**Update on Health Centre Campaign**

Members of the Health Centre Campaign sub group and Fife Councillors were invited to attend a meeting with representatives from NHS Fife to discuss our campaign.

Members of our sub-group are well versed in the substance of our campaign, specifically that if you provide suitable facilities that can accommodate a multitude of health and social

services creating the ability to triage needs to ensure that people get the right support at the right time. For example, the provision of professional Counselling Services for people would free up GP time creating a positive spin off for appointment times.

There was round the table support and acknowledgement for this position from all present at the meeting. Indeed the Strategic Assessment also states that

• “Emerging integrated models of care undeliverable in the current environment”

• “The Premises are functionally inadequate and compromise pro-active care.”

• “Patients are required to make repeated visits for care due to limited collaborative working.”

NHS spokesperson spoke about the current facility explaining that there was an extension built in 2000/2001 however it is exceptionally tight, lack of rooms for visiting clinicians and a lack of privacy. There were leaks in the roof which when one is fixed another one appears.

The Strategic Assessment which they have provided suggests that the “Physical characteristics of the building and inadequate infrastructure prevents safe and effective patient care: below HAI standards.”

They have commenced with the process of developing a timeline for possible actions, however they cannot fully commit to any plans until such times as there is a clear commitment from the Scottish Government.

There are several stages to the new Government process of Scottish Capital Investment Manual which is used for procuring such projects, the Strategic Assessment of need, Initial Agreement Document which is a more detailed document about the requirements for the area and the options available and finally through the multitude of committees with the NHS before a full business case is submitted for consideration.

They intimated that they want to work closely with the Community Council on this project. When pressed about estimated timescales, they suggested possibly 2019, if they get funding.

We advised that this was a completely unacceptable timescale, everyone knows that the facility is not acceptable, the Council have given a commitment to providing land for a new build and the Scottish minister has responded that if there is a need then they would support it and asked what we could be done to speed this process up.

The NHS can, if there was a clear commitment that funding would be provided do some of the work in parallel, for example developing plans at the same time as finalising their business case. This would help speed up the timescales.

**Public Consultation on Community Facilities**

Fife Council are currently consulting residents across Fife on the community halls, centres and other community facilities.

The consultation is running from 16th May 2016 till 17th June 2016.

Lochgelly Community Council are urging as many people in the town to take part in this consultation exercise. If you know people who don't have access to a computer then advise them to call into the local office

[www.fifedirect.org.uk/letstalkchange](http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/letstalkchange)

**Child Poverty Bill Consultation**

The Scottish Government have commenced with a public consultation on propels relating to the Child Poverty Bill for Scotland.

The policy sets out the aim to enshrine in law the ambition to eradicate child poverty. Publish child poverty delivery plan every 5 years and to report annually. Set statutory income targets.

You can contribute to the consultation at

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/social-justice/consultation-on-a-child-poverty-bill-for-scotland>

**Fly Tipping Removed, but public asked to be vigilant**

We recently received complaints about fly tipping behind the war memorial from a number of people.

First of all, we need to recognise the response from Parks, Streets and Open spaces staff to get the rubbish removed from the site. However, it beggars belief that someone choose to dump the rubbish there in the first place.

The matter had been reported to us a few weeks back and was dealt with at that time, however more had appeared this week. We contacted Hazel Cross and Stephen Duffy from the Council who immediately took steps to get it removed.

Hopefully, they will be able to identify the perpetrators and deal with them accordingly. Never the less if you spot illegal dumping in our town contact the Environmental Enforcement Team on 03451 550022.

**Mental Health Strategy Consultation**

The Scottish Government are currently consulting on a mental health strategy. They are seeking views on a proposed framework and priorities to transform mental health in Scotland.

"The new Mental Health Strategy will be published in late 2016. It follows a four-year strategy that ran from 2012 to 2015. The new Strategy will cover a 10 year period."

"This paper reflects what we have heard and considered so far. We now want your views on:

a. our priorities for transforming mental health in Scotland;

b. the early actions we propose to take to deliver this transformation; and

c. how we should measure success in 10 years."

This is an area that the Community Council have been vocal about for a long time. You will recall our pressure led to the establishment of the Health Round Table.

The campaign for a new health centre focusses on the fact that by creating the ability to support those who suffer mental health problems fully, through identifying cause and offering solutions, and the benefits derived would help reduce waiting times and would enable GP's and Nurses to support patients with other health issues

You can contribute to the Governments consultation by copying the link below:

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/mental-health-unit/mental-health-in-scotland-a-10-year-vision>

**Area Committee supports Community Council stance**

Proposed Parking Restrictions in Main Street defeated!!

The Cowdenbeath Area Committee considered the proposed parking restrictions at the meeting earlier this month. You will recall that Lochgelly Community Council objected to the proposals and several hundred people from the town signed the petition. The following extract is from the minute of the Cowdenbeath Area Committee detailing the discussion which they had on this subject. The final decision was that our position was supported!!

“372. PROPOSED WAITING RESTRICTIONS – MAIN STREET, NORTH STREET,

MOFFAT CRESCENT AND CHISHOLM CRESCENT, LOCHGELLY

The Committee considered a report by the Head of Assets, Transportation & Environment, seeking the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) to introduce revised waiting restrictions on Main Street, Lochgelly, as well as on North Street, Moffat Crescent and Chisholm Street, Lochgelly.

Motion

Councillor Hood, seconded by Councillor Lockhart, moved that the promotion of a TRO be agreed for that part of the proposal relating to North Street, Moffat Crescent and Chisholm Street, Lochgelly, as detailed in drawing no. TRO/16/32a, with all ancillary procedures, and that officers be authorised to confirm the TRO within a reasonable period unless there were objections, but that no measures proceed at this stage for that part of the proposals relating to Main Street, Lochgelly, as detailed

in drawing no. TRO/16/32(‘After’), with a remit to appropriate officers to arrange the removal of current waiting restrictions, liaise further with local members on proposals to identify longer term off-street parking in the vicinity and report back in approximately 12 months.

Amendment

Councillor Ann Bain, seconded by Councillor Alistair Bain, moved that all parts of the proposals contained in the report be progressed by the promotion of a TRO as detailed in the relevant drawings, and that officers be authorised to confirm the TRO within a reasonable period unless there were objections.

Vote

Amendment: 2

Motion: 4

Decision

The Committee agreed: -

(1) (i) to the promotion of a TRO to introduce revised waiting restrictions on North Street, Moffat Crescent and Chisholm Crescent, Lochgelly, as detailed in the drawing no. TRO/16/32a, with all ancillary procedures; and

(ii) to authorise officers to confirm the TRO within a reasonable period unless there were objections; and

(2) (i) that no measures proceed at this stage for the promotion of a revised waiting restrictions on Main Street, Lochgelly, as detailed in drawing no. TRO/16/32(‘After’); and

(ii) it be remitted to appropriate officers to arrange the removal of current waiting restrictions, liaise further with local members on proposals to identify longer term off-street parking in the vicinity and report back in approximately 12 months”