty - Active Communities funding - CARS Evening Talk - Schools Rezoning Consultation - Findrassie Master Plan - Workplace Pensions training - GP Telephone Numbers - SPICE Minutes - HiTRANS – Thistle Assistance Card - TSI News Letters - Developers Obligations and Local Plan 	
11	<p>Any Other Competent Business</p>	
	<p>None</p>	
12	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p>	
	<p>Date of next meeting is 19th May 2015 at 7pm in NEON</p>	