

Lochgelly Community Council
Wednesday 8th March 2017
385 Social Club

- 1. Present:** Brian Schulz (BS), Carol Mackie (CM), Alan Gardiner (AG), Stevie Murray (SM), George Kinnell (GK), Jimmy Mann (JMa), Davie Hemseed (DH), Tam Durham (TD), Craig Dempsey (CD) and Jean McDonald (JMC)
Apologies: Raymond Wilson, Jim Haddow, & Billy Baxter.

Councillors Present: Councillor Linda Erskine (LE) & Councillor Mark Hood (MH)

- 2.** BS welcomed CD to the meeting as the newest Community Councillor. BS hoped that he would enjoy the role and participate in the activities of the Community Council.

3. Presentation(s)

Callum Boath (Home Energy Scotland) provided a presentation on their work within the area. They are a government funded organisation who provide help and advice on grants, heating bills and renewable energy. They are currently working in the Lochgelly area and are looking to support householders to reduce expenditure on heating bills.

Callum explained that there are heating loans available to help implement better solutions to reduce heating bills. Some of these are means tested although they look to support people wherever possible. They also provide impartial advice to help people change providers to get the best deal for them.

Questions

- JMC asked about data protection? CB responded that all personal details are protected.
- SM asked whether the loans were available to both private and social housing tenants? CB confirmed that they were.
- MH asked about advice relating to solar panels, whether this is good for them or not? CB would leave information and advised that this was a subject they can advise about.
- BS asked about the evidence required to show that they are spending the money appropriately? CB advised that they will check to see whether the product is compliant with the expectation of reducing carbon emissions.

BS thanked Callum on behalf of the Community Council for his contribution tonight.

PC Brittany Primeau and PC Gavin Keith (Police Scotland) provided an update on Police Scotland activities since the last meeting. 500 calls from, 35 crimes recorded, 15 undetected. These are for various offences. They have been looking at funding options to introduce 'Bottle Tagging' in the area and working with Fife Council, Safer Communities department on this topic. This would involve shop owners volunteering to participate in the scheme



and would allow checks to be made on where alcohol is being sold. Although this project wasn't a great success previously, there is an indication that it works in other areas.

They have continued their work with Schools and undertook outdoor activity weekend at Lendrick Muir with Lochgelly HS. Care Homes in the area to talk about their work in the communities.

The illegal dumping of tyres has stopped and those which were dumped have been removed. It remains a problem across various locations in the town and should be reported when it is observed by citizens.

Questions

- JM asked about cars using public footpaths to access the plots from Auchterderran Road? BS advised that the details should be passed onto them in order that they can address the problem.
- SM added that the general sale of alcohol creates the problems and if there is a serious attempt to reduce problems associated with excess drinking then we need to look at our licencing laws. Other countries are stricter where alcohol can be purchased, however this isn't the case in the UK.

BS thanked BP and GK for their time this evening and the information provided.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

SM pointed out that Raymond Wilson had been recorded as submitting apologies and being present.

Proposed as accurate - CM, Seconded JM

5. Matters Arising

- JMC asked about the discussions with the Heritage Group and the Town House bell? SM responded that he had met with 3 members of the Heritage group about the bell. The bell needs a lot of work, he had suggested that we look at the common good fund for financial support. We had previously discussed a square of land next to the new buildings, the bell is there just now would be the most suitable place. It is proving problematic to move from the site. We will continue discussions on this subject though. LE advised that there is no money in the common good fund as far as she is aware, she will get a report for the next meeting.
- SM advised that he had written to John King as agreed at the previous meeting. The vacancy for the Community Council had remained in the local paper and was still on-line. Agreed that we seek nominations for the vacancy, and look to appoint.



6. Financial Matters

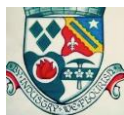
GK advised

- General Account = £1,925 which includes the annual grant of £1258 for 2017
- Special Projects = £3541.39 (Jubilee Park)

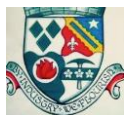
GK advised that they haven't received invoices from Fife Council Parks department for the floral decorations for 2015 and 2016. This would amount to the same as the floral grant awarded for the two years. SM to chase this up with the relevant Manager.

Finance report approved.

