# **Minutes**

# **Lossiemouth Community Council** Monday 21 August 7pm at Community Centre



Chair: Mike Mulholland

#### **Attendees**

☐ Carolle Ralph (Vice Chair, minutes); Tim Stanning (Treasurer) Maureen Garden Councillor Amy Patience, Tim Betts

## **Apologies**

☐ Heather Shiels, , Eddie Kerrigan, Councillors James Allan, John Cowe and Ryan

| Topic |  | Discussion   |  |
|-------|--|--|--|
| 1.    | Welcome  | The Chair opened the meeting at 1900hrs The meeting was not quorate and therefore this is a note of the meeting.   |  |
|       | Lossiemouth's new High School and Community Centre | Carolle circulated the response from the community council as part of the consultation on planning of the new school and community centre (Lossiemouth Learning centre). Several of the points raised on behalf of the community have been taken into consideration and this was seen as a positive outcome of the consultation process.  Whilst the door to the swimming pool and community centre is to be moved, we are disappointed to report back to the members of the public who raised the issue that the pool cannot be extended. Even if funding could be found for a larger pool, the footprint of the build would change and that would cause delays and expense. The pool has to be completed by a certain date and we cannot afford to risk losing funding.  The second point which remains a particular concern is that the public activity rooms for the older adults and for the 2 to 3 groups and mother and toddlers groups are on the first floor. We hope that this can still be considered later on in the stage of the internal planning. |  |
|       | Seafest  | Thank you to Flt Lt Chris Hawkins for the 10 Members of RAF Lossie who helped organise Seafest in July. It made a huge difference and was very much appreciated. Well done everyone involved in Seafest for another splendid event enjoyed by many people throughout Moray. Great community effort.  |  |

### 2. Police report; Community warden report

Concerns continue to be expressed about speeding traffic on the Inchbroom Road from the other side of the cemetery into the town and from Silversands on the Hopeman roads. The meeting agreed that both roads were seeing increasing volumes of pedestrians walking along the road side and that the situation was an accident waiting to happen. The meeting further agreed that the preferred option would be for the speed limit to be lowered to 40mph to the cemetery and to Silversands in the other direction.

Councillor Edwards has spoken with Elaine Penny, Roads Moray Council and has the results of the survey. We understand that the results suggest speeding is not an issue on this road. The meeting agreed that we wished to pursue this further rather than wait for an accident to happen.

Tim Betts was in attendance and talked about the issue of fly tipping near Silversands. Also abandoned vehicles in Coulardhill.

Dog fouling continues to be a problem..please members of the public report if you see regular offenders.

Lastly, do not feed the gulls!

#### 3 Beach Clean

The Beach clean has been postponed from this weekend as there are two big community events on. Now arranged for Saturday 23 September at West beach at 10am. Tim to arrange litter pickers, bags and collection of rubbish. Tim is not on shift that weekend. His shifts rotate over a 5 week period and he apologises that he cannot always attend our meetings but is happy to talk or meet with folks in between times.

# 4 East Beach Bridge

The meeting agreed that as there have been no updates on the search for bridge ownership, we assume it is ongoing but concerns expressed last month by Councillor Edwards have once again given real cause for concern. If an accident were to happen who is meantime responsible for the maintenance of the bridge. As a statutory body, the community council have a duty to the public to keep this on the agenda.

Councillor Edwards had asked if even a replacement handrail might help in the interim.

Jim Dartnall

5

The meeting was saddened to learn of the sudden passing of Jim Dartnall a former very active member of Lossiemouth Community Council, who did a considerable amount of painstaking research into

MM

the history of the bridge and who presented his work at a number of local events some 5 years ago. Carolle sent a card on behalf of Lossie CC to Jim's wife and family. There will be a visit to the Oakenhead waste water 6 Meeting with treatment plant tomorrow at 12 o'clock. All 4 community **Scottish Water** councillors present will be attending. Carolle liaising with Gavin Steel of Scottish water about and Veolia the next joint meeting at the end of September date to be confirmed. It was agreed that the number of complaints regarding the smell have reduced significantly since the plant has taken actions to deal with the problem identified by the public and the community council. Discussion around how best to mark Don's life time of 7 **Don Ritchie** achievements in distance running. A tea to be arranged and a presentation. Provisional date Friday 6 October? As we do not appear to have any nominations, it was 8 agreed that in future years we should take up the kind **Best Kept Council** offer of the Lossiemouth Flower Show to include this House Garden in award with the other classes of entry. It was also Lossie agreed that we agree to pay a small sum to the Flower Show committee in appreciation of them doing this on our behalf. Hopefully next year we will have some entries. 9 **Proposed Tarmac** The community council were surprised to learn of the Quarry Proposal of Application Notice to Moray Council **Development** Planning and Regulatory Committee by Tarmac. This proposal first came to our attention when Tarmac contacted the community council in March 2017. Their representatives Mr Stephen Cowan and Mr Donald Anderson were invited to attend our March meeting. It MM would be fair to say that the community council and members of the public present were rather shocked to learn of the proposed excavation area so close to our cemetery and also to the stage 2 of the Tullochs housing development at Inchbroom. The Tarmac representatives were left in no doubt of the CR likely strength of feeling of the community on this TS matter. However, they left assuring us of their intention to invite us to visit the site and also mentioned having a public exhibition which they hoped would allay our fears. We note from the paper submitted to committee that this proposal has now been presented. The community council have heard nothing from Tarmac since they attended our meeting in March. It is now August. We also note that this proposal was submitted to the Moray Council on 20 June. Point 3.13 states the intention to meet Lossiemouth Community Council members on site

