

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
THE ROYAL BURGH OF LOCHMABEN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
Lochmaben Town Hall Library  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 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, Zena Forbes (ZF), Brian Forbes (BF), Jane Purdie (JP), Jim Davidson (JD), Cllr Carlyne Wilson (CW), Shelley Bell (Local Economic Regeneration Team Leader, Dumfries and Galloway Council).

**Apologies:**

Cllr Stephen Thompson (ST), Police Scotland, Christine Breen (Annandale Herald)

**1. Introduction**

The meeting was held in the Town Library, all present were reminded this is a public meeting. The meeting was quorate with 9 members of the Community Council attending.

**2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

Proposed by JP, seconded by CM

**3. Introduction and talk given by SB on Local Place Plans**

- a. A local place plan allows community to plan for their future especially in regards to land-use and development. It is a big undertaking with £500 grant available from Dumfries and Galloway Council to support. There is currently no requirement to produce a local place plan.
- b. JP noted that Lochmaben community groups would have to work closely for creation of Local Place Plan and that Castle Loch Trust has previously refused meetings. BF confirmed Castle Loch Trust will work with community organisations if a Local Place Plan is to be created.
- c. SB to email links to relevant webinars and webpages to community council.

**4. Matters from Members of Public**

No members of public present

**5. Matters Arising**

- a. Dog Bins at Victory Park have been emptied
- b. Missing cover on lamppost near Town Hall replaced
- c. Core path strimmed
- d. Community Hall repairs completed. CW to check when hall will re-open and be available for use; JP mentioned NHS blood donation team could use the space again if made aware.

- e. Re: member of public report last month of cow attack, KMcC suggested more warning posters should be posted on site. BM to check if similar attacks have happened in Scotland and what action was taken.
- f. MMcK in touch with Rights of Way society regarding cows and calves on core paths. KMcC suggested a rural office or core path officer could advise – CW to find suitable contact.
- g. No update on tree at Annandale Crescent reported to need trimmed. CW to chase.
- h. Blocked road drains reported – Road teams clear on a schedule but will check Lochmaben drains shortly. Any blocked drains can be reported via Report It page on D&G Council website: <https://info.dumgal.gov.uk/faultreporting/>
- i. Senior Citizen Christmas Party suggested by KMcC in place of high street vouchers. No community council member put forward to organise. Will be considered next month and final decision made.

## 6. Police report read by KMcC

## 7. Treasurer's Report

BM reported (see Treasurer's Report).

- a. Addition error noted in August's report and corrected.

## 8. Councillor's Update

- a. CW reported that the war memorial has received a Highly Commended award and **certificate will be presented by the memorial on September 18<sup>th</sup> 1.30pm – all welcome.**
- b. Stephen Thompson's update read by KMcC (see Councillor's Update).

## 9. CC Members Update

- a. KMcC wished it minuted that the community council have given a certificate and flowers to be given to Moira McVitie in recognition of her long service to residents of Lochmaben.
- b. KMcC attended Annandale and Eskdale Federation of Community Councils where it was noted that police numbers have dropped; only 2 for Lockerbie station. **Public urged to continue to report nonserious crimes via 101 (serious crimes via 999) to ensure the temporary reduction is not made permanent.**
- c. KMcC reported overgrown hedge along A709; D&G Council contacted housing association who have responded that as we have now entered in hedge cutting season (post breeding birds season) they will organise cutting.
- d. KMcC wrote to Well Pharmacy regarding being closed during usual opening hours. No reply as of yet.
- e. JP gave update to community garden raised beds – local joiners to create beds.
- f. BF attended Community Asset Conversation and raised issues of community centre ownership and Kirk Loch caravan park management there.

- g. JR reported coping stone at Asher Crecent as dangerous and has since been removed.

#### **10. Any Other Business**

- a. JD raised that Well Pharmacy can only give out prescription medicine if pharmacist is present, but no information available as to when this is
- b. JR raised that there are bulls, cows, and calves in field between Halleaths and Whitehill but signs are only present at Whitehill side.
- c. Letter of thanks to be sent to Nurse's Cottage for their installation of small bench on Nurse's Loaning allowing walkers to enjoy the view. ZF to write and JR to post. JR to ask if owners are happy for CC to share picture on website.
- d. ZF report that residents have complained that grass has not been cut but query as to whether council or Loreburn housing association responsibility. CW to check.
- e. JP reported a bin near car park which has had rats sighted may be removed.
- f. JP reported that bin to Templand road full.
- g. KMcC announced Church Hall Garden won prize; certificate to be framed and voucher given to members of public who maintain garden.
- h. JD secured funding from 6 local companies to be included on 'keep local' page of lochmaben.org. ZF wrote thank you letter.
- i. JP raised issue of uneven pavement causing accessibility issues. CW to chase.

#### **11. Date of next meeting**

October 2nd 2023 7pm Town Hall Library