

## **Lochgelly Community Council**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

1. **Present:**, Brian Schulz (BS), George Kinnell (GK), Tam Durham (TD), David Hemseed (DH), Alan Gardiner (AG), Carol Mackie (CM), Jean McDonald (JMc), Jimmy Mann (JM) Jon Magee (JMa) and Stevie Murray (SM).

**Apologies:** Jim Haddow, Cllr Linda Erskine and Cllr Ian Chisholm (IC)

**Councillors Present:** Councillor Mark Hood (MH)

2. Presentation from Fife Council and Rockgelly. Hazel Cross (FC) and Tom Humphrey from Rockgelly. Detailed proposals and timescales for the project were provided. Copies of the presentation is available on request. Planned timescales for the development is to start in May and be completed by 2016.

### Questions

AG asked about car parking as there is likely to be further difficulties with this. HC advised that they are looking at working with the Co-op to see whether this is a car park that could be used as well as identifying possible alternative options in the town.

SM asked about pricing structures and whether these would be monitored to allow all backgrounds to access. TH and HC advised that they would be looking at subsidising specific post codes to maximise participation.

DH asked about the square which would be left once the project was completed and suggested that we look at the old town house bell being used.

BS asked about the flag pole, HC confirmed that they would look at the possibility of a free standing pole behind the existing memorial. This is to be discussed further.

TH advised that Rockgelly would be looking to have a member of the Community Council sit on the board of directors, in an observer capacity initially. SM proposed by DH; seconded by CM.

3. Minutes of previous meeting  
Proposed as accurate CM, Seconded DH

4. Matters Arising  
SM advised that he had written to Fife Council Transportation Services regarding accessing the Public Park from Auchterderran Road. The Council indicated that they would erect bollards at the entrance site and reinstate the grass area in the new financial year.

Casual Vacancy – SM advised that he had written to James Arnott about his non-attendance in line with the agreement reached at the previous meeting. To date there hasn't been a response. Also with the recent retirement of Robert Millar, we need to look at casual vacancies generally. SM proposed that we prepare an article for the local paper seeking interested parties, the focus should be on encouraging more woman to participate.

GK stated that he had spoken to James Arnott a while ago and he had said then that he wasn't returning. GK believed that if people are unable to attend because they are constant back shift then they shouldn't stand in the first place.

JM moved that we write to local papers seeking nominations and if we get responses then we deal with the vacancy at that stage. Seconded TD. Agreed.

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## 5. Financial Matters

GK advised that there was no change from the previous month.

NB This resulted in the current financial balance being:

- General Account = £1620
- Special Projects = £3541.39 (Jubilee Park)

Confirmation that £700 would be made available from the LCC for floral decorations (£250 from 2015 budget and £450 Fife Council grant). SM suggested that the Community Council seek a grant from the 4 winds trust. Agreed that a submission be made for match funding from the Trust. Community Councillors were asked to identify whether we should target a particular area (e.g. Auchterderran Road roundabout) or increase the number of baskets through the town.

## 6. Communications

Sender	Substance	Action needed
Lesley Craig - Fife Council	Traffic Regulation Proposals	Respond objecting to planned time restrictions in Main Street
Pamela Hutchison- Fife Council	Street Parade Application	Agreed
Fife Council	Weekly Planning Applications, 15, 22 & 29 February and 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Circulated as necessary, no plans submitted requiring formal consultation
Louise McRae - Fife Council	West Planning Committee agenda and papers for 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Available on request
Pauline Grandison - Fife Council	Cowdenbeath Area Event – Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> March Discussion regarding the Lochgelly Going Forward development plans	Circulated. Sought copies of papers issued at the meeting
Nicola Philp - Fife Council	Local Clean up events 4-5 <sup>th</sup> March	Circulated and Noted
John McComisky - Fife Council	Dates for CC meetings, looking to attend future meeting to talk about Cycling Circuit	Discuss and seek approval for attending future meeting
Stevie Murray	4 Winds Trust update constitution	Available for community councillors on request
Stevie Murray	Public Park Improvement Group Audited accounts	Available for community councillors on request
John McComisky - Fife Council	Notification of public consultation to be held in Lochgelly Centre regarding the planned cycle loop at Lochgelly HS. Date of event 16 <sup>th</sup> March between 1200 -400pm Online consultation at <a href="http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/activefife">www.fifedirect.org.uk/activefife</a>	Publicise as widely as possible.
Derek Crowe - Fife Council	Acknowledgement of letter regarding Auchterderran Road	Available on request
Phil Clarke – Fife Council	Confirmation that bollards are to be erected at the public footpath on Auchterderran Road entrance to the Public Park. These will be erected in April/ May 2016.	Noted and Acknowledged. Sought additional information regarding reinstatement of the area.
Ian Simpson - Fife Council	Cycle loop plans and proposals	Available on request.

## 7. Groups which CC attend

### a. Health Centre

BS advised that the public meeting had been quite successful although there had been some confusion surrounding the starting time, comparably there was a decent turnout. They had agreed to start a petition and arrange for a banner to raise awareness of the campaign.

