

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

**7.00pm Monday 5th June 2023
in the Library at
Lochmaben Town Hall.**

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
Ian Vidler (IV)	Member
Jane Purdie (JP)	Member
Carys Mainprize (CM)	Member
Brian Forbes (BF)	Member
Zena Forbes (ZF)	Member
Carol McLean (CMcL)	Co-opted Member
Councillor Carlyne Wilson (CW)	D&G Council
Councillor Stephen Thompson (ST)	D&G Council
Liz Davidson (LD)	Member of public
Eric Armstrong (EA)	Member of public
Jenni Robertson (JR)	Member of Public
Andrew Rogerson (AR)	Member of public
Euan Maxwell (EM)	Press

Apologies:

Charles McKerrel (CMck), Steven Wylie (SW), Winifred Dickie (WD)

1. Introduction:

CD welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the 4 new members following the recent CVE. He advised that Cllr Thompson would officiate the election of Office Bearers. The meeting was quorate with 12 members being present.

2. Minutes of the Previous AGM held on 6th June 2022:

Following a minor amendment to the draft minutes, these were proposed by JD and seconded by MMck.

3. Matters arising:

No Matters arising

4. Chairman's Annual Report:

On behalf of the Community Council I wish to record our appreciation of the increased involvement and participation of you, the members of the public. Our purpose is to determine and reflect the views of the community and take practicable actions when dealing with the Council and other public bodies in an attempt to improve our town for everyone's benefit. We can't do this without the involvement of the public and local businesses.

(Contd.)

2.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS:

We continue to liaise with and support many Community organisations ensuring their volunteers can deliver a wide variety of social and sporting opportunities. Donations have been made to The Friendship Group, Luncheon club, Bowling Club, Tennis Club, Lochmaben FC, Lochmaben Gala and Lochmaben Hospital.

The Remembrance Day Parade and service was jointly organised between the CC and Lochmaben Church. The Memorial has benefitted from professional cleaning and enhancement, despite the recent vandalism. Our thanks go to Carol Rogerson and her team of volunteers and the DGC Area Committee Discretionary budget for financial support.

Following the success of last years Christmas event, 194 households comprising 308 individuals received £15 worth of vouchers. 8 shops and 2 hotels benefitted from the resulting spend. We gratefully acknowledge the generous donations provided by Hal McGhie, Billy Edwards and Lochmaben FC which helped fund the event.

Phase 2 of the Victory Park activity area is progressing. Consent by The Common Good sub Committee has enabled us to match fund the sum of £20,000 generously allocated by DGC towards the project. We acknowledge the support provided by Tesco, Grange Quarries, A. W. Jenkinson, H.K Thorburn and Son, Thorburn Funeral Directors and other local businesses. This has been added to the grant awards received from Foundation Scotland (ANCBC) and the DGC Regionwide Discretionary fund. We also acknowledge the support and advice provided by our Ward Officer Steven Wylie, Community Asset Manager Nicola Simpson and Ward Cllrs Carolyne Wilson and Stephen Thompson.

Lochmaben Community Garden Group has started to work on the garden proposed for the Paddling Pool area. This follows consent being received from the CG Sub Committee and support from DGC officials and councillors.

Regular updates have been provided regarding the Bruce Street retail development. Tesco are expected to start work very soon. The differing views about the proposals are acknowledged, however residents were provided with all necessary information to enable them to make representations to the Planning Dept. ensuring their views were taken into account.

Improvements are continuing at the Community Centre. This follows the CC raising with DGC, the major concerns brought to our attention by various groups.

Our congratulations go to the P5/P6 artists from Lochmaben PS who entered the annual art competition. This year the theme reflected the 300th anniversary of the Town Hall. Thanks go to Carol Rogerson, who organised the art competition in partnership with the school.

The success of this year's Coffee morning added to our funds. Stalls included Handicrafts, LLCAG information and the more traditional attractions. Thanks go to our Treasurer Bob Murray, for making arrangements and all volunteers for their help.

