

## Lochgelly Community Council

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016

1. **Present:**, Brian Schulz (BS), Tam Durham (TD), David Hemseed (DH), Alan Gardiner (AG), Jimmy Mann (JM) Jon Magee (JMa), Stevie Murray (SM) Alex Dixon (AD) and Billy Baxter (BB).

**Apologies:** George Kinnell, Jim Haddow, Carol Mackie, Jean McDonald Councillor Linda Erskine

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

There were two members of the public in attendance.

2. Presentation from Sergeant Kenny Bow

KB spoke through the recent incident where a member of the public was seriously assaulted. Although this was a tragic incident, KB advised that statistically this was a very rare occurrence. This year, KB advised that there had been 20 assaults reported, 16 of which were related to domestic offences. From 353 wards across Scotland, Lochgelly and Cardenden area were one of the safer areas being 16<sup>th</sup>.

There are various initiatives taking place within the communities including engaging with schools and young people generally about the dangers of knife crime and more generally about safety in the community. They generally target 'hot spots' which has recently included increased checking in the public park.

Members of the community council highlighted concerns about shops allegedly selling alcohol to under age. KB recognised this as a problem but highlighted that the evidence that they have gathered suggests that adults are buying it for them which is a bigger problem. Speeding along Auchterderran Road remains a problem, this will be reported back the road safety unit.

The Community Council thanked Sergeant Bow for his presentation and agreed that perhaps every second meeting would include attendance from the community liaison officer.

Hazel Cross (Fife Council) gave an update on the development of Rockgelly. Work has commenced on site and Fife Community Works team which is primarily made up of trainees are undertaking a lot of the projects.

They have identified that there are excess pews in the church and will need to consider how best to disperse these. HC advised that they had thought about selling them, however their first preference would be to let community groups have them. Suggestions made by the Community Councillors including:

- Asking other local churches
- Contact Church of Scotland
- Ask for donations to be made for members of the public to purchase them. The donations could then go to Growing in Lochgelly.



***By Industry we flourish***

### 3. Minutes of previous meeting

DH highlighted that he had raised the issue about the tree felling in Brucefield Allotments not near to them. Agreed to amend.

Proposed as accurate, with that amendment. -AG, Seconded TD

### 4. Matters Arising

**a. Traffic Regulations consultation** – SM had circulated alternative proposals which had been circulated by Fife Council. This had shown a mix between restricted and unrestricted parking along Main Street. SM explained that he submitted the petition on behalf of the shop owner however this had been returned as it was still subject to consultation.

The correspondence suggested that the intention would be that the proposal would be sent to the Area Committee in June. SM advised that he had already written to the three local Councillors reiterating our previous objections and asking for their support.

After some discussion, the Community Council agreed to object to the parking restrictions based on the lack of evidence about any particular problems in that area, that no evidence had been submitted showing how this would benefit the shop owners and that over 200 people had signed the petition which would clearly show that the town doesn't agree with the proposals.

**b. Floral Grant 2016** – SM advised that he hadn't yet contacted the Growing in Lochgelly group about financially supporting, however he would do so.

**c. Lochgelly Cemetery Toilets** – SM awaiting feedback from the relevant manager.

#### **d. Casual Vacancy**

DH asked about the non-attendance of the Community Councillors at previous meetings, he advised that if they failed to attend 3 months meeting without apologies then their position was automatically a vacancy. SM responded that under section 8.3 of the Scheme of Establishments it was six months, however we had written to the now former community councillor in February who fell into this category and never received a response and therefore their position was classed as vacant following the March meeting although this had been filled last month. Unfortunately, we haven't had any communication for three months from another community councillor. Agreed to check whether we need to write confirming and contact John separately.

#### **e. Access to Public park – Auchterderran Road**

SM advised that he had contacted Transportation and that they had passed on the request to the relevant section. Works will commence as soon as possible hopefully

### 5. Financial Matters

GK had submitted his apologies for this evening's meeting, however he advised

- General Account = £2,271.83
- Special Projects = £3541.39 (Jubilee Park)