7. Communications Received



Sender	Substance	Action needed
4 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. Of interest to Lochgelly, application decided on the erection of test mast on little raith wind farm. Circulated
Chris Sinclair (Scottish Government)	Information relating to consultation on planning systems across Scotland	Circulated to Community Councillors
Hazel Cross (Fife Council)	Update on the first phase of the Rockgelly project	Added to social media platform
Lorraine Cooper-King (NHS Fife)	Information about the capital planning project process	Circulated to Health Centre sub-committee
Stephen Duffy (Fife Council)	Notification of removal of chute from Russel Street play park and rocking horse from West End Park. Neither to be replaced as it isn't financially feasible.	Emailed all local Councillors asking that the Area Committee consider providing funds for these pieces of equipment.
Kevin Sayer (Fife Council)	Seeking views on the name of the new visitor centre in Lochore Meadows.	Circulated to Community Councillors and added to social media site
Paul McDonald (Kelty Mining Heritage group)	Information about an exhibition in Kelty.	Sent to Lochgelly Heritage group for information
Helen Ross (Lochgelly Heritage Group)	Arranging meeting to discuss the Town House Bell	Met on Friday 24 th February
Karen Hunter (Fife Council)	Notification of cycle event which will go through the town on 11 th June.	Noted
Kathy Hamilton (Fife Voluntary Action)	Looking for an invite to attend a future Community Council meeting to talk about Mentors in the workplace.	Kathy can't attend the April meeting. Can be invited to attend the May meeting.



Stephen Duffy (Fife Council)	Information relating to meeting about the new proposed heritage centre in the Public Park. Meeting scheduled for 1 st March at 2pm	Sought confirmation of the venue and seek attendee from the public park group. Transpired that the initial meeting wasn't an invite to stakeholders, it was an initial discussion with the architect about options
Ian Brown (Resident)	Highlighting problems with flooding at the north side of the public park. This is on the road accessing the plots.	Carried out site visit and raised with Councillor Hood and Stephen Duffy.
Andrew Haworth (Fife Council)	Information relating to the Community Garden development.	Discussed with the Public Park group
Kevin Sayer (Fife Council)	Seeking expressions of interests from Community Councillors in becoming a Participatory Budget Champion.	JMa expressed an interest in attending and will communicate with Kevin Sayer.
Stevie Murray (4 Winds Trust)	Copy of notes from the November 4 Winds Trustees meeting	Posted on website
Hazel Cross (Fife Council)	Invite to the Chair & Secretary to attend the civic reception for the Town achieving the SURF Most Improved Town Award on 6 th April	Agreed that the Secretary and Chairperson will attend on behalf of the Community Council

BS asked if there were any questions relating to the communications received. LE highlighted that the discussions about the removal of play park equipment was ongoing.

8. Groups which CC attend

a. Health Centre

JMa attended meeting last week where they looked at the designs associated with the new build. The NHS support the view that the option for the 'Health Hub' in the town and continued application of the social prescribing model remain at the centre of the campaign. The building needs to be astatically pleasing and have facilities to support car parking and accessibility. JM advised that there is currently a full compliment of Doctors in the Lochgelly facility.

JMa advised that the documents provided from NHS have been circulated in the Library, Health Centre and the Community Shop.



b. Public Park Improvement group

SM advised that the work had commenced on the new community garden area and should be completed by the end of the month. There will be a number of trees both on the new surface and surrounding. The seating areas would be next to two raised flower beds facing toward the lower level tennis courts and children's play area. The middle seating would be two benches facing north.

As part of the long term plan the intention was to get an older children's play area installed on the lower level tennis court. The group were pleased to be able to invest £50k into this project, which along with funding from the Area Committee would help achieve this objective. MH advised that the projects are part of the recent review of play parks and the 'Destination' and 'Satellite' approaches. The initial development and consultation phases would hopefully be completed by autumn this year in order for the facility to be built and completed for 2018.

The Skate Park project will start over the next few weeks in time for completion around May/ June time. Community Councillors noted that despite some misrepresentations, when the local young people were consulted they would have preferred both MUGA and Skate park facilities in the park however they were only given one option. Additional signs would be installed on the existing ones highlighting the new features in the park.

GK advised that growing in Lochgelly would not be helping to stop vehicles accessing the park from Auchterderran road by installing a raised flower bed. They do have plans for Auchterderran road but this wasn't one of them. GK suggested that he hadn't offered this assistance in the first place, although all present agreed that this had been said and that the notes were approved at the start of the formal business.

AG added that the park is looking much better than it had been and that those who have been criticising the efforts of the group are jealous of the achievements made.

c. Mossmorran Safety Liaison Committee

No meetings since previous community council meeting

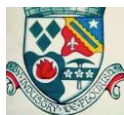
d. 4 Wind Development Trust

BS advised that the full members meeting had taken place on 22 February. SM advised that representatives from the four communities were in attendance. Over £16k was awarded to local groups, SM added that the majority of the requests were from groups in the Lochgelly area. This is down to the publicity from the Community Council and in the Central Fife Times. The next meeting of the Trustees is scheduled for 22nd May 2017.

e. Lochore Meadows Advisory Board

GK advised that tree felling has taken place to allow the cycle track to be developed, this has left a mess which will though recover. The Forestry Commission advised that the trees which were removed were due to be removed or had fallen down. The responsibility for the Health & Safety associated with the work was the responsibility of the Trust.

