

Rockgelly phase 2 public drop in event

Fife Council will be holding a public drop in event on the developments associated with phase 2 of the Rockgelly project, Fife's regional indoor climbing and bouldering centre.

If you want to look at the plans for the development we would encourage you to get along to the Lochgelly Centre on Tuesday 4th July between 1030 and 730pm.

If you want more details about the Lochgelly town centre changes contact Fife Council's town centre development team on tcdu@fife.gov.uk

section 7

Community Speedwatch Training

Police Scotland have informed us of the opportunity for local people to train as community speedwatchers in the Town. This allows local people to support Police Scotland monitor areas of the town which are prone to speeding cars.

If you would be keen to get involved then please let us know and we will pass on your details.

section 8

Street Name Consultation

Fife Council have contacted the Community Council seeking suggestions for street names for the new housing development on the land next to the Avenue.

The street plan is contained within the Publication section and shows the three streets concerned.

If you would like to contribute to this please email lochgellycommunitycouncil@yahoo.co.uk

For example, we could consider 'Jenny Gray Lane' keeping in with the mining heritage of the town. Your views should be sent to us by 31st July in order that we can prepare our response to the Council.

section 9

Community Groups benefit from wind farm grants

Local community groups across the 4 Winds Trust area benefit from almost £28,000 awarded in grants at the last meeting of the Trustees.

Speaking on behalf of the Trust, Stevie Murray said "It is tremendously gratifying when you can see real benefits from the work that you do in local communities. These awards will go a long way to helping community based groups achieve their project aims."

A wide range of groups received grants at the quarterly meeting of the 4 Winds Trustees. Indeed 15 groups shared in the windfall, local Gala committees, Football, Golf, Fishing and Bowling clubs, Parent Council associations in Lochgelly West, Lumphinnans and Cowdenbeath, 46th Fife Scout and local Environmental Group all received grants ranging from £800 to £3500.

Stevie concluded "Every group has their own project priorities and with the grants they have received from the Little Raith Community development Trust fund managed by the 4 Winds Trustees, they can hopefully achieve these objectives. When you are able to consider the wider benefits derived from the hard work of the volunteers who drive forward these projects, you can then start to see the benefits to the whole community."

The next meeting of the 4 Winds Trust isn't until the 21st November 2017, plenty of time to get your application completed. Applications are available at www.4windstrust.com or from the 4 Winds Trust section of this site.

section 10

Golf Course Plans approved

Fife Council planners have given the go ahead to develop an 18 hole golf course and club house on land west of Loch Gelly. Details of the plan can be found on the Fife Council planning website.

<http://planning.fife.gov.uk/online/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=N3580BHFT8000>

The Community Council had objected to the proposals when they were submitted in 2014, highlighting that there was already sufficient numbers of golf courses in the area.

Although there a number of Community Councillors who participated in that decision have left, the existing members felt that that fact remained unaltered.

section 11

Fife Development Plan Scheme 2017

The latest version of Fife Council development plan is available in the publications section of this website. If you have any questions on its content, you can contact the Community Council or Fife Council direct.

section 12

Candidates urged to publicly commit to Community Councils campaigns

Lochgelly Community Council are calling on all candidates in the forthcoming Fife Council elections to pledge support and publicly back our campaigns which will improve Lochgelly.

Speaking after the last Community Council meeting, Secretary Stevie Murray said "Lochgelly has seen a great deal of improvements over the last few years, improvements which were rewarded, when we won the Most Improved Town award. The work down to achieve the changes across the town must continue. I am proud to be part of a Community Council which has been progressive and mature in its approach to supporting these changes. When you look at the Public Park, development of Rock Gelly, The approval for the Cycle Park, Town House, Main street and Bank street redevelopment projects there is a lot that everyone in the town can be proud off."

The Community Council noted that whilst there has been tremendous progress, it is important that whoever is elected commits to support progressing our priorities.

- New Health Centre which is fit for all and provides the right help at the right time
- Protect levels of promised investment in all local projects (Heritage Centre, Cycle Circuit, Rockgelly, Play Park improvements)
- Increase and improve access to Recreational, Parks and Open spaces
- Support the transformation of derelict buildings and land for social housing
- Increased support and funding for our local Police and Community Wardens to tackle anti-social behaviour
- A new Primary School which is fit for all of our children

Stevie concluded "The Community Council agreed at the last meeting, that whilst we cant back any candidate and do not want to influence how people vote, we do want candidates to commit to Lochgelly. On that basis we are calling on each candidate and ask them to publicly commit during their election campaigning that if they are elected they will drive forward Lochgelly Community Council's priorities."

section 13

4 Winds Trust Community Grants available

The next meeting of the 4 Winds Development Trust is set for 20th November 2017. So there is a little bit of time to consider your application and prepare the necessary documents.

