

Lochgelly Community Council
Councillor Report November 2017
Linda Erskine

This is a snapshot of some of the activities I have participated in over the last month.

Consultation; Development of Lochore Meadows Country Park Development Group.. Community Manager is reviewing the submissions to bring report to area committee at future date. Hopefully for the December meeting.

At the Area Committee, 31st October both Mary Lockhart and I gained unanimous support for sanitary products to be provided across the Cowdenbeath Area with support from CLD staff and Fife Sports & Leisure thus ensuring that women have ready access to sanitary products out with school terms. A report on this pilot project will be brought back to the Area Committee April 2018.

Cemetery Health & Safety - Ongoing since 2013.

The table below shows the projected works from a prioritised list currently being scheduled for repair.

UPRN	Site	Estimated Cost:
101220	Auchterderran Churchyard	£5.5k
101230	Cupar Old Parish Churchyard	£10.5k
101235	Kinglassie Churchyard	£30k
101236	Pathhead Cemetery	£20k
101228	Culross Abbey Burial Grounds	£22.5k
000273	East Wemyss and MacDuff	£85k
000329	St Fillans Church hall Graveyard	£7k
000332	Carnock Cemetery	£15k
000224	Flisk Cemetery	£20k
000251	Tayport Cemetery	£27k
000320	Lochgelly Cemetery	£158k

Interments - There are 2 squads who maintain and carry out the interments in the Cowdenbeath Area cemeteries. The territory covered by these squads includes 48 cemeteries in total and covers much of central as well as west Fife. Combined these squads carry almost half of the annual interments in Fife.

The Cemetery wall has been a cause for concern for a few years. I have been told that the bereavement services are working on an appropriate replacement. I am seeking a report on this.

Lochgelly

Received a number of complaints of suitability of housing placements of people who have offended. I am concerned that the environmental assessment which should be undertaken before placement of tenants. Pursuing this with housing and raised the issue with police at the area committee. Waiting feedback on the matter.

Complaint of speeding in 20mile zones concerns raised, taking the issue up with Transportation to look at hot spots across the town.

Seeking to resolve an alleged threatened eviction of a family.

Confirmation that council ground and old lock ups in Sharp grove, Morris Avenue area will be turned into parking areas to alleviate parking issues.

Lochgelly Albert Colts. Trying to resolve lease issues.

Attended Lochgelly High School Polar Academy fundraising efforts. Curry Night, 6th November evening raised £1070. 10th November there is a race night in Cardenden. Parents and students are working really hard to raise as much as they can towards the ambitious £170,000 target required. I hope that as many local people and organisations, including Community Councils will support this project to make it a reality for our young citizens. Recent £2000 support from Benarty Community Trust.

Attended sod cutting for Lochgelly skate park. Requested school children cut the sod.

Area Committee received a report on Common Good funds. Indicated to officer that Lochgelly Community Council will want a presentation on the update funding position.

Complaint about the moving of boundaries in Lochgelly which has encroached on GlenCraig boundary. Raised issue with law & admin.

Concern raised about planning application which appears to have been withdrawn however building is now taking place onsite

Cardenden

Some very difficult anti-social behaviour issues in the area. Police and housing have been involved, this has taken its toll on the tenants in the area. Working with housing to seek a resolution. Dealing with extremely distressed tenants which has taken up time to ensure that I visit and support them through difficult issues.

Working with Housing to deal with threatening behaviour of tenants.

Received a petition from residents who have been affected by behaviour of resident who inhales aerosols. This has resulted in violent and threatening behaviour, police and dogs involved resulted in arrest. Working with head of housing and residents to resolve the issue. Written response to residents who signed the petition.

A family has been sanctioned welfare rules and, as a result, had left a family with no money, food, heating or lighting. Delivered food parcels, ensured that there were the appropriate toiletries and assistance with heating. Contacted MP to deal with the sanction issue. Also contacted, Council Benefits the Education Support & Connect Team. Local Churches are now working together to deliver Cardenden food relief.

2 constituents who have not been allowed access to benefits have walked to food bank in Kirkcaldy.

Sewage issues at Station Road. Following 6 attempts to have the issue resolved Scottish water have now, split the drain, replaced the pipes and put new drainage in. Situation to be monitored.

Public meeting of Ore Valley residents.- At the last meeting of the Com Council it was indicated this meeting would go head in relation to the adoption of roads in the area. Fife Council will not adopt unless there repaired to an acceptable standard. There are 20 families who own properties and they have been informed that they will be required to pay a percentage of any repair. Some despair, concern expressed as, at that point, there was no plan

Attended Race Night with New Carden Playpark group, £1,300 raised

Attended St Ninians Church Autumn Tea.

Attended 4th Fife Scouts Spooktacular fun raising event £1200 raised

Took part in the bulb planting with Cardenden environment group

Presented prizes to school children for the Light up Cardenden Christmas light competition.

Benarty

Working

with Ballingry Astros to resolve issues created by officers.

Working with Golf club in relation to accommodation issues, visited the training they have for young people on Thursday evening this is attended by up to 15 young people from across the ward. Training all delivered by volunteers.

Request to ensure that there is new sand for the Meadows beach

Toilet facilities for Community Shop.

Lack of Parking has become a problem in a number of the streets in Benarty. Working with Cllr Lockhart and housing to try and overcome by potentially using Council ground.

Supported Cllr Lockhart dealing with a mineshaft collapse in Kirkton street. Council & Coal authority acted very quickly to deal with the collapse and the damage to the sewer.

General Issues

Strategic Budget Group – Ongoing work to discuss officer's suggestions in budget process potential £78million in three years.

Sport & Leisure trust AGM meeting. – Main topic of discussion, potential reduction management fee. Potential impact on services.

Workshop - working towards a fairer Fife. Looking at how Fife Council supports hard up families, providing advice and practical support to those who need it.