

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

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
Lochmaben Town Hall, Library.**

**Present:**

Colin Davidson (CD)	Chair
May McKerrel (MMck)	Vice Chairman
Bob Murray (BM)	Treasurer
Kenelma McCrae (KMcC)	Secretary
Jim Davidson (JD)	Member
Carol Rogerson (CR)	Member
Carol McLean (CMcL)	Co-opted Member
Councillor Carlyne Wilson(CW)	D&G Council
Councillor Stephen Thompson (ST)	D&G Council
Jane Purdie (JP)	Member of the public
Brian Forbes (BF)	Member of the public

**Apologies:**

Charles McKerrel (CMck)  
Ian Vidler (IV)  
Alison Rogerson (AR)  
Angela Armstrong (AA)  
Eric Armstrong (EA)

**1.Introduction:**

CD advised that the meeting had been postponed from 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 following technical issues with the virtual format and quorum requirements. The proceedings were recorded for note taking purposes.

**2.Minutes of the Previous AGM Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021:**

Proposed by CR, Seconded by BM.

**3.Matters arising:**

No Matters arising

**4.Chairman's Annual Report:**

On behalf of the Community Council I welcome you all to our first 'Live' AGM for a while following restrictions imposed by Covid. We acknowledge the assistance of DGC in making the Library available which allows space for the increased numbers of the public who now attend our meetings. This has been an encouraging trend since restrictions were eased.

As we move back to a more recognisable way of life we have continued to try and serve everyone in our Community. The support and assistance provided by Cllr. Stephen Thompson, our Ward officer Steven Wylie and other officers from DGC is gratefully acknowledged.

(Contd.)

## 2.

### Community business:

- The 2021 Remembrance Day Parade returned to its more traditional ceremony which coincided with the centenary of the Royal British Legion. The Church led the service and wreaths were laid by members of the armed forces, merchant navy, relevant organisations, Lochmaben school and the CC. Callum Watson played the lament. The Memorial itself had benefitted from cleansing, a facelift to the plant beds and general tidy up. This was recognised by the award received from DGC and our thanks go to CC member Carol Rogerson and her volunteers.
- The Senior Citizens party was revised again this year partly due to Covid restrictions and the unsuitability of the Community Centre as a venue. Carol Rogerson led a CC team and volunteers delivering over 150 Christmas vouchers to those registered for the event. The vouchers supported Lochmaben's retail shops where they could be exchanged for goods up to a value of £15. We gratefully acknowledge the support provided by local businesses, Hal McGhie, Billy Edwards, DGC and individuals in helping to fund this event which would not otherwise have been possible.
- Our successful application to the Annandale and Eskdale Area Committee Discretionary Budget enabled the replacement of 2 illuminated speed signs located on the main A709 route in October 2021.
- We acknowledge the kind support provided by The George Hunter Trust to help fund separate projects including:
  - 6 picnic benches in Victory Park installed on our behalf by DGC at no charge.
  - The makeover to The Mercat Cross/ Church Hall Gardens.
- A public consultation event was arranged in the Library to inform of proposals by The Co-op for a store in Lochmaben. This was well attended with regular updates provided during subsequent meetings. The CC maintains a neutral position as the Planning Decision is awaited.
- The annual Art competition for Lochmaben Primary school pupils was reinstated. Winning entries are displayed in the Library and subsequently in Castle Loch cottage.
- Our thanks go to Bob Murray and his volunteers for arranging a Coffee morning to raise funds for future projects.
- General activity continues within the community including painting benches, weeding and garden maintenance. We are grateful to CC members Ian Vidler and Jim Davidson for their hard work.
- Support has been provided to residents campaigning to improve environmental conditions affecting the Mill Loch. This resulted in a meeting with Government agencies and MSP Oliver Mundell which has raised awareness of the issues.
- We have responded to DGC requests including:
  - Consultations and initiatives in respect of local requirements.
  - Participation in the Common Good Sub Committee.
- The Community Council requested action from DGC in respect of damaged road surfaces, access to the Lochs, play park equipment and traffic. All information was reported back directly or via Council minutes or Facebook.
- The Facebook page has proved successful in building links with the public and raising awareness of local issues. Our thanks go to Kenelma McCrae for running the site and who will be providing a separate update.

(Contd.)

3.

- Following local residents requests, a response was lodged objecting to the Planning application in respect of the housing development at Nethermill Road. This was on the basis of traffic concerns, amenities and the likelihood of future development.
- The careful stewardship of our finances by Treasurer Bob Murray enables us to:
  - Plan for activity equipment in Victory Park, subject to further local consultation.
  - Consider taking on some roles previously provided by community groups.
  - Continue to support local sporting and social clubs.

We are grateful to Lochmaben Action Group and Lochmaben Initiative for their separate awards of surplus funds following their dissolution.

Our role as your Community Council is to represent and reflect the views of Lochmaben and District. We sincerely trust we are achieving this but will always welcome constructive comments. We encourage people of all ages to participate at our meetings and if you are keen to do so, join the council. In the meantime we say to everyone in our community 'thank you for your support and we look forward to serving your needs in the future.'