Your community council has requested action from DGC in respect of traffic/ parking concerns, damaged road surfaces, planning concerns, dog fouling and damaged playpark equipment. These are typical of the items raised during our regular monthly meetings.

The management plan for the Mill Loch is being prepared by Naturescot and on receipt it's hoped to carry out recommendations to reduce the effects of the Fringe Lilly invasion.

The CC has jointly supported with Lockerbie and Royal Four Towns CC's, the establishment of LLCAG, who hope to partner with DGC to encourage the formation of a safe travel route linking Lockerbie and Lochmaben via the respective areas.

To acknowledge the Kings Coronation, over 400 packets of sunflower seeds were distributed to children and community groups throughout the district.

(Contd.)

3.

Website development continues and it's hoped it will come into fruition next year. Our thanks go to Kenelma McCrae for driving this forward and the technical expertise of volunteer Bob Tognieri.

The Opening of the Warm Hub provided by Lochmaben Church was supported by both funding and CC volunteers.

We raised concerns about service levels provided by Well Pharmacy and separately Lochmaben Medical Group. Their detailed responses provided a greater insight into issues affecting the NHS.

The CC took part in 'Spring Clean Scotland' on 1st April. Thanks go to Bob Murray for organising volunteers and the effort was recognised by the receipt of a certificate of participation.

DGC's Chief Executive Officer, Dawn Roberts recently visited Lochmaben to hear about activities and to find out about matters of importance such as Traffic and Road safety issues.

We trust our activities reflect what you, our residents find relevant and important. As I will be stepping down as Chairman this year, I look forward to the energy and enthusiasm that the new members and officer bearers will bring to our Community Council. I know they will serve Lochmaben well. Meanwhile I take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge the support I've received during the past 4 years from my fellow councillors, DGC officers, Ward councillors and our residents. Thank you all.

Colin Davidson
Chairman

5. Treasurers Annual Report:

BM presented the following;

Overall the CC has received £13,712 and paid out £8,038 during the Year.

This meant the Bank balance was up from £6,195 to £11,870.

This looks very good, but the CC has ring fenced £7,500 of this towards the Victory Park Project, which will cost approximately £48,000 and will be hopefully completed over the next 3 or 4 Years. Further money is held going towards the Community Gardens Projects.

Income wise the CC has been well supported by various Grants from D & G Council, Minsca (one of the wind farms near Lockerbie) which is administered by D & G Council.

The ANCBC Group (basically the Harestanes wind farm) which is now administered by Foundation Scotland.

The CC has also received some substantial donations from individuals, plus Lochmaben Football Club (mainly towards the Senior Citizens Christmas Festivities) together with donations from both Lochmaben Action Group and Lochmaben Initiative when they were both sadly wound up. The Coffee morning proceeds relate to April 2022, with £734 being made in April 2023.

On Expenditure, the 2 main items have been the cost of the Senior Citizens Christmas Festivities (£3,079) and small Grants to 7 local Groups (£3,350), along with a contribution to the Warm Hub run by the Church.

I would like to thank all of my Committee colleagues for their help and assistance over the last 4 Years or so.

4.

Lochmaben Community Council - Statement of Accounts for the Year to 31st March, 2023.

2022	Payments	2023
2,538.40	Christmas Festivities costs	3,079.08
1,500	Grants to Lochmaben School	0
	0 Grant to Children's Gala Group	500
600	Grant to Castle Loch Trust	750
	0 Grant to Lochmaben Football Club	500
	0 Grant to Lochmaben Tennis Club	500
500	Grant to Lochmaben Bowling Club	0
500	Grant to Lochmaben Heritage Community Trust	500
250	Grant to Lochmaben Luncheon Club	300
250	Grant to Lochmaben Friendship Club	300
250	Grant to Lochmaben SWI	0
	0 Lochmaben Hospital re Christmas Festivities	200
	0 Church Hall Warm Hub donation	200
7,902.00	A 709 Speed Signs	0
1,016.70	Church Hall Garden and Mercat Cross Upgrade	101.95
1,626.48	Park Benches for Victory Park	0
214.95	Planters and Flower beds	247.96
0.00	Defibrillator costs	143.8
0.00	School Art Competition and Learning Centre	110.69
0.00	Queen's Jubilee costs	189
0.00	Queen's Passing costs	39.3
143.50	Street Cleaning and Painting	0
64.37	Tablet covers	0
237.28	Admin fees and Expenses	296.45
236.12	War Memorial maintenance	0
61.20	Remembrance Day costs	59.9
<u>20.00</u>	Small Lotteries Licence	<u>20</u>
<u>17,911.00</u>		<u>8,038.13</u>

