

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE ROYAL BURGH OF LOCHMABEN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Lochmaben Town Hall Library
Monday 3rd April 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), Cllr. Carolyne Wilson (CW), E. Maxwell (Press) (EM), PC.J. Cowan (PCC)
Members of the public: E. Armstrong (EA), H. Suszek (HS), R. Suszek (RS), L. Hall (LH),
A. Rogerson (AR), M. McKelvie (MM), W. Dickie (WD), B. Forbes (BF), J. Purdie (JP),
C. Mainprize (CM), L. Bands (LB).

Apologies:

C. McKerrell (CMcK), I. Vidler (IV), C. McLean (CMcL), Cllr. S. Thompson (ST), Diane Sinclair (DS)

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. The meeting was quorate with six members of the Community Council being present.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting 6th February 2023.

As the previous meeting in March was non quorate, the February minutes were proposed as approved by BM and seconded by MMcK.

The Chair of the March meeting, MMcK confirmed that the informal notes taken were for general information only and as such required no approval.

3. Matters arising:

Co-op update: CD confirmed that Tesco have taken over the retail development in Bruce St. The developer advised that there are some subtle differences in TESCO's requirements but once the detailed design is finalised, application will be made for Building Warrant. They currently hope to commence works in June working with a local contractor. More details will be provided as the project proceeds.

JP expressed concern that the environmental requirements should remain in place.

BF enquired if the proposals will include an ATM.

Community Centre: CD advised that the Community Centre will be closed to all users from 1st May until 4th August 2023. QoS have been advised and will begin notifying regular groups and bookings. DGC will liaise with QoS to support groups as far as possible during this period. It's understood that this is to carry out roof repairs which had led to the floor damage previously reported. JD advised that the floor is levelling out.

Casual Vacancy Election: The resignation of 4 CC members requires a CVE to take place. CC members present voted unanimously in favour of the CVE process to be implemented by DGC. **ACTION: CD to advise DGC.**

2.

4. Police Report:

Last month's report is included with these minutes.

OFFICIAL

<p style="text-align: center;">POLICE SCOTLAND</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT</p>
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Community Council: LOCHMABEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Date of Meeting: 06/03/2023
Officer Attending / Report Prepared By: PC Stephen Glendinning V0111

Updates Required / Requested From Previous Meeting
N/A

Crime Update (cover Performance / Issues / Trends)
<u>06/02/2023 – Drink Driving</u> One male arrested and charged with drink driving following a report of a one vehicle road traffic collision on Nethermill Road.
<u>11/02/2023 – Fraud</u> Enquiries ongoing following a male having paid for goods online and not having received the items. The male had attempted to contact the company to discuss this but the phone lines gave an automated reply that the company was closed until July. He suspected that this was a scam and contacted police.
<u>12/02/2023 – Drink Driving</u> One male arrested and charged with drink driving following a report from a member of the public who had found a vehicle in a crashed state on the outskirts of Lochmaben and on speaking with the driver, being of the opinion that he was drunk.

Community Issues/Initiatives
<u>Rural Crime</u> Lambing season is well under way in Scotland's countryside. Dog owners and walkers are reminded to keep dogs under control when walking near livestock.
<u>Naloxone</u> Police officers in Dumfries and Galloway are now trained and equipped with Naloxone, a life-saving nasal spray which can be safely given to people who have suffered a drug overdose.

With reference to the accident at Nethermill Bridge, MMcK, HSBC and RS expressed concern about traffic levels on this road and the potential for further accidents especially with the new housing development. What are the Road improvement conditions attached to the planning permission granted? **ACTION: CD to enquire.**

DGC will carry out an inspection of the junction of Princes St with the A701 following a resident's request to the CC regarding problems created by excessive parking.

OFFICIAL

POLICE SCOTLAND
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

Community Council: LOCHMABEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 03/04/2023

Officer Attending / Report Prepared By: PC John Cowan V0524

Updates Required / Requested From Previous Meeting

N/A

Crime Update (cover Performance / Issues / Trends)

29/03/2023 – Vandalism reported to bus stop outside former RBS building. CCTV images obtained and youths to be reported to Youth Justice.

Community Issues/Initiatives

SelectaDNA property marking kits available from PC Cowan under current discounted deal of £12 for kit retailing at £50 normally.

Tips for securing your valuables:

- Mark your valuable items, this makes it harder for thieves to sell them and easier for police to return them if found
- Make sure your possessions are in sight if you're in a bar or a restaurant, don't leave them unattended
- Do not display cash, expensive items or jewellery
- Insure your belongings and keep your insurance details handy
- Record your mobile phone, laptop, tablet, camera and other property on the [Immobilise website](#)
- Install a tracker device on your phone, which can help you find it if it's stolen
- If you have an app that gives you the location of your phone when switched on, make sure it is working and give a family member or trusted friend permission to track your device.