LE asked that the minutes of these meetings should be circulated to the Community Council.

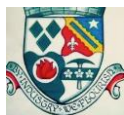


9. Councillors Report

Councillor Erskine reported on a number of areas which she had been working on over the previous 4 weeks. These included

- Appointments sub-committee Head of Education Early years
- Met with committee members for about Mining Heritage project. They had met with the architect and Council Officers. The Team Manager from Parks, Streets and Open Spaces Officer had pressed for the site to be located opposite houses in Melville Street. At this stage there are no firm proposals and the area is not the preferred location for the group. The intention is that when more concrete information is available then the relevant groups would be consulted.
- Constituents meetings re housing allocation, repairs and Anti- social behaviour
- Flooding and Pavement repairs throughout the constituency
- Working with Cardenden Community Development Forum and Heritage Group
- Challenged the deletion of Cleaner posts in local Community Centres
- Attended the Tea with Jennie Lee event and Coffee Morning with Lochgelly Community Development Forum
- Attended Area Committee & Budget Meeting
 - Budget Fife Council Capital Budget – £200k for capital projects in each area committee for the next two years
 - Lochgelly Skate Park £120K
 - Cardenden Derelict Buildings £40k
 - Cardenden environment Group £10k
 - Bowhill MUGA £50K
 - £200k for Mining Heritage project in Lochgelly.
- Fife Council Meeting – Moved motion on Fife Council Adopting and Ethical Care charter – no to zero hours contracts, ensuring staff are paid living wage and given time to care.
- Executive Committee – Strategic Housing Investment Plan for 2017 – 22 agreed to be submitted to Scottish Government.
- Agreed funding £100k to Fife Voluntary Action group to co-ordinate capacity building and training for each of Fife’s credit Unions. To promote building financial resilience of people throughout Fife/
- Lochore Meadow Country Park – a report which sought that the responsibility for the park would return to the Council on the 1st April 2017.
 - Two amendments were presented – 1 - The Visitor Centre be put on hold and that the contract for golf and changing facilities be awarded. Also the “Glenraig cycling route” be put on hold pending the outcome of the review of the proposed visitor centre and 2- That the golf club house changing facilities contract be awarded and that referral be made to the scrutiny committee for review the visitor centre.

Both amendments were defeated (Amendment 2 - 2 votes; Amendment 1 - 6 votes) and the main motion was carried (Motion 10 votes)
- Received report from Beath and Lochgelly High Schools of educational attainment and activities –



Questions of LE report

No Questions

Councillor Hood reported on a number of areas which she had been working on over the previous 4 weeks. These included

- The Cycle Circuit development is starting to progress. The development will be called the Fife Cycle Park. They are looking to engage local developers to undertake the work and hopefully they will be on site reasonably soon.
- Looking at opportunities to access the Active Leisure Fund.
- Met with Lochgelly Albert JFC about the development of the football hub in the Public Park. They are keen to get involved in the project as there are numerous problems associated with Gardiners Park.
- Phase 2 of Rockgelly has been secured.

Questions of MH report

- a. BS asked about the funding for Breakfast Clubs? MH confirmed that this had been secured by the administration's budget.
- b. SM asked about costs associated with entry to the Cycle Park? MH advised that this was one of the initial comments made by the Community Council. The response was that the costs would be at a level to ensure that it is accessible to the local people. It would certainly not exclude people of the town or be elitist as some would have commented.

10. AOCB

- a. BS sought approval to suspend standing orders? agreed
- b. No questions from the members of public in attendance
- c. JMC asked about the amount of chewing gum on the paths on Bank Street? MH to contact Parks, Streets and Open Spaces.
- d. DH asked whether LE had had an invite to meet with plot-holders from Brucefield allotments? LE advised that she hadn't.
- e. DH spoke about the tree felling at Lochgelly Golf Club and rightly there was immediately complaints. He asked whether any action had been taken about the tree felling in Brucefield allotments? This had been done by Fife Council and had caused damage to the area. LE to investigate this further.
- f. JM reported that over 200 people had attended the 'I Daniel' film show in Lochgelly Centre. They had raised over £530 on the night.
- g. SM advised that we had been actively encouraging people to complain to Post Office UK about the provision of the service in the town.
- h. SM had sought an update on the Fab Tek site. Fife Council are still working on the project and looking at ways to develop the site. There is a great deal of damage to the land on the site itself.
- i. CM asked whether there was any truth in the suggestion that MP's were not allowed to help with benefit claims and welfare associated problems? LE advised that this isn't the case.
- j. Date of next meeting – **Wednesday 12th April 2017 at 6.30 pm in the 385 Social Club**

