



Lochgelly Community Council
Public Park Improvement Group
385 Social Club, Lochgelly
6th March 2017

Present

Lochgelly Community Council- Stevie Murray (SM), Jimmy Mann (JM), Carol Mackie (CM),
Fife Council - Stephen Duffy (SD), Colin Davidson (CD) & Alex Lamond (AL)
Cllr Mark Hood(MH)

Apologies – Margaret King, Tam Durham & David Hemseed

1	Minutes from previous meeting & Matters Arising Minutes approved – CM, seconded JM																																		
3	Financial Reports JM circulated a projected spend for the year paper <table><thead><tr><th></th><th>In</th><th>Out</th><th>Total</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Carry Over from 2016/17</td><td></td><td></td><td>123,095.10</td></tr><tr><td>Contribution to resurfacing Red Ash surface</td><td></td><td>9,200.00</td><td>113,895.10</td></tr><tr><td>Contribution to Restating paths *</td><td></td><td>1,000.00</td><td>112,895.10</td></tr><tr><td>Contribution to Skate Park</td><td></td><td>20,000.00</td><td>92,895.10</td></tr><tr><td>Community Garden</td><td></td><td>29,000.00</td><td>63,895.10</td></tr><tr><td>Contribution to Lower Level Play Park*</td><td></td><td>50,000.00</td><td>13,895.10</td></tr><tr><td>Flower Baskets 2017</td><td></td><td>1,000.00</td><td>12,895.10</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>The group agreed to contribute £50k to the lower level play park. MH advised that as part of the discussions surrounding the development of this area the Council would be looking to contribute funds as well. This would allow the whole area to be included as part of the plan. As a result the group agreed to progress with the resurfacing of the path around the park and Community Garden. This would come from the overall funds put aside, i.e. £50k + Fife Council contribution.</p>				In	Out	Total	Carry Over from 2016/17			123,095.10	Contribution to resurfacing Red Ash surface		9,200.00	113,895.10	Contribution to Restating paths *		1,000.00	112,895.10	Contribution to Skate Park		20,000.00	92,895.10	Community Garden		29,000.00	63,895.10	Contribution to Lower Level Play Park*		50,000.00	13,895.10	Flower Baskets 2017		1,000.00	12,895.10
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	The group also discussed the need to ensure that sufficient funds are retained for ongoing maintenance work.
4	<p>Park Update</p> <p>Community Garden Development</p> <p>SD advised that the work had commenced on the area and should be completed by the end of the month. AL & CD spoke through the plans for the number of trees both on the new surface and surrounding. In total there will be 9 trees on the Community Garden area and a number surrounding the area to be determined.</p> <p>SM explained that it had initially been intended to have a sensory garden in this location, however following a previous discussion, it was felt that what we were developing was more suited to a garden area. AL suggested that we consider a small herb garden in the area. 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 either be one or two benches.</p> <p>SM asked about when the raised beds would be ready for planting and what type of plants would be best suited. This would allow confirmation to be provided to the local schools who had agreed to participate. AL suggested that Begonia's, Geraniums, Trailing Lobelia would look good, these are summer plants so planting would be best suited for May. CD also suggested that Cordolines would help maintain balance.</p> <p>SM asked about a sign or plaque installation to commemorate the completion of the area. This is best sourced through the group.</p> <p>JM asked about spring planting as well as summer planting. All agreed that this would be up to the group going forward to decide if they wanted to plant bulbs in the planters for spring time.</p> <p>Lower Level Tennis Courts</p> <p>The slope between the two levels is being reduced by moving the red blae and soil from the top. The fence has been removed and the area is opened up.</p> <p>MH explained that the Council are looking at this becoming a 'Destination' play area. They are looking at three for the Cowdenbeath Ward. The project development will be led by the Area Services Manager who will look at ways to engage the three primary schools in the design of the features.</p>



The plan would be to have the design stages submitted for planning by late Autumn this year for work commencing over the winter period. The area would then be open for use in Summer 2018. The facilities would include accessibility for all users.

Skate Park Development

SM advised that the Area Committee have agreed to the funding, which along with the funding from the group will allow the project to progress over the next few months. The designs of the project had been undertaken by specialist in their field who had engaged youngsters as part of the plans. SM went to explain that when the initial survey was carried out by the community workers the young people who participated were only allowed to choose one option, MUGA or skatepark. They advised that their preference would've been for both however, the MUGA was chosen at that time.

CM advised that she had had a lot of encouraging feedback from people about the need for the skatepark. Particularly from parents who had been having to take their children to other locations.

MH advised that the designs have slopes, steps and railings included. The slope next to the MUGA court will be removed to allow the development to continue. The tender is being drawn up and will take 3-4 weeks, there is an evaluation session thereafter so work should commence toward the end of April/ May time for July completion.

SD suggested that there was little point in repairing the footpath in that area until the work had been completed. The group agreed and asked that the drains be looked at in the interim.

Signs

The Group agreed to four smaller signs to be fitted onto the main ones. They would include

- MUGA/ Skatepark
- Community Garden
- Picnic Area
- Children's Play Area



Heritage Centre

The Group discussed the possible development of a Heritage Centre in the Public Park. The group agreed that this was a positive contribution to the area. SM had sought assurances from the local Councillor and heritage group member that we would be included in the development of proposals, specifically where the impact on the work that we have undertaken.

MH advised that the project is at a very early stage and that they heritage group were looking at various funding streams to help the project. SD advised that this group would be included in the discussions as they progress and that there was no suggestion that we wouldn't be.

Willow Trees

SM asked whether there was a possibility of moving some of the willow trees from the old dog walking area to help break up the space between the wild flower area and the beech hedging. CD advised that this was a possibility and that they would look into this.

Agreed – SD and SM to arrange suitable time for site visit to decide on seating areas in the park.

AL will mark out the area to indicate where the trees would be.

SD to arrange for the drains to be cleared, if possible.

CD to liaise with sign printers for draft signs to be developed for consideration.

SM to liaise with the Schools to see about availability for planting in the middle of May

CD to look at moving willow trees.

5	Date of next meeting - Monday 10th April at 6.00 in the 385 Social Club
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