The Trustees, volunteers from the 4 Community Councils, will consider applications from community groups across the communities covered. All the form requires is an outline of your group's project, who will benefit, a copy of the group's constitution and an up to date bank statement/ audited accounts.

You can get access to the application form in the publications section or email lochgellycommunitycouncil@yahoo.co.uk and we can send one out.

section 14

Post Office Service

Lochgelly Community Council are encouraging people of the town to complain to the Post Office UK about the poor service we are getting.

The more people who complain, the more likely they are to take action. You should complain to customercare@postoffice.co.uk.

The way we are being treated is absolutely deplorable. This is a vital service in the community and this situation cannot be allowed to continue.

section 15

Health Centre Campaign gains momentum

Lochgelly Community Council representatives attended a very positive discussion session with NHS representatives on Friday 27th January and after months of campaigning it appears that we are finally making progress.

The Community Council focussed on the facts surrounding the state of the existing facility, the increase in the population of the town and the benefits to be derived from the social prescribing model to take forward our campaign.

The fact that Fife Council had given clear assurances that land would be made available made us more determined to push forward with this issue.

We received cross party support, which itself is an achievement, for our campaign. Indeed there were only two discerning voices throughout the last year.

Now the NHS have finally acknowledged that Lochgelly needs a new centre and have identified their preferred site it would appear that our efforts are working. We still need the project to be funded and therefore we cannot sit back and relax. the project is 'spade ready' and we need everyone to keep supporting the campaign until funding has been provided.

section 16

Community Garden works to start this month

At the last meeting of the Public Park Improvement group, members were advised of the timescales for the commencement of the work on the community garden.

Contractors aim to start work later this month, with completion by late March. This is of course weather dependent, but will be completed and usable this summer.

The designs include a new path to ensure that the facility is accessible to all users. Raised flower beds will bring some colour to the area and the benches will allow spectacular views across the Bishop and Benarty hills to the north and Largo Law to the east.

At the same time, the lower level will be grassed over, which will help make the area more pleasant. This is a temporary measure and in the longer term it is hoped that funding can be provided for a play area for the older children.

The group discussed problems of anti-social behaviour, where-by bottles have been getting smashed at the old shelter area. Whilst there have been some calls for the structure to be removed, at this stage we have asked the local community police officers and community workers to help tackle the source of the problem. We are keen to hear your views on the removal of the shelter so please get in touch.

Dog fouling remains to be a significant problem in the park, as it is throughout the town. Most dog owners are responsible and we would ask those less inclined to clean after their dogs to remember that it is a Public Park and there are lots of people using it.

If you want to get involved with the work of the group then please let us know.
lochgellycommunitycouncil@yahoo.co.uk

section 17

Lochgelly wins prestigious award

Lochelly Community Council congratulated every community group, as well as Fife Council Officers and Ore Valley for winning Lochgelly the most Improved town award.

Reflecting on the SURF award of most improved town, Community Council Secretary, Stevie Murray said "It is always a pleasure to reflect on the positive areas of work that community bodies are involved in. It is only when you see what has been done can you assess what can be achieved when the Community comes together."

"The SURF award is recognition of the efforts made not only in the last 12 months and over a number of years. The regeneration of the Co-operative buildings, new houses and shops in Main street, demolition of the town centre flats and the town centre square have been years in the making. More recently the contribution made by Christine McGrath, Eileen McKenna and Helen Ross from their activities in arranging the Gala days and Christmas Lights, through the completion of the Town House redevelopment and Social Housing built on unused land to the installation of the MUGA court and improvements in the Public Park, our town ticked every box in achieving physical, social and recreational improvements."

WELL DONE TO EVERYONE INVOLVED

section 18

Citizen & Young Citizen of the Year Awards 2016

Karen Yeoman and Daniel Pratt were announced as the winners of the Citizen and Young Citizen of the year awards 2016.

The awards recognise the contribution made by both in helping others in Lochgelly as well as promoting the town in positive light.

Brian Schulz, Chairperson, presenting the awards commented "Presenting these awards is such a tremendous honour. All too often people focus on the negative aspects of our society, however when you consider the positive contribution made by so many it shows that people can make a difference."

Karen Yeoman was recognised for her continued participation in the Spirit of Lochgelly community group. the group have tirelessly raised funds for various causes across the town.

Daniel Pratt, whose sister also achieved the same award a few years back, was awarded the prize for his selfless contribution to helping out within the Community shop, gala day and Christmas lights events.

Brian concluded "Lochgelly Community Council are very pleased to make these awards. Each year we get the opportunity to thank those whose contribution helps the town and there have been many worthy winners over the year. Karen and Daniel have maintained the high standards of the past winners and are worthy of all our recognition."