

Lochgelly Community Council
Wednesday 11th October 2017
385 Social Club

1. Present: (BS), Alex Dixon (AD), Stevie Murray (SM) Alan Gardiner (AG), Jimmy Mann (JMa), Raymond Wilson (RW), Craig Dempsey (CD) Mark Hood (MH), George Kinnell (GK) and Carol Mackie (CM)

Apologies: Cllr Rosemary Liewald, Brian Schulz Jim Haddow, Tam Durham, Jean McDonald & Billy Baxter.

Councillors Present: Councillor Mary Lockhart & Councillor Linda Erskine

JMa welcomed all to this evening meeting and explained that due to annual leave, Brian Schulz was unavailable to chair the meeting this evening.

2. Presentation(s)

PC Brittany Primuea (Police Scotland) provided an update on local activities since the last meeting.

- Overall reduction in crime calls from 46 to 36 in the last 4 weeks. Most related to alcohol and car related offences.
 - Youth disorder within the local schools causing a problem,
 - Looking to get additional cover in the area at weekend to try and tackle anti-social behaviour,
 - The bottle tagging scheme has had limited success however they are looking to promote an awareness campaign on adults purchasing alcohol for underage people in the town. They will take forward any intelligence provided to them and urged Community Councillors and the wider public to report issues.
 - Getting youngsters to participate in test purchasing is proving difficult.
 - Publications about your views count exercise were circulated and they are looking to get elderly people to participate in the elderly forum.
- Nominations to be

Questions

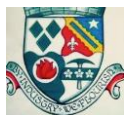
SM – asked Councillors what actions Fife Council would take to tackle the problems of local shops selling alcohol?

LE – the issues would be raised with the Licencing Committee to see what they can do to support the local initiatives.

Nomination details for the community speedwatch training were passed on and JM thanked Brittany for the informative presentation.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Proposed as accurate - RW, Seconded CD



4. Matters Arising

- (a) AG asked about the railings in Fraser Drive, if any action had been taken. SM advised that no feedback had been provided by Councillor Liewald although he would contact Fife Council to raise the issue. AG supplied drawings which highlighted the problem area.
- (b) SM highlighted that there was also no feedback about the potential removal of wild flowers at the entrance to the new housing estate in the avenue from Councillor Liewald although apologies had been submitted for this evenings meeting

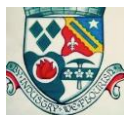
5. Financial Matters

GK reported that there was £3,541.84 in the special projects fund and £3081 in the general fund. GK said that he doesn't believe that we should submit an application for the floral grant this year as we have sufficient funds available.

SM reminded GK that there were two outstanding invoices from Fife Council which would total approximately £1500, we still had to expect applications for the Remembrance Day commemorations which would be in the region of £175 - £200, the Old Folks Reunion committee usually request £100 for the Christmas treat. These are immediate expenses which would take the account to £1200 without any unknowns' expenses which may occur. It would not be appropriate not to apply for funding with this in mind.

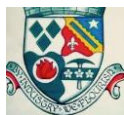
The Community Council agreed that the application should be submitted as normal and that the Treasurer should contact Fife Council again about the outstanding invoices. In addition Mark Hood to liaise with the Grace Street RA about the project in the Jubilee Park.

6. Communications Received



7. 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.
Fife Council	Review of polling districts	Circulated to Community Councillors
Kevin Sayer (Fife Council)	Notification of establishing Lochore Meadows Country Park Development Board. Seeking any opinions on the group membership and remit.	Circulated to Community Councillors
Cllr Rosemary Liewald	Acknowledgment of response to formal complaint relating to the behaviour of Community Councillor Jean McDonald specifically about her facial expressions	Circulated to Community Councillors
Fife Council	Notification of Fife Council adopting the Fife Development plan	Circulated to Community Councillors
Fife Council	Draft plan for Fife Consultation	Circulated to Community Councillors
Fife Council	Information relating to test boring for the Heritage Centre in the Public Park	Circulated to Community Councillors
Fife Centre for Equalities	Weekly newsletter	Circulated to Community Councillors
Mary Anne McGovern	Contact regarding damage to new Heritage sign	Went to retrieve sign, contact Fife Council to establish whereabouts and cause. Responses provided.
Lynn Kelter (Fife Council)	Draft note of MMBBIAQMRG	Passed to Jimmy Mann and to be added to website

JMa asked if there were any questions relating to the communications received. AD asked about the substance of the complaint from Councillor Liewald. SM advised that it was apparently related to body language displayed when the Councillor was speaking. He had sought information from BS about the allegation and was advised that the issue related to Jean McDonald allegedly rolling her eyes at one point. It is not clear whether Jean had been spoken to as part of Brian's enquiry at this point which wouldn't be a fair approach. Community Councillors expressed surprise and disappointment that this complaint had been made as it suggests that displaying displeasure by rolling eyes or facial expressions was not allowed.



