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| **Community Council steps up campaign for new health centre**Lochgelly’s Community Council have stepped up the campaign for a new health centre and are calling on you to help. After months of campaigning the health centre finally published a report which confirmed what we have all been saying that the existing health centre in Lochgelly is simply inadequate for the services we are entitled to.Community Council Secretary, Stevie Murray explained “Over the past few months we have continually raised our concerns about our health centre. Lochgelly has an increasing population as well as increased usage from residents from surrounding areas. “We are also in an area of multi-deprivation and higher than average levels of multiple illnesses. The problems associated with the health provision in Lochgelly is not down to the General Practitioners or Nurses working in the property, it is recognised that collaborative working is key to tackling a range of social problems encountered in a modern society. The building cannot accommodate the type of working across partner organisations and groups.”“Lochgelly Community Council were pleased to receive cross-party support for our campaign and the commitment from then Scottish Health Minister that if there was a need then funding would be made available. As a result of the latest development they have written to the Minister asking them to follow through on this commitment.”We are asking the people of the town to do the same. The Community Council have drafted a template letter which we want members of the public to either post or email to the minister. We will make copies available in various community outlets and through the publications section of this website and our fife direct site.Additionally members of the public can request a copy of the letter by emailing lochgellycommunitycouncil@yahoo.co.uk **section 8** |

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|  | **Surviving Christmas**Christmas and New Year can be a particularly tough time of the year.Fife Council's Adult Support and Protection Committee have provided a valuable guide which provides hints and tips to help with the pressures of Christmas and New year. This publication is part of their continuing effort to raise awareness of the support available across Fife. These are designed to help people stay safe and well throughout the year, but particularly at this time of the year with the added pressures that society places on everyone.The booklet is available through the Publications section of this site and on our Fife Direct site.**section 9** |

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|  | **Oorbit community priority voting**VOTE online now for how you’d like a share of £250k to be spent on making places and spaces better in Lochgelly. Everyone who lives and works in the area has a vote, and all of the ideas were submitted by local people. Voting closes at 5pm on Sunday (27th November), spread the word: http://oorbit.d21.me/Funding for allotments, seating, youth club, community notice boards, park improvements, gym equipment, hanging baskets, sports programme… loads of different ideas to vote for!http://oorbit.d21.me/**section 10** |

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|  | **Nominations sought for Citizen and Young Citizen of the year awards**Each year Lochgelly Community Council asks the people of the town to nominate individuals or groups who have gone above and beyond for the benefit of the town. The awards recognise the contribution to society or positively raising the image and profile of Lochgelly.The Citizen of the Year award is open to anyone over the age of 16. This can be a individual or a group. The Young Citizen of the Year award is open to anyone 16 and under, again this can be an individual or a group.If you want to nominate someone or a group for these prestigious awards then email the Secretary at lochgellycommunitycouncil@yahoo.co.uk by Friday 28th October with the name of the nominee(s) and a brief explanation of why they deserve the award. Please include contact details for the nominees as well so we can contact them.**section 11** |

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|  | **Health Centre 'Not fit for Purpose'**Lochgelly Community Council announced that NHS Fife have finally accepted that Lochgelly Health Centre does not meet current required standards! Indeed it prohibits development of a more holistic approach to treament. Lochgelly Community Council have been campaigning since the start of the year for new Health Centre provision for the town. We have written to ministers, NHS Fife, Fife Council and held public meetings attended by Local MSP Annabelle Ewing and Councillors Mark Hood & Linda Erskine.Stevie Murray, Community Council Secretary advised “Our basic arguments have remained consistent, Lochgelly Health Centre is simply inadequate to provide the level and types of care needed! If we got a new build then there would be the opportunity to provide different forms of treatment which helps people to deal with whatever problems they have. The Social Prescribing care model developed within the Health Round Table, which has been widely applauded and is being rolled out across Fife, which the Community Council instigated. This holistic approach looks for ways of prevention as opposed to treatment of the symptoms by directing the patients to the correct specialist.”Community Councillors were invited to meet with NHS Managers at the end of June and again highlighted these problems. We expressed our frustration that they hadn’t taken steps to tackle the problems faced by the people of our town sooner. The Managers in attendance were sympathetic to our arguments and although they confirmed that no funding had been made available for Lochgelly they wanted to work with the Community Council.Stevie added “The last time we met, at the end of June NHS intimated that they want to work closely with the Community Council on this project. We highlighted that if we had a new facility, then there was evidence that recruiting GP’s would improve, directed supported would free up existing GP and specialist Nurse time.” Stevie went on “After months of campaigning, it is somewhat satisfying that there has been this level of acceptance and progress.” However, we cannot simply sit back and rest on this small, but significant announcement. We need everyone who uses the facilities to contact their local MSP about the desperate need for a new building and ask them to press the Health Minister for funding to be provided. We will continue to campaign until funding is secured and a more realistic timescale is provided for work commencing. **section 12** |

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|  | **'Simply Local' off licence proposal**Under the provisions of the Licensing Scotland Act 2005, the Community Council are being consulted on any views of an agreeing to an off license in Page Street..The full proposal is available in the publications section. Responses should be emailed to lochgellycommunitycouncil@yahoo.co.uk by Saturday 20th November 2016. Lochgellycommunitycouncil@yahoo.co.uk.**section 13** |

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|  | **Boundary commision proposals**Initial proposals for UK Parliament constituencies have been published by Boundary Commission for Scotland.Among the plans are alterations to Fife's current constituencies.You can have your say on the proposals on the Commission's website until 11 January 2017.www.bcs2018.org.ukYou can also email the community council with your views, which we will collate. Email us at lochgellycommunitycouncil@yahoo.co.uk**section 14** |

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|  | **Lochgelly nominated for most improved town awards!**Lochgelly Community Council are proud to announce that Lochgelly have been short listed for the SURF regeneration awards 2016 for the most improved town awards.The awards which recognise innovation, best practice, improving the well being of communities is an indication of the improvements happening in the town.With the transformation of the Public Park, the new housing projects, Rockgelly, Cycle loop and regeneration of the Town House there are physical changes showing improvement. When you add in the work undertaken by the Gala and Christmas Lights group and Growing in Lochgelly things are definitely improving across the town.This is initial stages and representatives from local groups have been invited to meet with judges to talk about the process involved. Whether we win or not, being short listed is a clear indication that we are moving in the right direction.**section 15** |

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|  | **Proposals for Skate Park**Fife Council have provided proposals to develop a skate park within the Public park. Over the past couple of years significant improvements have been made to the park with the latest being the transformation of the old red ash surface. This would allow further development opportunities and the feedback we have had suggests that possibly outdoor gym equipment would be a welcome addition.The next projects planned by the Public Park Improvement Group is the development of the gardens and seating area on the top level tennis courts followed by the development of the lower level into an older children's play area.The skate park proposals is something else that we should consider, although with a cost of £85k - £95k a lot is dependent on funding. If you have any views on this proposal or any other aspect of the improvements needed in the Park let us know.**section 16** |

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|  | **Red Ash regeneration commences**Work has commenced on transforming the red ash area of the Public Park. The area will be grassed over which will allow greater use for years to come.The red ash has, with the exception of the annual gala celebrations, remained unused for many years. By changing the surface to grass it wont simply change the visual effect, but allow increased options for people to use the surface.Fife Council Officers have given as much assurances as they can that there will be no disruptions to next years gala event. The main caveat is the unpredictable weather. As always, if you have any ideas which will help improve the park then let us know. Email lochgellycommunitycouncil@yahoo.co.uk**section 17** |