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BS explained that the main focus of the campaign was;

1. Secure funding for a new health centre
2. That proposals for the new health centre are brought forward as soon as possible and not in 2-3 years' time.
3. To work with all political parties in the area to achieve this objective.

SM advised that IC had emailed support for the campaign "A replacement Health Centre has been needed for many years and I consider the building itself was inadequate since its commissioning. It has been low down on NHS Fife's priority for Capital Planning since I joined the Council in 2007. However, I have been in touch with the Ministers secretariat and some positive news for Lochgelly.

- 1) The Scottish Government never received a formal request for funding and so no such request has been declined.
- 2) NHS Fife has identified the Health Centre as no longer fully meeting the requirements of modern standards.

In view of this and the new housing planned for the Lochgelly area, a replacement for the Health Centre features in NHS Fife's forward investment plans. They are currently in the process of developing a business plan which will be considered by the Scottish Government when submitted.

- 3) I understand that the relevant Scottish Government officials are factoring in funding of circa £6 million for 2018/19 dependent on a good business case and of course the Health capital budget beyond next year."

General discussion took place surrounding the need for the replacement centre. BS to arrange a further meeting of the sub-group to look at progressing the campaign.

**b. Public Park Improvement group**

SM advised that the recent AGM the revised constitution had been adopted. This included increasing the number of members for the committee. Carol Mackie and Jimmy Mann have both intimated that they would wish to participate in the groups work.

Additionally SM was appointed as Chairperson and, in the absence of volunteers, Secretary. Discussions with JMC regarding Treasurers position.

Generally, the next meeting is scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> March. Tree planting due to commence on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March and the MUGA court is ongoing.

DH reported that concerns were expressed with him that work hasn't been planned for the existing Red Ash area and members of the public had stated that the Gala Committee would be flexible and perhaps move location for a short period to allow work to be done.

**c. Mossmorran Safety Liaison Committee – No meeting**

**d. 4 Wind Development Trust**

SM advised that the next meeting of the group had been scheduled for Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Trustees had met with OSCR about the operation of the group following concerns from an unnamed person. This related to;

1. Minutes of the meetings, OSCR accepted that they were in place but perhaps could include more about the development of the group.
2. The format and layout of the accounts weren't consistent with OSCR requirements although they had been submitted.
3. The group need to encourage more trustees from the other areas.

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The group had also been criticised, by the anonymous complainant for making donations even though only 4 trustees participated. OSCR advised that they accept that this is a technicality, however it should be noted although Cowdenbeath had appointed someone.

SM advised that this process had been frustrating, tiresome and tedious, however overall the work of the Trust is credited with making a difference across the four communities.

JMc asked whether all community groups can apply, SM advised that so long as they had an up to date bank account and constitution they could apply. DH asked for a definition of a Community Group. SM to investigate and respond.

e. Living Lomond Hills Trust

No report

8. Councillors Report

MH advised that the budget had been approved although this had been an extremely difficult process and will invariably impact on local communities and the area budget.

- The Family Nurture programme had been successful and the results are showing that attainment levels in P1 and P2 children had increased,
- £120k had been set aside to continue the breakfast clubs across the area,
- Free Swimming lessons as described at the previous meeting is being rolled out across Fife,
- £300K has been agreed for Lochore Meadows visitor centre,
- A compulsory purchase order had been made for the water tower in Stewart Crescent,
- The final stages of the funding for the cycle loop had been secured and plans will be discussed at the open day on 16<sup>th</sup> March.

Questions and Comments

JMc asked whether action could be taken about the lack of parking across the town. Can discussions be held in local areas to see how particular problems affect them and whether they had possible solutions. AG advised that there was scope to look at the land at the back of the NISA shop for parking.

SM commended the work undertaken to get the water tower problem tackled, this had been a problem for years. He hoped that the Community Council could look at the problems with derelict buildings across the town. One particular issue is the old Fab Tek buildings in Hall Street. Initially there was discussion about this being a retail centre, however this wasn't progressed and since then it is an eyesore and a hazard. With all the good work in the area the continued deterioration of the building will simply hold us back. MH advised that he will look into the use of the land being changed to housing as opposed to industrial, this would help look at options.

9. AOCB

- a. Town Clock – GK advised that the wrong component had been sent and that this was now the delay.
  - b. JMa advised that the Baptist Church congregation had taken a tough decision to suspend ceremonies to allow a fuller debate to be held on their role in the community. The building was still available for use.
  - c. JM complained about speeding down Auchterderran Road, MH advised that the new crossing may help with this however there needs to be an increase awareness of the problem. MH to raise with Transportation.
  - d. Lochgelly Cemetery toilets need to be opened for public use during services and need to be cleaned so that they are usable. SM to contact Fife Council regarding this.
  - e. BS asked if there was ever any confirmation about the LCDF annual meeting? TD to confirm the date.
  - f. BS asked that the Community Council contact Fife Cultural Trust regarding the use of the centre to see how can be more accessible to the public.
- i. Date of next meeting – **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016, 6.00 in the 385 Social Club**

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