

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE ROYAL BURGH OF LOCHMABEN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY
COUNCIL**

**Lochmaben Town Hall Library
Monday 9th May 2022 – 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).

Members of the public: J.Purdie(JP), Alison Rogerson (AR), Michael Dickie (MD), Mark McKelvie (MM), Tony Hancock (TH), Hamish McGhie (HMcG), Eric Armstrong (EA), Stuart Gray (SG), Helen Suszek (HS), Raymond Suszek (RS), Morag Ogilvie (MO), Daniel Newbold (DN), Christopher Newbold (CN), Pam Linton (PL), Abbey Morton (AM)(Press).

Apologies:

Charles McKerrell (CMcK), Ian Vidler (IV), Carol McLean(CMcL), Diane Sinclair (DS), Cllr. Stephen Thompson (ST).

1.Introduction:

The meeting was held in the Town Hall Library with Track and Trace, social distancing and other Covid compliant measures in place. 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. Six members of the Community Council were present ensuring that the meeting was quorate.

2.Minutes of the Previous Meeting 4th April 2022.

Proposed as approved by CR and seconded by BM.

3.Matters arising:

It's understood that the Church board have agreed to offer a reduced rent to RH Youth whilst using the Church Hall premises.

Mill Loch:

Access to the Mill Loch from the Taylor Wimpey estate was formed by a local resident by removing a fence spar to form a low step over.

Lockerbie Academy support:

It was agreed that the CC would further discuss the preferred option and name of the 'student community award' for Lockerbie Academy. Should it take the form of a cup or shield etc.? **ACTION: CD to circulate ideas.**

Lochmaben FC support:

A request for funding received from the Football Club has been received. CC members will discuss the level of support prior to making a payment towards the cost of ground and fence improvements. **ACTION: CD to seek CC input.**

Road repairs, Lochmaben Castle:

An inspection by DGC was carried out on 5th April and repairs have been added to their programme. Unfortunately no date for the work could be provided.

2.

Art Competition:

A presentation date is awaited for the award to the winner. The winning picture will be displayed in the Library. **ACTION: CR.**

Kirk Loch Mute swans:

Signage has been posted on fb and the Town Hall notice board.

Website:

KMcC confirmed that development is currently with DGC Tech Army based on their template. It's planned that this will take the role previously provided by the Initiative website at www.lochmben.org.uk should the group be dissolved at their forthcoming meeting.

Victory Park play and activity area:

A site meeting has been arranged with representatives from DGC to discuss Planning requirements, Common Good implications, layout and further consultations with nearby residents. CR and CD will attend.

4. Police Report:

POLICE SCOTLAND
DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT
Community Council: LOCHMABEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Date of Meeting: 09/05/2022
Officer Attending / Report Prepared By: PC Glendinning V0111
Updates Required / Requested From Previous Meeting N/A
Crime Update (cover Performance / Issues / Trends)
<p><u>06/04/2022 – Road Traffic Offences</u> Male and female reported, following driving a vehicle without insurance and number of other road traffic offences. Vehicle seized by Police.</p> <p><u>10/04/2022 – Communications Offences</u> A female was issued with a recorded Police warning following a report of threatening phone calls having been made to another female.</p> <p><u>10/04/2022 – Breach of Bail</u> Report of a female having breached bail conditions by entering a street whilst having bail conditions in place not to do so. Enquiries ongoing.</p> <p><u>10/04/2022 – Assault</u> One female arrested and charged with assault, following a report that she struck another female with a hammer. Further charged of threatening and abusive behaviour and resisting arrest were also libelled.</p> <p><u>20/04/2022 – Vandalism</u> Report of a window smashed at a house on Nethermill Road. Further damage also caused to the same house on 28/04 and 03/05. Enquiries ongoing.</p> <p><u>23/04/2022 – Police Assault</u></p>

Male arrested and charged with Police Assault (x2) after Police attended to speak with the male in connection with a separate enquiry.

28/04/2022 – Vandalism

Report of a car having been scratched whilst parked in Mossvale. Enquiries ongoing.

30/04/2022 – Assault

Male arrested on suspicion of assault, however later detained under the Mental Health Act following assessment by medical professionals.

Community Issues

Shut Out Scammers Campaign

During May 2022, Police in partnership with Trading Standards, Police are running the Shut Out Scammers Campaign, to combat a rise in doorstep scams linked to the cost of living crisis and to raise awareness of how to protect yourself from misleading information and rogue traders.

The campaign aims to bring these scams to the public attention so that communities are informed and feel empowered to question cold-callers and turn away anyone whose identity they do not feel is genuine.

There is a range of useful advice on the Police Scotland website aimed at protecting the public from doorstep criminals and rogue traders and this can be viewed by visiting www.scotland.police.uk.