SM asked if there were any comments on the terms of reference relating to the new Lochore Meadows board issued by Fife Council and sought guidance on whether we should be submitting nominations at this stage. There were no comments about the terms of reference. LE suggested that they are keen to get the group up and running as soon as possible, on that basis if the Community Council wished to make a nomination now it wouldn't do any harm. SM moved that MH be the representative from LCC, seconded by RW all agreed. SM to notify Fife Council accordingly.

MH spoke through the development of the projects in the area and highlighted that there had been a report in the local papers which contradicted a lot of the misinformation which had been circulated by another Councillor. This was in relation to the Boat House planning as well as the cycle track development. The motion which had been passed by Fife Council contradicted all of the apparent information supplied in other articles.

JMa asked if this were the case, is there anything that Fife Council should do to address the problem and ensure that Councillors are held accountable for the information they present which may not have any foundation.

GK suggested that we should look to sue and take legal action against the Councillor. SM advised that this was not a sensible approach and that we need to consider how best to ensure that our representatives provide accurate information about any proposals. The Community Council agreed that it is perfectly legitimate for opinions to be expressed however the information had been disputed based on the responses from the other local Councillors and the article in the local paper from the Fife Council motion suggests that some of the information hadn't been accurate. It was suggested that we consider whether or not an approach to Fife Council would be an appropriate option to address such matters when should they arise.

8. Groups which CC attend

a. Health Centre

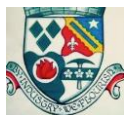
The Community Council discussed the most recent development on the campaign to get a new Health Centre established in the town. It is disappointing that the Scottish Government have put a 'delaying' tactic in the process despite all round support that we need new facilities. Agreed that we should contact the local MSP to get assurances that they will progress our campaign and make representations to the Minister on the towns' behalf.

b. Public Park Improvement group

Update on finances provided, currently £107,518.10 in the account. These are all earmarked for our contribution to the Skate Park, Play Park and Community Garden projects.

c. Mossmorran Safety Liaison Committee

JM advised that he has raised several questions on behalf of the Community Council and would publicise these. The next meeting of the group is scheduled for 18th October 2017. AG asked if any enquiries had been made to establish a community energy project for the town. He had attended a seminar by Alex Rowley MSP where this issue had been discussed.



d. **4 Wind Development Trust**

The next meeting of the group is scheduled for 21st November 2017.

e. **Lochore Meadows Advisory Board**

No meeting of the group. Covered elsewhere in the meeting

9. Councillors Report - Must be submitted in advance of the meeting.

LE written report circulated to Community Councillors. To be added to future websites

LE provided an update on the repairs required for the Cemetery wall.

SM asked about the preparations for the implementation of Universal credit, this system has the potential to create extreme hardship over what is probably the most expensive time of the year. It will effect the most financially vulnerable groups in our town and they needed to be provided with support and advice?

LE advised that the Council had held a Fairer Fife workshop where this was one of the topics. The administration had jointly condemned the implementation date and had hoped that there would be some reprieve by delaying the date. LE expressed bitter disappointment that when they discussed this at the full Council meeting, members of the opposition had been laughing when some of the desperate stories of how this system had effected families.

General discussion took place on this and it was agreed that the Community Council would publicise the need for the public to be aware of they can access support and advice.

10. AOCB

- a. No questions from the members of public.
- b. JMa highlighted that he had been involved in the Community Rail Project which will see investment from the Scottish Government on improving stations. JMa had raised the need for proper access and egress facilities to be installed in Lochgelly. The funding provided wouldn't go anywhere near the amount required, however we need to press for this issue to be addressed.
- c. Date of next meeting – **Wednesday 8th November 2017 at 6.30 pm in the 385 Social Club**

