

Lochgelly Community Council
Wednesday 12th October 2016
385 Social Club

1. **Present:**, Brian Schulz (BS), Tam Durham (TD), David Hemseed (DH), Alan Gardiner (AG), Stevie Murray (SM), George Kinnell (GK) and Jean McDonald (JMC)

Apologies: Jim Haddow, Jimmy Mann, Carol Mackie, Jon Magee, Raymond Wilson and Billy Baxter.

Councillors Present: Councillor Mark Hood & Councillor Linda Erskine

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Proposed as accurate - DH, Seconded TD

3. Matters Arising

- a. SM advised that he had contacted Hazel Cross about the flag pole. Unfortunately it had been damaged by the heavy winds last year, however she would contact the area services committee about a replacement. MH would also liaise with Hazel about this matter.
- b. SM advised that he had contacted Growing in Lochgelly about attending the community council to talk about the community garden, however he hadn't heard back. However, two members of the group had attended the Public Park Improvement group meeting and spoke about their options. They are currently looking at various options across the town to develop a community garden, including the Brucefield plots, fire station and land behind the houses in South Street. SM had suggested to the group that they look at the land next to the Jenny Grey home as an option as it would be a good location for the sheltered housing. SM had confirmed that the Community Council would look to support the group's proposal once we had more information.

4. Financial Matters

GK advised

- General Account = £2,583.83
- Special Projects = £3541.39 (Jubilee Park)

SM asked about outstanding invoices, GK confirmed that we still had £1400 and £690 to pay for floral decorations for 2016 and 2015 respectively.

Grant requests received

1. Lochgelly Christmas lights group - £100 proposed JMC, seconded by TD
2. Lochgelly Old Folks Group - £100 proposed JMC, seconded by DH
3. Lochgelly High School 30th Anniversary calendar sponsorship - £50 proposed JMC, seconded by TD



Sender	Substance	Action needed
Fife Council	Weekly Planning Applications	Circulated as necessary, particularly when there are any plans submitted which may require statutory consultation or are of specific interest to Lochgelly
Mary Bennett (Fife Council)	Consultation notification on proposed removal of public pay phones	Circulated to Community Councillors and added to Community Council online facilities.
SESPLAN	Notification of drop-in sessions and ability for people to make representations on the plan through October to 10 th November	Circulated to Community Councillors and added to Community Council online facilities.
4 Winds Development Trust	Copy of approved accounts for 2015/16	Circulated to Community Councillors and added to Community Council online facilities.
Kevin Sayer (Fife Council)	Information relating to the proposed skate park for the Public Park.	Passed onto PPIG
Cllr Mark Hood	Information relating to NHS consultation exercise	Circulated to Community Councillors
Kevin Sayer (Fife Council)	Copy of Council report updating elected members on 'Oor bit' proposals.	Circulated to Community Councillors
Daniel Waddell	Information relating to consultation on Governance Review of Early Years and Schools education	Circulated to Community Councillors and added to Community Council online facilities.
Lochgelly Christmas Lights group	Request for financial support for this years event	£100 donated
Shelagh McLean (Fife Council)	Formal notification of close down of Lochgelly North School	Circulated to Community Councillors
Lochgelly High School	Requesting sponsorship for page in their special 30 th anniversary calendar - £50	£50 donated
Lochgelly Olds Folk group	Request for financial support for this years event	£100 donated

BS asked if there were any questions relating to the communications received. DH asked that when future funding requests are made they should be made to the Secretary in writing. SM suggested that although we don't have significant funds to donate we could add this onto the webpage.

6. Groups which CC attend

a. Health Centre

Next meeting scheduled for Monday 17th October, 6pm in the 385 Social Club. SM had circulated the report to all community councillors and added to the website. DH highlighted concern about the impact of spending significant sums on agency staff, approximately £60 million a year, which would be better spent on directly employing staff. SM reminded everyone of that at the public meeting it had been stated that by having new facilities which were able to provide the appropriate type of support needed in the town there was an increased likelihood that GP, Nurses etc would want to work there. This had been the case when the new surgery opened in Glenrothes apparently.



SM advised that he had received an email from Councillor Chisholm agreeing that it appeared that the NHS don't see Lochgelly as a priority. We had also reported previously that there was no allocated budget for the town and the timescales referred to by NHS Fife were simply unreasonable. The Lochgelly Health Round Table had proven that by allowing all professionals to work collaboratively the treatment could be more targeted.

JMC asked if there was land allocated for the new build? MH confirmed that the Council had highlighted Berry Street vacant land as a suitable plot.

b. Public Park Improvement group

The old running surface has been covered and the grass is coming through well. The group hadn't discussed the possible option of a football hub being developed on the park, it had been our intention to look at developing some ideas and publicising these for feedback. The initial thinking had been for outdoor gym equipment, walking areas and so on, we had set aside discussion time at the next meeting. MH explained that he had looked at this option of a football hub a while back, all agreed that it would certainly benefit the area.

The plans for the skate park have been received and will be discussed at the next group meeting. The group will consider funding some of the costs associated with the skatepark. The development of the garden on the top level tennis court had been delayed although it should still be in place for spring next year for planting. The plans for the lower level are initially to grass it over and then develop an older children's play area.

