

LENNOX COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Portgordon Community School Annex on Wednesday 27th January 2015

Present: Attendance: Maureen Burrows, Lynn Duncan, Donald Cameron, Mike Reid, Scott Sliter, Alison Hook, Robert Gray, Chris Campbell, Councillor Margo Howe

Also in attendance: John Main of Morlich Homes, Alistair Kennedy, - chairman of Joint Community Council, Jane Martin – Liaison Officer for Community Council, Karen Dellany – Social Care and Clive Burton – Portgordon Resident

Apologies: Maxine Horne, Sue Lane, Councillor Douglas Ross, Sgt Thomas Gorman, Trish Cameron – Headteacher at Milnes High School, Chris Haywood – Community Warden. No Junior Rep available.

Notice of Resignation from Mike Thomas

Absent:

	<p>The meeting began with a presentation by John Main of Tulloch Homes for the proposed residential development at R3 in Fochabers. The site plan incorporates a mix of houses with street design and a village square incorporated into the design with pathway leading through the development leading onto farm road at one end and up towards the Winding Walks at other end. There would be affordable homes and accessible housing built in 3 or 4 phases over an approx. 4 year period. Feedback was positive and Mr Main was thanked for attending the meeting and answering any queries LCC had.</p> <p>Karen Dellany then gave a short talk on behalf of the Moray Awards Committee and the 60th anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards – a scheme which was born in Moray- There are several ideas of ways to celebrate the date. It is hoped that the area of walkway around the silt ponds at the west tip of Fochabers will have large stone boulders placed, one for each decade of the awards with information on them about the scheme.. The young people themselves will be developing the designs and plans and will keep us informed as it takes shape.</p> <p>Jane Martin then spoke of her new role as Community Council liaison officer and her previous work within the community councils in the area</p>	
2 Police Report	<p>37 crimes and offences recorded in the Fochabers Policing Section – of these 20 have been detected, 7 are undetected and 10 remain under investigation. Locally officers carried out an increased number of licensed premises visits to engage with both staff and customers. Those living in the local community can and have played an important role in assisting the police by telephoning and reporting matters that cause concern. This can range from reporting persons or vehicles acting suspiciously or suspecting a driver is driving whilst under the influence. Anyone with any information on any crimes should call Police Scotland on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111</p>	

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4 Matters Arising		
318	Portgordon Harbour – Collection of shale around the harbour area and along the sea defences. This build up of shale could cause an increased flood risk as well as further damage the sea and harbour walls. At last meeting of Portgordon Harbour Board the dredging of the harbour was put at a cost of approx. £20,000. The material collected would then be deposited in area of Tannachy Beach where there is much erosion. William Hawes on behalf of the Crown Commissioners will revert back when he has more information.	SS
341	Sand build up still to be removed along the Slackend Farm Road, Portgordon. This is to be carried out by the Crown Estates over the winter months.	WH
347	Still unclear who owns the Portgordon Square. Countryside Management Dept of Crown Estates in Edinburgh investigating. It's a mystery!	MB
364	The strip of grass along the Bogmoor to Spey Bay road is cut as a courtesy by the Crown but the verge is actually owned by the council. The overhanging trees are to be assessed and any attention required will be dealt with.	CC
365	B9016 road at Enzie Braes . This whole road section is in line for an upgrade. The scheme is budgeted within the Moray Council 10 year plan with lump sums set aside from this year onwards to complete the improvements.	MH
366	<p>The proposed Portgordon to Blackhillock pipeline public exhibition was poorly attended. It was decided that the preferred timescale would be for the work to continue over 24hrs so as to get the job done in approx. 3 months rather than working 9 till 5 which would take 9 months to complete. It was agreed by SSE that should the disruption and noise become too much the work may revert to during the day only. Scott commented on the amount of lorries already passing Stewart Street and crossing over the narrow railway bridge already. Councillor Howe had been assured that works traffic would not travel through Portgordon and over the bridge which is felt is not fit to carry this amount of heavy traffic. A request has been made to clarify the weight limit on the bridge.</p> <p>Clive Burton attended the meeting to highlight the problem of the heavy vehicles cutting the corner and passing very close to his house which is situated at the end of the village and is already being affected by the vibration and damage to his property. The traffic is also passing very close to the corner of the last cottage in Stewart Street (opposite Mr Burtons property) and is giving cause for concern. There was an accident last week where a van crashed through the fence into the field at this corner.</p> <p>He also highlighted the concern for walkers on the Speyside Way who may be at risk as they pass this area.</p> <p>Another point raised is a caravan which seems to be abandoned in the field next to his house and is parked very close to the house. It is unsightly and should be removed. Enquiries are to be made with the</p>	MH