Lochmaben Community Council - Statement of Accounts for the Year to 31st March, 2023.

2022	Receipts	2023
11,580.33	Opening Balance - Clydesdale	6,195.83
	596.5 D & G Council Admin Grant	596.6
	0 D & G Councillor's Discretionary Grant re Gardens	250
	1980 D & G Council Grant re Picnic Benches	0
	150 D & G Council Grant re War Memorial Clean up	500
	1000 D & G Council Grant re Speed Signs	0
	0 D & G Council Grant re Church Hall Garden	1,630.00
	0 D & G Council Grant re Community Gardens	500
	1000 Arnold Clark Community Fund re Speed Signs	0
	2350 Minsca Grant	3,400.00
	1450 Donations	1,850.00
	2000 Annandale & Nithsdale Community Benefit Co.	2,000.00
	2,000.00 A.N.C.B.C. Covid Recovery Grant	0.00
	0 Lochmaben Action Group Donation	1,421.72
	0 Lochmaben Initiative Donation	900.00
	0 Coffee Morning proceeds	664.00
<u>12,526.50</u>		<u>13,712.32</u>
74,106.83		19,908.15
<u>-17,911.00</u>	Payments	<u>-8,038.13</u>
<u>£6,195.83</u>	Closing Balance - Clydesdale	<u>£11,870.02</u>

Independent Examiner's Report

I have examined the Accounts of Lochmaben Community Council for the Year to 31st March, 2023 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 Accounting records and in accordance therewith.



Ian Stewart, Independent Examiner, 28th April, 2023.

5.

6. Social Media Report:

KMcC presented the following;

- 748 Facebook page followers
- 18.6k Reach over the last 3 months
- Engagement has gone up to 499 (an increase of 143% to the previous 3 months)
- 35 individuals have contacted us through Facebook with issues, concerns, queries and private comments
- Latest post was an update of Carol's upkeep of the memorial reaching 402 people

Highest reach on a post – Photos of coffee morning Apr 30, 2023, 6:21 AM

- This post reached 4,304

Highest reactions on a post - Long planned work for Lochmaben War Memorial has finally been completed by Layden Monumental Sculptors. The figure on the top and granite plinth have been professionally cleaned. The lettering has been repaired where required. Now restored to its former glory, as it should be. May 1, 2023, 4:29 AM

78 reactions

Highest comments on a post - ****Important**** Funding withdrawn for Victory Park Play Area! Mar 31, 2023, 8:00 AM

- This post received 13 comments

7. Long Service presentation:

In a change to the agenda, Andrew Ian Vidler was presented with a Certificate of Long Service and small gift in recognition of his service on the Community Council.

BM presented gifts on behalf of the CC to retiring members CD and CR.

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

- Chair – Kenelma McCrae was elected, proposed by JP, seconded BM.
- Vice Chair – May McKerrell was re-elected, proposed CD, seconded BM.
- Treasurer – Bob Murray was re-elected, proposed CD, seconded JD.
- Minute Secretary – Carys Mainprize was elected, proposed CD, seconded JD.

Other positions taken include:

- Common Good sub Committee: May McKerrell was re-elected.
- AE Federation of CC's: Kenelma McCrae was appointed.
- ANCBC: Bob Murray was re-elected, CM was appointed.

Any other business:

There being no further business, the meeting was closed.