ST commented on the good work of the CC and its modern approach and engagement to community matters.

### 5. Treasurers Annual Report:

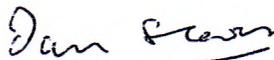
BM presented the following:

#### Lochmaben Community Council - Statement of Accounts for the Year to 31st March, 2022.

2021		2022
	<b>Receipts</b>	
12,086.21	Opening Balance - Clydesdale	11,580.33
	696.6 D & G Council Admin Grant	596.5
	596.5 D & G Council 1st Covid 19 Grant	0
1,193.00	D & G Council 2nd Covid 19 Grant	0
	1,865 Annandale & Nithsdale Community Benefit Co	2,000
	0 A.N.C.B.C. Covid Recovery Grant	2,000
1,804.45	Minsca Grant	2,350
	3,974 Foundation Scotland Grant	0
	640 Donations	1,450
	0 Arnold Clark Community Fund Grant re Speed Signs	1,000
	0 D & G Council Grant re Picnic Benches	1,980
	0 D & G Council Grant re War Memorial Clean up	150
	0 D & G Council Grant re Speed Signs	<u>1,000</u>
<u>10,769.55</u>		<u>12,526.50</u>
22,855.76		24,106.83
<u>-11,275.43</u>	Payments	<u>-17,911.00</u>
<u>£11,580.33</u>	Closing Balance - Clydesdale	<u>£6,195.83</u>

#### Independent Examiner's Report

I have examined the Accounts of Lochmaben Community Council for the Year to 31st March, 2022 and, according to the best of my Knowledge and belief, and from explanations and information given to me, have found them to be properly prepared from the Accounting records and in accordance therewith.



Ian Stewart, Independent Examiner, 20th May, 2022.

4.

Lochmaben Community Council - Statement of Accounts for the Year to 31st March, 2022.

2021	Payments	2022
2,724.47	Christmas Festivities costs	2,538.40
3,034	Grants to Lochmaben School	1,500
600	Covid Grants to 4 Local Businesses	0
400	Covid Grant to Local Childcare Group Cleaning Equip	0
750	Grant to Children's Gala group	0
500	Grant to Castle Loch Trust	600
0	Grant to Lochmaben Luncheon Club	250
250	Grant to Lochmaben Initiative	0
0	Grant to Lochmaben Bowling Club	500
250	Grant to Lochmaben Tennis Club	0
400	Grant To South of Scotland Ice Rink	0
100	Grant to Aberlour Children's Trust	0
0	Grant to Lochmaben Friendship Club	250
0	Grant to Lochmaben Heritage Community Trust	500
0	Grant to Lochmaben SWI	250
0	Church Hall Garden and Mercat Cross Upgrade	1,016.70
0	A709 Speed Signs costs	7,902.00
0	Park Benches for Victory Park	1,626.48
165	Covid 19 Local Information Leaflet printing	0.00
188.72	Small Equipment for Lochmaben Hospital	0.00
243	Planters and Flower beds	214.95
200	Street Cleaning and Painting	143.50
70	Old Paddling Pool Maintenance	0.00
631.62	Tablets and covers	64.37
353.63	Admin fees and Expenses	237.28
340.19	Covid 19 Grant part Repayment to D & G Council	0.00
20	Small Lotteries Licence	20.00
54.8	Remembrance day	61.20
0	War Memorial maintenance	236.12
<u>11,275.43</u>		<u>17,911.00</u>

JP enquired whether the payment of £1500 towards Lochmaben Primary School included a donation of £1000 from DS Smith Packaging. CW informed that the donation had been paid directly to the school. BM confirmed the CC sum was made up of a private donation of £100 made via the CC and £1400 direct from CC reserves.

**6. Facebook and Social Media Report:**

KMcC provided a breakdown to those present and summarised below:

FB likes: 552 Age and gender: Mainly 25-55 years, 73% women, 27% men

Visits: Lockerbie 70.5%, Dumfries 15.2% with the remainder spread mainly throughout Annandale and Eskdale.

FB reach: 42,567, FB Visits: 2473

20 individuals have contacted us through FB with issues, concerns queries and private comments.

Widest reaching post (25,541): Road works reminder 24/2/22

Post with most reactions (21,942): War memorial cleaning 14/05/22 Post with least reactions (7): Christmas greetings 23/12/21

5.

**7. Election of Office Bearers - DGC Councillor Stephen Thompson officiating:**

- Chair – Colin Davidson was re-elected, proposed MMcK, seconded JD.
- Vice Chair – May McKerrell was re-elected, proposed CD, seconded BM.
- Treasurer – Bob Murray was re-elected, proposed CR, seconded CMcL.
- Secretary – Kenelma McCrae was re-elected, proposed CD, seconded MMcK.

**Any other business:**

CD gave notice that he will step down from the CC next year following completion of 4 years service. This is for personal reasons and meets recommendations laid out in the Constitution.

MMcK stated the need for the greater involvement of younger people to ensure the CC reflects the views of everyone. Can promotion be made via Lockerbie Academy and link with the CC's proposed annual Community Award for 'Responsible Citizen'.

KMcC suggested getting the DG Youth Council's involvement.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.