DH asked about the article in the local newspaper from an anonymous person? SM responded that the article was intentionally full of misleading information dressed up with quotes to attempt to make it look authentic. The reality is contained in the note of the meeting which is available for all online, GK was never asked to speak about alternative locations for the gala, indeed the note states that this was not an option and that the group sought assurances for future gala days in the park. Additionally it was Stephen Duffy (SD) who discussed the local football teams not SM.

c. Mossmorran Safety Liaison Committee

No update. DH spoke about the letter and article which accused Community Councillors and Councillors of accepting 'lavish' gifts from Mossmorran. DH added that it had been the Community Councils position for a number of years that we would not accept gifts or hospitality and the author of was a community councillor when we took this decision. DH added that when Alex Sharp was a Community Councillor we had got air quality monitors installed in two separate locations across the town, additionally we had argued for additional ones to coincide with the planning of Little Raith Wind Farm.

d. 4 Wind Development Trust

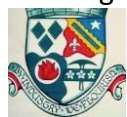
SM highlighted that the next meeting of the group was scheduled for the first Monday in December. The audited accounts had been approved by OSCR and had been sent to each Community Council in the area. The last meeting grants of over £13k had been distributed across the four areas. GK asked about the distribution of the grants amongst the four communities? BS responded that it was application driven, as Trustees we do not take into consideration the amount spent in each town, we look at the purpose of the group and the benefit derived from it regardless of where it came from.

Action – SM to add the audited accounts to the websites along with a copy of the application form.

e. Living Lomond Hills Trust -No meeting

7. Councillors Report

Housing – tenants issues with heating and insulation. Issues of Japanese knot weed in derelict ground



Area Committee - removal of bus services – supported motion to continue to pursue the reinstatement of services 34. Particular issues in Dundonald and Cardenden. Mary Lockhart moved the motion for retention of services and campaign for re-regulation of bus services.

Moved motion to reject proposals on community assets, move proposals in the ward to section 1 which is facilities required for service and community provision and directly managed by Fife Council . There is continuing discussions to see if there is a possibility of the Town Hall in Lochgelly being supported by the cultural trust.

Supported the Area Park Strategy for an audit of all facilities and seeking officers to develop a plan in consultation with community groups. To develop sustainable plans for facilities for children of all ages.

School Holiday Provision – received a report from education and area manager on the success and costs of project which was operated over summer and will be run in October. Children were referred through schools to project which gave children an opportunity to participate in activities receive a breakfast and lunch on each day. Also food bags were prepared for all of the members of the families which ensured that they could have a nutritious tea. The costings for this were presented and a full discussion took place about the benefits. Councillors wanted this rolled out across all of the schools

Attended - Surgery 21st the others 29th etc., covered by Mark Hood/ Head teacher interviews for St Monans and Falklands Primary Schools

CoSLA Human resource meetings in Edinburgh, Fife Sports and Leisure Trust Board and HR Sub committee meetings

Cardenden Environment Group, Cowdenbeath Area Committee, Cardenden Community Council Executive Committee Fife Health and Social Care Partnership board, Community Health and Well being Advisory group Budget discussions with Fife Cultural Trust 27th September, Tots to Teens Togs, Opened the Fife Art exhibition on 30th September at Lochgelly Centre, Appointment Sub Committee for Head of Finance, revenue, procurement and resources, Meeting with Chair of the Integrated Joint Board, Fife Health and Social Care Partnership ,Annual Tenant Gathering Kirkcaldy, Chaired Special Meeting of Finance and Performance meeting of Integrated Joint Board.

Rockgelly work should commence over the next few days on the building. The Cycle circuit will be considered by the planning committee on 23rd November, there was significant support for the project across the town, there had been only 6 objections most of them from people outwith the area.

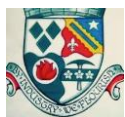
Questions

TD asked whether any action could be taken about the amount of bird droppings under the railway bridge. This was a significant hazard for people using this footpath. LE to investigate possible solutions.

TD asked whether there was any truth in the rumour about the bank of Scotland closing. Although this wouldn't be a council issue as such, it would have an impact on the community and businesses in the area. SM to try and find out if there was any truth in the rumour.

8. AOCB

- a. BS advised that there were no questions from the members of the public?
- b. JMC asked about the volume of rubbish being dumped across the town, highlighting that some of the streets were a disgrace with rubbish and chewing gum? All agreed that the Council staff performed well in the town and were under extreme pressure as a result of falling numbers of employees caused by budget cuts. We do though need to get people to be more responsible with their rubbish by raising awareness of throwing rubbish and litter away.



- c. SM reported that we had just been notified that Lochgelly had been short listed for the SURF Regeneration awards 2016 for the most improved town. This award recognises both the physical improvements, Town House, Rockgelly, Lochgelly Centre, Public Spaces and the Community improvements, Gala & Christmas lights, Growing in Lochgelly and other community groups. It is a tremendous accolade for the town and shows that we are moving in the right direction.
- d. Date of next meeting – **Wednesday 9th November 2016, 6.00 in the 385 Social Club**

