

Public Park Improvement Group  
385 Social Club, Lochgelly  
2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015

Present

Davie Hemseed (DH), Tam Durham (TD), Stevie Murray (SM), Helen Ross (HR), Karen More (KM) George Kinnell (GK), Margaret King (MK), Colin Davidson (CD), Stephen Duffy (SD) and Alex Lamond (AL) (Fife Council)

In Attendance

May King and Nancy Dmziek (Lochgelly Heritage Group)

Apologies – Jean McDonald, Cllr Mark Hood

1	<p>SM welcomed all and thanked them for attending the meeting. SM advised that he had spoken to Jean and that she was recovering well. The agenda had been circulated earlier and he had asked Nancy and May to attend to provide some information about their group. Once they have finished then we can move onto the agenda proper.</p> <p>SM advised that it was vital the all community groups work with one another to create the synergies needed to improve the town. The Heritage group and the Park have clear links with the Public Park being built on grounds surrounding the Jenny Gray mine.</p> <p>May and Nancy spoke through their initial plans and explained that they are hoping to set up story boards along the length of the trail from the Public Park to the Cartmore industrial estate. This was the route which was used for taking the coal from the mine. Along with that they would like to install a pug which would allow younger people to climb and ask questions about the heritage.</p> <p>May added that SD had suggested that the plateau area could be used for an outdoor education spot. May circulated a photo of the type of equipment that they could look at. DH responded that the Park group had agreed that this would be an area set aside for benches for families to use. He added that it was important that Council Officers make themselves aware of different groups' plans so that they can all be seen to be working together and not pulling in different directions.</p> <p>SM suggested that whilst it was a reasonable suggestion, at this stage we can put the benches on the area as agreed at the walk round and possibly use the lower level tennis court as an alternative location for the outdoor learning benches.</p> <p>The group thanked Nancy and May for their input and wished them every success. If there are aspects which both groups can work on then we should maintain contact.</p>
2	<p>Bank Account – SM confirmed that the cheque for £88,000 had been paid into the account. Current Balance- £135,998.85 (Service charges from Bank of Scotland of £5.50 (April) and £5.65 (May).</p> <p>SM had spoken to Kevin Sayer (Area Services Manager) about the "s75" money which the Council Administration had committed from their budget. Kevin advised that this was being held in a virtual account to pay for the MUGA court. The £88k had been transferred to the group which was monies allocated for the MUGA, was for the use of the group. The "s75" money had also been used to pay for work undertaken by</p>

	<p>Fife Council Parks, Streets and Open Spaces to date.</p> <p>HR asked what the charges were for? SM advised that these must be related to the type of account. HR agreed that she would look into these charges and the type of account.</p> <p>Action - HR to contact BoS regarding the account and the charges.</p>
3	<p>Park Development update</p> <p>CD and AL provided an update on the work which had been done since the last meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The dog walking area had been strimmed,</li> <li>• The trees at the north entrance had been crowned and one removed,</li> <li>• The daffodil bulbs had been planted on the banking at plantation street</li> <li>• Painting had commenced on the bin shelter</li> <li>• Walls at the South and North entrances had been repaired</li> <li>• Shrub beds had been maintained at these entrances</li> <li>• Signs ordered for North and South entrances</li> <li>• Two prices have been provided for the wet pour surfaces and another is to be provided (FC procurement guidance). The last quote was for £14,000.</li> </ul> <p>KM asked about the costs associated with the wet pour and whether this was a reasonable outlay given that it may need replacing. SM advised that this was a fair point, however there is no timescale as yet for when this would be replaced. It could be two or three years before the money is available.</p> <p>MK advised that the project would meet the criteria to be eligible for funding from the Lochgelly Going Forward (LGF) project. MK advised how to progress with the application. Given the costs and the hazards associated with the current area it was agreed to continue and seek match funding from the LGF.</p> <p>KM enquired about the flooding at the bottom end of the park and asked that this be looked into further.</p> <p>SM asked that the group consider ideas for the North end of the park. GK suggested trees which flower in late summer as a contrast to the South entrance. Possibly locate the outdoor gym area on the red ash or the older children's play area?</p> <p>SD advised that the current state of the path is a significant health and safety risk. The costs associated with the repairs would be approximately £50,000. SM asked SD look into immediate repair work as if this was a significant risk to the public then the Council have a duty of care and should be repairing the path.</p> <p>Action</p> <p>AL to look at strimming the West boundary to protect the hedging which had been planted.</p> <p>Alternative date to be set for site visit on the top level tennis court. This would allow</p>

	<p>discussions about the development of the sensory garden.</p> <p>SD to investigate the repair works necessary for the path.</p> <p>Draft submission for LGF to be submitted.</p>
4	<p>Environmental Action Group</p> <p>MK confirmed that following agreement at the previous meeting that she had revised the constitution to reflect the extended role of the group. This simply now states that one of the aims is to further environmental issues in the town. This will need to be ratified at the AGM.</p>
5	<p>AOCB</p> <p>MK advised that the group need to arrange for an AGM. MK will arrange for an independent examiner to look at the accounts for this.</p> <p>Action – AGM to be arranged for January 25<sup>th</sup>, venue to be confirmed.</p> <p>MK advised that the LGF have arranged for a public session to be held on November 28<sup>th</sup> and requested that the group take up a space at the location. Agreed that SM would arrange the display and use the event as a start of consultation on the red ash area.</p> <p>Action – Volunteers to contact SM for availability on 28<sup>th</sup> November. SM to arrange display material.</p>
5	<p>Date of next Meeting</p> <p><b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 6.00 in the 385 Social Club</b></p>