5.Treasurers Report:

Finance Movements 5/4/22 – 9/5/22

Balance brought forward		£6182.27
Income:		
Gift from Lochmaben Action Group:	£1421.72	
The George Hunter Trust grant ref Church Hall gardens and Mercat Cross:	£1630.00	
Coffee morning proceeds:	£ 634.00	
		<u>£3685.72</u>
		£9867.99
<u>Expenditure:</u>		
Church Hall gardens /Mercat Cross gardens further costs:	£ 101.95	
Members Gift:	£ 31.89	
Lochmaben School art competition		
Prizes and costs:	<u>£ 110.69</u>	
		<u>-£ 244.53</u>
Balance carried forward at 9/5/22		<u>£ 9623.46</u>

The balance includes sums set aside for ongoing projects/support and events for 2022.

The generosity of Lochmaben Action Group is acknowledged.

4.

Coffee Morning report:

BM thanked all volunteers for their help and assistance at the event which was the first to be organised by the CC for a number of years. JD acknowledged the generosity of local businesses from Lochmaben, Lockerbie and Dumfries when providing raffle prizes etc. CD thanked BM for his work in organising the event and said it was important that funder organisations see that the CC make an effort to raise their own funds.

6. Mill Loch Update:

AR was disappointed to report that there has been little progress since the original meeting, despite chase up requests from AR, the CC and O. Mundell.

DN and CN introduced their local business 'Sustainable Agricultural Inputs.' They maybe able to help with technical advice, products and a Community project. **ACTION: JP to contact them and discuss further.**

The 'Footprint' signs are now in place. These were designed, organised and installed by AR and made with the help of reclaimed wood donated by a resident with the shapes cut out by Rustic and painted by Lochmaben Primary School. However a number of these have already disappeared, its assumed by visitors. Despite some criticism regarding suitability of the signs, it was agreed that these were successful in being noticed and for raising awareness of the issues.

Whilst the presence of a warden has been promised by DGC, visits are infrequent with wild camping, littering and human waste still being evident. It was agreed to: Request regular warden visits, Arrange a residents meeting to consider Neighbourhood watch and include a Police representative and request additional Police patrols in the vicinity.

ACTION: CD.

MMcK stated that neighbours near to the Castle Loch car park had complained about campervans. This has been discussed previously with limited action being possible, however the CC is unaware of these complaints.

7. Community Garden Proposals:

JP informed that the Paddling Pool has been suggested as a suitable location. This would comprise raised beds to enable disabled access etc. Drainage, water provision (maybe from Mill Loch) and other services need to be considered. The Men's Shed have offered to make the raised beds. Storage is required for materials etc.

CD advised that using the paddling pool in this way will need to be considered by the Community (via facebook) and Common Good sub committee.

ACTION: KMcC/CD

8. Councillors update:

Cllr Stephen Thompson provided the following information:

Common Good Planters:

The old paddling pool may be a possibility for community planters. However any community group would need to do some form of consultation with local residents/community/community council. Any group would need to carry out any works themselves once consultation has been done.

Lochmaben Town Hall Windows:

A review of the current condition of the windows has been requested to be carried out by the local Clerk of Works. Such works shall be recorded in the Council's current list of Pre-Planned Maintenance proposals against the relevant budget.

5.

Bus Shelter maintenance:

The High Street (westbound) bus shelter was inspected recently after concerns were raised about potential vandalism but it is structurally sound and all panels are intact. This is to be routinely inspected during the monthly inspection of the A709 route. As for cleaning the shelter this has been added to the 'defect' database and will be cleaned when resources become available. All works are programmed on a priority basis and DGC are focussing on the backlog of higher priority carriageway repairs Category 1 and Category 2a defects.

9.Co-op update: (This was added to the agenda).

CD highlighted the notice posted by the CC on the Town hall board and CC facebook page informing that a formal Planning application has been made ref 20/0635/FUL. Drawings showing the proposals were positioned around the library for information. The CC's position remains neutral and it was recommended that anyone with views 'FOR' or 'AGAINST' are to respond directly. CD advised that a notice to this effect will also appear in The Annandale Herald and Moffat News.

10.Platinum Jubilee promotion:

The CC had been informed that DGC had no specific plans for Lochmaben. It was agreed to purchase a Jubilee flag to fly over the Town Hall and Jubilee roundels to be fixed to lampposts covering all main residential areas. These would be supplied by The Royal British Legion. **ACTION:CD**

Residents will be encouraged via facebook to organise community events. **ACTION: KMcC**

11.Any Other Business:

AR advised that the building behind the Masonic Hall is in a dangerous condition. It's thought that this is being put up for sale by DGC. **ACTION: CD to advise DGC.**

AM enquired about provision of additional street signs for Leamington Square. **ACTION: CD to enquire DGC.**

KMcC informed that the facebook notice regarding the Co-op had received over 2000 hits.

HMcG introduced himself as chair of LLCAG. He confirmed the committee meeting on 18th May to discuss Sustrans plans which will ultimately be followed by a public information meeting.

It was agreed to be a signatory to the Communities for Diverse Forestry campaign to influence policy to provide more consideration and benefits to communities.

10. Date of next meeting:

6th June 2022 at 7.00pm with the venue or format to be confirmed depending on Covid restrictions.

GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

Contact us on facebook or by e-mail at lochmabenc@gmail.com