

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE ROYAL BURGH OF LOCHMABEN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
Lochmaben Town Hall Library  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023 – 7.00pm**

**Present:**

Colin Davidson (CD)(Chairman), May McKerrell (MMcK)(Vice Chairman),  
Bob Murray (BM) (Treasurer),Kenelma McCrae (KMcC)(Secretary),Jim Davidson(JD),  
Carol Rogerson(CR),Carol McLean(CMcL), Cllr. Carolyne Wilson (CW), Euan Maxwell (Press)  
(EM), PC. Broomfield (PCB)  
Members of the public: B. Laurie (BL), Z. Forbes (ZF), B. Forbes (BF), J. Purdie (JP), A. Rogerson  
(AR), M. Mackay (MM), C. Mainprize (CM)

**Apologies:**

C.McKerrell (CMcK),Ilan Vidler (IV),Cllr. Stephen Thompson (ST), H. Suszek (HS)R. Suszek (RS).

**1.Introduction:**

The meeting was held in the Town Hall Library. All present were reminded that this is a public meeting and as such will be minuted as well as being reported in the Annandale Herald series. Seven members of the Community Council were present ensuring that the meeting was quorate.

**2.Minutes of the Previous Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023.**

The minutes were proposed as approved by BM and seconded by JD.

**3.Matters arising:**

Mill Loch north footpath: MMcK updated all regarding ownership, trespass and legal rights. CD advised that DGC had confirmed that the CC are not permitted to acquire assets as per the Scheme of Delegation for Community Councils. However if there is a strong community focus on this proposal, individuals could form an independent group to explore the possibilities of taking ownership. The Ward Officer and Third Sector DG can offer support and advice in this respect. CD passed on contact details to BF should he decide to form an independent group to progress matters. BF intimated that he, JP and MMcK would meet to consider forming a independent group.

Co-op update: CD reported that the developer had advised that the Co-op has decided not to proceed. However an alternative client is taking up the option of the site and subject to some legalities, building warrant application etc. its anticipated that work on site may start by the middle of this year. It was not possible to divulge the new store owner at this time.

Community Centre: Responding to recent FB comments further discussion took place regarding the centre and it's use by and for the community. There were still issues regarding the raised flooring, poor decoration, weed growth in gutters and the loss of bookings from a Youth group. However the improvement in heating and hot water provision was noted.

**ACTION: CD to raise concerns with DGC, CllrCW to contact Lee Seaton of DGC.**

Parking restrictions Castle St,/ A709 junction CCES ref 101000072139: CD read out the detailed response from DGC Roads Dept. After a desktop study and site visit further, more detailed information will be collated to consider options. This will also include contact with local businesses and submissions to Police Scotland and Ward members. Any decisions will be added to the Road Safety programme for 2023/24.

Well Pharmacy: The pharmacy's reassuring response to the CC was read out to the meeting, however it had been slow to reply to concerns. However a number of public representations

had also been made including a 'lock-in' highlighting the risk to life. These were responded to more promptly. Overall everyone felt that a clear improvement had been made.

2.

#### 4. Police Report:

PC Broomfield provided the following report:

OFFICIAL

### POLICE SCOTLAND

### DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

**Community Council:** LOCHMABEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Date of Meeting:** 06/02/2023

**Officer Attending / Report Prepared By:** PC Broomfield V0241 ✓

#### Updates Required / Requested From Previous Meeting

N/A

#### Crime Update (cover Performance / Issues / Trends)

##### 14/01/2023 – Domestic argument

Non-Criminal domestic argument reported to Police. There was no shouting or swearing and there was no aggressive or physical behaviour between the couple. Police called when one the party refused to leave the house when requested. VPR submitted.

##### 05/02/2023 – Threatening and Abusive Behaviour

One male arrested and charged following his conduct towards Police at an address in Lochmaben. Issued with recorded Police Warning.

#### Community Issues/Initiatives

SPEED CHECKS CARRIED OUT ON 01/02/2023 AS FOLLOWS:

##### **Gretna**

Glasgow Road – 102 vehicles checked. Average speed 27.51mph  
Annan Road – 90 vehicles checked. Average speed 25.74mph

##### **Kirkpatrick Fleming**

APR (Outside Station Bar) – 33 vehicles checked. Average speed 23.84mph.

##### **Lochmaben**

High Street – 94 vehicles checked. Average speed 25.54mph.

##### **Lockerbie**

Dumfries Road – 167 vehicles checked. Average speed 25.07mph.