4.

5. Treasurers Report:

Finance Movements 7/3/23 – 3/4/23

Balance brought forward		£11168.42
<u>Income:</u>		
DGC Council grant re War Memorial maintenance and cleaning:	£ 500.00	
Councillor's Discretionary grant (Community Garden):	£ 250.00	
		£ 750.00
		<u>£11918.42</u>

Expenditure:

Printing and stationery:	£ -£48.40
Balance carried forward	<u>£11870.02</u>

Future expenditure due includes the Community Gardens, the Victory Park project and War Memorial clean up costs.

6. Project Funding:

Victory Park: It was confirmed that the CC has committed £7500 from reserves towards the Victory Park play and activity area. This is possible following long term project and budget planning under the careful financial stewardship of BM.

CD advised of the withdrawal of funding for this project by DGC made at short notice. This would affect the CC's grant applications already in place. CR provided an update, informing that DGC had reinstated the funding following strong representation from the CC. The sum of £20000 has been re-allocated subject to the CC match funding the project which is already being progressed. The support provided by of our Ward Officer, Community Assets Manager and Councillors is greatly appreciated in helping resolve the issue.

War Memorial: CR informed the meeting that work in cleaning the statue will start in 4- 5 weeks time following the award of £500 from Area Committee Discretionary budget.

Community Garden: A community group has now been formed with JP as project leader and CM as secretary. The Treasurer Pat Burnett is setting up an account to enable the CC to transfer £750 in support provided by Cllr Wilsons Discretionary grant and the Area Committee Discretionary Grant applied for by the CC for this purpose.

LLCAG: Following a request for funding from the community access group, CC members unanimously voted to approve the sum of £250 for the group.

7. Coffee Morning update:

BM confirmed the date for 29th April at 10.00pm with set up being the evening before. CMcL has offered to run the kitchen but more volunteers are required. JD confirmed that local businesses have been generous in supplying raffle prizes etc.

BM also advised that 6 volunteers took part in the DGC Spring clean litter pick event organised for Lochmaben. It was reported that the amount of litter and dog poo was less than previously reported, the latter possibly the result of new signs being put on lampposts.

8. Coronation proposals:

MMcK suggested offering Coronation mugs to the schoolchildren to commemorate the occasion. After discussion it was agreed that in consideration of different opinions, Coronation wild flower seeds would be offered. These reflect both environmental issues and the ideals of King Charles.

5.

It was suggested that an area within Castle Loch reserve could be utilised by children if necessary. **ACTION: BF to request input from the trustees.**

MM raised the issue of a lack of dog bins around the Castle Loch walk. BF was unaware but would undertake to consider this. CD requested this discussion be continued between the CLLCT and users direct to enable the meeting to return to CC matters.

LH advised that Lochmaben Children's Gala have arranged a picnic event on 7th May at Lochmaben FC pitch.

9.Councillors update:

CW advised that all items including the Victory Park funding issues and Community Centre works had been covered in the meeting.

10. Any Other Business:

KMcC requested the need for Footballing activity for S1-S6 age group. This has been raised with Cllr Thompson and it was agreed to write to organisations suggesting the CC partners with DGC, QoS, and Lochmaben FC to establish a group. The CC may be able to contribute to rental costs of facilities and more use could be made of the Community Centre.

KMcC confirmed that Bob Tognieri has volunteered to manage a new website. The DGC site put together by Scottish Tech Army will be reviewed but the long awaited trials to date aren't encouraging.

CR advised that the School Art competition will be open to P5 and P6 with this year's subject being the Town Hall in recognition of its 300th anniversary. Book tokens will be offered as prizes for 1st 2nd and 3rd.

JD requested repairs are carried out to the wall of the flower bed in front of the Bruce statue. He also enquired about the Town Hall seat which has disappeared from outside the Town Hall. **ACTION: CD to raise a CCES.**

MM raised community concerns about the accessibility to Doctors at the Medical Group. **Action: CD to raise with Practice Manager.**

WD advised that the Church's Warm Hub had been a great success and will be extended to the end of April. Coffee mornings will replace the hub during July and August.

BF raised the subject of the Mill Loch footpath but was informed that this was a matter for separate discussion by an independent Community group as detailed in previous minutes, CC members participation in the group is only permitted as a member of the public as the CC is prohibited from ownership of such assets.

11.Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 2nd May 2023 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall library. This date is to suit the Bank and Coronation holiday dates.

This is 4th 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 via Facebook or email at lochmabencc@gmail.com