### 6. Communications



Sender	Substance	Action needed
Lesley Craig - Fife Council	Traffic Regulation Proposals. Alternative proposals	Publicised on Website and Facebook page. Added to the agenda for next LCC meeting
Fife Council	Weekly Planning Applications, 18 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2016, 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Circulated as necessary, no plans submitted requiring formal consultation
Michael Nicholson	Publicising events for input into the rural manifesto. Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May – Oakley and Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> May Cupar	Available on request
Stevie Murray ( Forwarded from 'whatdotheyknow' website)	Information relating to Lochgelly Community Council minutes FOI request  Information relating to LCC communications with Democratic Services	Circulated for information
Cllr Mark Hood	Email requesting information from NHS Fife reference capital planning and to Cllr Ian Chisholm reference funding amount.	Circulated and available on request
William Welsh	Notification of change of Community Liaison Officer due to Bill's retirement. Beth Flynn will take over this area	Acknowledged and thanked Bill for his advice and guidance over the years.
Robert Aimer (Fife Council)	Planned roadworks in Cartmore Road. Responses to LCC enquiries regarding schedule of work.	Publicised on Facebook and Website.
Cllr Linda Erskine	Acknowledgement of email reference parking restrictions in Main Street.	Seeking Councillors support in opposing the parking restrictions. Dealt with separately.
Willie McCool	Digital Fife. Free website development and support. Owned and run solely by the Community Council	Agreed to join Digital Fife as it allowed the Community Council to have sole control over the content. This would initially be in addition to the existing Fife Direct site.  JM agreed to go on the training scheduled for 25 <sup>th</sup> May.
Stephen Duffy & Kevin Sayer	Acknowledgement of works needed in Launcherhead Park. (Fence removed)	Available on request
Stevie Murray	Note of Public Park Improvement group	Available on request
Bill Welsh	Information relating to H&SC Strategic Partnership	Circulated and available on request



SM spoke through the aforementioned list. BS asked if there were any questions/comments relating to communications received. There were no questions raised.

7. Groups which CC attend

**a. Health Centre**

BS advised that a Public Meeting had been arranged for Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May, 630 in St.Serfs Church. All local Councillors had been invited to attend. Additionally Annebelle Ewing had been invited to attend as the new constituency MSP. Roger Mullin will be unable to attend. We have also contacted NHS about attending and are awaiting a response.

DH highlighted that he had been stopped by numerous people complaining about people from outside the town trying to undermine our campaign who have stated that its nothing to do with them. Some had questioned her motives and that they were disgruntled because the Community Council were actually doing stuff and not just focused on one issue. DH added that simply because you have relations or friends in the town that doesn't give them any right to comment on our activities.

BS recognised the frustrations that some people may have, however we cannot stop people from writing to the papers or on private websites. The focus of the group remains, we need a new health centre which no-one has objected to.

**b. Public Park Improvement group**

SM advised that the MUGA court was officially opened on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and is already proving a huge success. Every time that he has passed there are always people using the facility.

The group had been asked to look into costs associated with CCTV installation. MH suggested the use of temporary mobile camera's like the ones in the north of the park would possible be useful. These wouldn't have any costs on the group and would only be temporary.

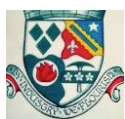
The group had met on Monday past and had discussed the option for developing a sensory garden on the top level tennis court.

This would include seating, raised flower beds and trees surrounding the area. The group had agreed to write to the householders in the immediate vicinity seeking any concerns about the proposals. It was recognised that anyone could comment to the group either through the community council or via email, however given the close proximity of the houses to the tennis courts they would be contacted separately.

They had also discussed planning and designing a skate park for the park. When CLD from Council had consulted with the schools previously the MUGA was the preferred option. Although the group were keen to explore all options to maximise the usage of the park. At this stage there are no funding streams available but if the plans are completed then when and if monies were available this would become a viable option.

SM reported that there had been three cherry blossom trees broken and the group would look at getting these replaced. It had been widely suggested on social media that young people had done this although SM also reported that one suggestion was that it was 7 or 8 year olds. There is no way of knowing who was responsible. The group had received costs for caging the trees, which was £250 per tree. This was felt too expensive when you consider that the trees have been there for two years now.

The next meeting of the group is scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup>, 600 in the 385 Social Club.



- c. **Mossmorran Safety Liaison Committee – No meeting**
- d. **4 Wind Development Trust – No Meeting**
- e. **Living Lomond Hills Trust -No meeting**

8. Councillors Report

MH summarised his activities over the previous month

- The past month was predominantly dealing with constituency case work.
- New house builds remain on track for completion in the next few months.
- Phase 2 funding for Rockgelly has been agreed.
- Anti-Social behaviour behind the Centre. MH sought the community council views on the possible option to fence this area off for the Sunflower nursery. It had been reported that as well broken glass and rubbish being thrown into the Nursery garden there has been a high number of reports about human excrement in the area. This isn't a right of way and isn't a heavily used footpath. The tenants in the housing backing on the land continually call the police about the level of behaviour in that area.

Questions and Comments

AD moved that we get more detail of the work required and assurances that Sunflower Nursery would have sufficient funds to maintain the land. Seconded by AG. Report back to next meeting.

DH raised the problems with the drainage in Grainger Street and Whyte Street. This had been a problem for a while now and as soon as we get heavy rain the whole area floods. MH agreed to contact Transportation.

9. AOCB

- a. BS asked there were any questions from either of the members of the public? Both replied that they had no questions.
- b. JMa asked that Community Councillors publicise the Old Peoples group which is open to anyone over 70 years of age. Agreed.
- c. Date of next meeting – **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016, 6.00 in the 385 Social Club**