A number of folk reported speeding by traffic leaving Lochmaben via Queen St, Lockerbie Rd and Dumfries Rd and requested speed check locations should be varied.

### 3.

#### 5. Treasurers Report:

##### Finance Movements 10/1/23 – 6/2/23

Balance brought forward £13577.22

##### Income:

Donation to Senior Citizens Christmas festivities: £ 20.00  
£13597.22

##### Expenditure:

Senior Citizens Voucher Scheme costs: £ 2840.00\*  
Signage for surgery de-fibrillator: £ 88.80  
£ 2928.80

Balance carried forward **£10668.42**

The balance includes sums set aside for ongoing projects/support and events for 2023.

\*CR reported that the Christmas voucher scheme had once again been well received with 8 shops and 2 hotels benefitting. 194 households, representing 308 individual people had used the vouchers for both 'luxury' spends and routine shopping for basic items. This reflects the importance of the scheme during the current Cost of Living crisis.

#### 6. Councillors update:

The Castle Street Toilets had been re-opened after their recent closure due to frozen pipes. However they are closed once again. **ACTION: Cllr.CW to raise.**  
Grit bins have been refilled locally.

#### 7. Any Other Business:

JP advised of a resident reporting loose roof tiles on a building. Details to be provided for further action. **ACTION: JP.**

JP advised that materials were still being collected for the Community Garden. BF offered to transport recycled timber and materials provided by the Tennis Club.

AR will forward information regarding a speaker to address the school in conjunction with a Community litter pick. **ACTION: AR.**

AR enquired if it was possible to source income from the caravan site via Common Good.

AR will make an FOI request to DGC. **ACTION: AR.**

BF enquired where and how Common Good income funds are distributed. **ACTION: Cllr CR to contact Ward officer for update and figures.**

BL raised concerns about the future of the Paddling pool with the potential Community Garden project. These included;

- What is the leasing arrangement referred to in the DGC Notice, are costs involved?
- Who will be responsible for the garden and what happens in the future if folk lose interest in the future?
- What measures will be taken to combat vandalism and/or anti social behaviour?
- Is the Paddling pool area structurally sound for the proposals?
- What are the proposals?

#### 4.

CD agreed that the points raised are reasonable but should be addressed to DGC in accordance with the consultation notice. Contact DGC at Lochmaben Library on Monday afternoons or Wednesday mornings. Alternatively by email to [colin.freeman@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:colin.freeman@dumgal.gov.uk)  
Cllr CW advised that as it was a Common Good area, no charges would be raised under the leasing arrangement.

It was stressed that nothing could proceed until such time all comments had been fully considered by DGC.

**(After the meeting it was decided that a copy of the proposal would be posted in the library to assist with the consultation process.) ACTION:CD**

MM representing Lochmaben Church acknowledged to support and assistance provided by the CC and two of its members (CR and CML) at the Warm Hub. 30 + people regularly attend. Visitors enjoy hot food and games. The hub also contributes to Katie's Kitchen Food Bank in Annan.

ZF reported that dog fouling was a continuing problem in the Whitehills/ Ravenhill area. The Mill Loch, Football pitch and school areas are also badly affected.

Individuals are encouraged to report incidents direct to DGC on 03033 333000 or at

<https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15204/Dog-fouling>

The CC will also report it to CCES. **ACTION: CD**

BM suggested that the CC should organise a fund raising event instead of relying purely on grants and donations. He suggested a Coffee morning to take place around April.

**ACTION: BM to check availability of Church Hall.**

CD suggested alternative fund raising events could also be considered.

CD enquired how best to respond to SEPA's refusal to the request by the CC to meet residents to discuss their report. It was agreed that a response is made expressing dissatisfaction but that approaches would again be made on receipt of the Naturescot Management Plan. **ACTION: CD**

CD advised that 6 members of the CC will be stepping down at the June AGM, leaving 3 in place. This is insufficient to comply with DGC requirements which state a max of 14 and min 5 members. He appealed for those present to consider applying at the appropriate time, the process for which will be laid down by DGC.

#### **8. Date of next meeting:**

6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall library. This will be chaired by MMcK as Vice Chairman as CD offered his apologies for being unable to attend.

**This is 4<sup>th</sup> and final year of the current Community Council. New members are urgently required to ensure continuity. If you would like to become involved please contact us.**

Contact your Community Council via Facebook or email at  
[lochmabencc@gmail.com](mailto:lochmabencc@gmail.com)