	owner of the field and the owner of the caravan.	
367	Email sent to Transport Scotland commenting on the poor road markings at roundabouts at both ends of Fochabers Bypass	LD
369	Pam Gowans, chief officer for Moray Health and Social Care Partnership will attend our March meeting.	LD
372	Dallachy Remembrance Day Ceremony. Bogmoor residents and attendees at the service were very happy that the traffic stopped for 30 minutes as they found it disrespectful to have traffic passing while the ceremony was taking place. Sad to report that the rope holding the wreaths in place has become undone and the wreaths have all disappeared (presumably in the last high wind) New wreaths and centres will now have to be purchased. RAF have offered to attach wire as is done in Fochabers so this does not happen again. The whisky barrel planters will be inspected by the community council and if necessary will be replaced.	MR MH LD
373	Speed Limit Request made by the community council to reduce the speed to 30mph especially passing the Spey Bay Hall has not been agreed to by Moray Council Roads Department. Data collected over last 5 years shows no requirement to reduce speed from 40mph.	CC
374	Environmental Officer who inspected the Spey Bay Hotel did find historic evidence of rat droppings and could only make an understandable supposition as to where the food source might have been. There was no food source in the derelict hotel but nearby building housing dog food may have provided the food source. Rat poison has been placed in the hotel building and every effort taken to remove and control any vermin problem.	MH
8 AOCB		
377	Site visit arranged with Moray Council Roads Department to review visibility at Duncan Avenue, Fochabers junction onto East Street.	DC DR
378	Meeting to be arranged between Moray Roads Department and LCC to discuss the flood warning signs in Portgordon. Douglas Malpas of Moray Council has offered to come to future meeting of LCC to discuss the signs and their positioning.	MB
376	The park bench that is in need of repair in Fochabers Bicentenary Park that was discussed at the last meeting was donated to the Village Association by David and Geraldine Lipp. Decision on its future will be discussed later and we shall liaise with the village association.	DC
379	Another one or two larger bins on the route to the High School in Fochabers would be useful to encourage students to keep town tidy and litter free.	LD DR
380	Hedge in Charlotte Street will be inspected by Moray Roads Dept. This will then be removed permanently from the minutes.	DR
381	Two cars are regularly being parked on the pavement opposite the Spey Bay Hall necessitating pedestrians to step onto road to get past. This is dangerous in itself but even more worrying when prams, Pushchairs and pets have to be taken along the road. It is a traffic offence to park a vehicle on the pavement at any time.	CC MH

382	Field between Bogmoor and Spey Bay Hall has 'No Dog Signs' erected. Is there a reason for this and why? Community Warden to be involved.	CC MH
383	Big 'thank you ' to the 4 boys who helped with the erection and decoration of the Christmas tree in Portgordon Square which took three cold hours! A suggestion was made that future fundraising in Portgordon might consider donating to the provision of festive lights for the village square as Portgordon is one of the few villages with no lights at Christmas. It would make a lovely improvement to the village and residents will look on it positively it is felt.	MB
384	Dog fouling is a problem again around Stewart Street and the primary school in Portgordon.	MH
385	Derelict house in Station Road, Portgordon has lost its garage door and the roof has blown in during recent storms. Concern that it is in a dangerous condition and that there may be asbestos in the garage walls. What can be done?	MH
386	Reports of 'Puppy Farming' in a local authority property in Portgordon will be looked into by Trading Standards and RSPCA	MH
387	Steps leading up to Portgordon School were dangerous recently as they were completely iced over. The problem of water flowing over them from the hill has been discussed previously but with the ice it was even more of a concern.	MB
388	Any information on why the area behind the old railway in Portgordon has been churned up by heavy vehicle?	MB
389	Minutes of previous meeting and amendments. 3 items omitted:	
390	Traffic Cones placed by resident on road outside their home in Crown Street, Portgordon without police knowledge or consent.	
391	Thank you to Scott and Alan for filling in the holes in the road at corner of Garden lane and Stewart Place in Portgordon.	
5	Residents of Portgordon asking who cut down the trees opposite the bowling club and was it because they were diseased?	
Correspondance	Minutes approved by Chris Campbell and seconded by Donald Cameron	
392	Request by Foster Summerson, secretary of the Anzac/Gallipoli day Commemorative Services whether we are organising a service in April (when the 25 th falls on a Monday	
6	1-Signs to be erected within the grounds of Gordon Castle, Fochabers. 2-Roller blinds and Rod Display System at 7 The Square, Fochabers to be replaced and erect replacement signs. 3-Convert stone sheds to a one bedroom annex with bathroom and kitchen at 44 High Street, Fochabers. 4- Erect dwelling house at Plot 4, Broadley 5- Remove condition 3 on planning consent to revise track on planning consent for house on site east of Westpark, Clochan	

7. Moray Council Business	6- Alterations to block up door to form window and replace front door at 54 High Street, Fochabers.	
	Its budget time. These will be allocated shortly.	

Next Meeting will be on Wednesday 24th February at 7pm in the Village Hall, Clochan