

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE ROYAL BURGH OF LOCHMABEN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Lochmaben Town Hall Library
Monday 2nd October 2023 7:00pm**

Present:

Kenelma McCrae (KMcC) Chair, May Mckerrel (MMcK) Vice Chairman, Bob Murray (BM) Treasurer, Carys Mainprize (CM) Secretary, Jennifer Robertson (JR) Minute Secretary, Jane Purdie (JP), Jim Davidson (JD), Cllr Carlyne Wilson (CW), Christie Breen (Annandale Herald) and 6 Members of the Public (MoP).

Apologies:

Cllr Stephen Thompson (ST), Police Scotland, Zena Forbes (ZF), Brian Forbes (BF),

1. Introduction

The meeting was held in the Town Library, all present were reminded this is a public meeting. The meeting was quorate with 7 members of the Community Council attending.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 4th September 2023

Proposed by JR, seconded by BM

3. Introduction and talk given by Robin Crichton from The Merlin Project

- a. See website for more info: <https://merlintrail.com/>
- b. KMcC suggested Robin should return to speak with other Lochmaben groups and that he should forward the present plants to LCC to share with community.
- c. JP enquired as to whether re-wilding the proposed areas could be part of the project.

4. Matters from Members of Public

No matters raised.

5. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

6. Police report

Read by KMcC

7. Treasurer's Report

BM reported (see Treasurer's Report).

8. Councillor's Update

See Stephen Thompson's update.

9. CC Members Update

- a. JR reported coping stone at Asher Crecent have been replaced.
- b. CM reported a member of public shared concerns over road congestion when Tesco on Bruce Street is completed and asked how this will be mitigated. CM shared with CCES and awaiting reply.

10. Any Other Business

- a. Christmas Vouchers/Party
 - i. Due to lack of volunteers LCC will move forward with the Senior Citizens vouchers and not the party.
 - ii. JC to talk to local shops/businesses and also obtain local funding.
 - iii. JR to check with eligible citizens that they would like to receive the voucher.
 - iv. Other jobs include creating a way of obtaining feedback from recipients and posting vouchers out.
- b. Remembrance Sunday
 - i. BM has obtained wreaths
 - ii. BM to book piper
 - iii. CM to contact Police Scotland regarding road closure
 - iv. LCC to liaise with Church
- c. Community Centre
 - i. Members of LCC attended a meeting with Queen of the South representative. Community Centre to reopen on 1st November 2023. New coordinator for the centre to be employed from 9th October 2023. KMcC to invite representative to attend next meeting.
- d. Local Place Plans/Resilience Plans
 - i. CM to chase Shelley Bell on progress with organising a community groups meeting
 - ii. CM to attend a resilience plan meeting Tues 3rd Nov at Lockerbie
- e. Grant of £300 given to WRI unanimously approved
- f. Heritage@lochmaben.org email to be offered to Lochmaben heritage group, unanimously approved.
- g. JP reported bins at car park near Bowling Green on Castle Loch not emptied, and problems with mobile homes parking and littering there.
 - i. MoP, who is involved with forums for mobile home owners, will post telling others not to park there.
 - ii. CM to report via CCES to see if there are any actions that council or community can take and to check if Lochmaben public toilets are open and regularly attended.
- h. JD reported poor condition of car park on Princes street including broken glass and weeds. CW to follow up.

11. Date of next meeting

November 6th 2023 7pm Town Hall Library

LOCHMABEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Finance Movements 5/9/23 - 2/10/23

Balance brought forward		19,022.47
 <u>Income</u>		
Website Sponsors (4)	<u>100</u>	
		<u>100</u>
		19,122.47
 <u>Expenditure</u>		
Castle Loch Lochmaben Grant	500	
Lochmaben Heritage Trust Grant	500	
Lochmaben Luncheon Club	300	
Lochmaben Friendship Club	300	
Garden Equipment / Planters work		
for the Year	246.97	
Framed Certificates (2)	32	
Website costs	<u>7.5</u>	
		<u>-1,886.47</u>
 Balance carried forward		 <u>£17,236.00</u>

Future Wxpenditure due includes the Victory Park Project, Community Gardens and other smaller Community projects.

Website Sponsors so far are :

RJW Electrics, Crown Hotel, Rostrum, Braw Beauty, Aggie Bash,
A.Crolla & Sons, Barony Foods, and Loc of Hair.

It was agreed at the Meeting on Monday 2nd of October to give Lochmaben WRI £300 to assist with their running costs.

Hedge affecting footpath to Hospital

The Council can advise they have taken steps to communicate with the landowner to seek action for the vegetation to be cut. The landowner has responded and advised that these works will be carried out as soon as possible but no dates were given. This will be followed up with a request that a time window for works is supplied.

Lochmaben to Lockerbie Community Access Group (LLCAG)

Council officers are meeting with Council Legal Team early next week (Tuesday) to further discuss the Draft MOU which has been prepared between DGC and LLCAG.

The LLCAG have submitted their Expression of Interest to Sustrans. They should hear back about suitability of the project for funding within a week (fingers crossed!)

B7020 Barras – Coaches parking affecting visibility and road safety concerns

Sustrans, as the regional public transport team, will continue to communicate any concerns with the company that park fleet vehicles on the public road.

The Council Roads department have responded to say this is not maintenance issue, but in terms of road safety this came back:

“As an initial exercise for all road safety related enquiries, we undertake an accident / collision check in the area. This was undertaken for the period 01/08/20 to 31/07/23 on the B7020 Barrashead, Lochmaben and showed no recorded ‘reportable’ collisions.”

And

“...we would quote Highway Code Rule 243, which states in part:

DO NOT stop or park opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space. As such, concerns over dangerous parking at this location should be raised with Police Scotland on the non-emergency number (101).

With regards to the suggestion of waiting restrictions, Local Roads Authorities use the following general guidance for considering waiting restrictions within a 30mph speed limit:

- evidence of regular ‘damage only’ or injury accidents,
- reported access issues for HGV traffic,
- request from Police Scotland concerning road safety issues, and

- public transport or waste management teams regularly reported problems preventing them from delivering their service in the area.

This section of the B7020 Barrashead does not meet any of these criteria and therefore waiting restrictions would not be supported at this location. The introduction of waiting restrictions, whilst seen as a quick fix solution, will not simply make a parking problem disappear, but will merely shift inconsiderate/ illegal parking to other locations in the neighbourhood. It should also be noted that Police Scotland would need to approve any such proposals, which is unlikely given that no criteria are met.”

Stephen Thompson