and inviting members of the public to a public event to be held in July 2017. We are concerned that Tarmac's expressed intention to communicate with the local community have thus far not been impressive. Lossiemouth Cemetery is one of the most beautiful settings in our area. It is a very important part of our town, many people visit daily and it is here that they spend time in silence and pay their respects to their loved ones. To our community this is an integral part of our town and it is an area of great sensitivity and of comfort to many. It sits amidst an area of Scots pine woodland and is known for its peace and solitude. We have very real concerns about the possibility of excavation work being carried out in the proposed area directly opposite on the other side of the B9103. In addition to this, there are of course several funeral services weekly.

We are also concerned about the traffic, noise and disruption which would arise from this proposed development. In particular the likely heavy good vehicles and machinery. This road already gives us huge cause for concern and has been subject of several discussions with Police Scotland and the Roads department in recent years.

Thirdly, we consider this area to be within the boundaries of our community, a fact which will be even more apparent when stage 2 of the Tulloch Housing development is completed. How will prospective home owners and indeed the developer feel about living so close to a quarry and an excavation site? We will continue to represent our community on this matter.

# 10 Proposed Housing Development Clifton Road

The planning sub group raised their concerns about the proposed development on the site of the former GP practice on Clifton Road. The group studied the artist impression and plans and agreed that whilst we very much welcomed more accommodation in the town, the proposed development is not in keeping with the adjoining buildings in terms of height and materials. An objection to be submitted by Tim on behalf of the community council.

# Lossiemouth Lower Speed Communities Project

Carolle updated the meeting on the last two meetings of the group. The action points will be circulated with the minute of this meeting. It was agreed that there needed to be senior officers from Moray Council present if we were to advance any of the points being discussed.

The position is still vacant unfortunately. Any volunteers

|    |  | <u>'</u>   |  |
|----|--|--|--|
| 12 | Secretary                                    | should get in touch through our face book page.  |  |
| 13 | Defibrillator for<br>Lossie update           | Carolle advised the group that Yvonne and Sandra and Gordon Mackandie have arranged a bottle stall at Logan's day which will hopefully raise the last remaining funds required for the outside cabinet. We will then contact the media and advise the public on protocols, position of defibrillators and on training available. Carolle to coordinate. First class effort from everyone involved.  Carolle advised the group of the Sandpiper trust rota of trained first aiders who have mobile defibrillators in our town and are contacted by the ambulance service if someone suffers a cardiac arrest.   |  |
| 14 | Councillor's issues                          | Councillor Edwards asked that we raise the issue of the state of the public toilets at Station Park. The meeting agreed that unless CCTV was working then there would always be the potential for vandalism or misuse of the premises.  Councillor Edwards has provided several members of the public in the town with devices to help record the problems emanating from the Oakenhead waste water plant.  Councillor Cowe wished to re-state that Seafest had been a tremendous success and that the money for a marquee hire for next year is now secure.  Also, that the CCTV is now working throughout the town.  Both councillors asked if we could update the meeting on the intended compulsory purchase of the derelict property Braeside Prospect Terrace which has lain empty for some years.  Councillor Patience discussed the implications of this to the meeting. |  |
| 15 | Community<br>Councillor<br>additional issues | Mike attended Joint Community Council last month, minutes to follow.  He updated the meeting about the Cycle Track meeting and said that the route which has been agreed is the Hopeman to Lossie route close to the main road.  Mike advised the group that he had read that there was nuclear waste being landed at Lossie via US aircraft. The meeting was very concerned to hear this and  |  |

|    |                                |  | 1 |
|----|--------------------------------|--|---|
|    |                                | agreed to investigate.   |   |
|    |                                | Maureen raised the issue of people planting conifers and the like in the cemetery and the fact that they are getting out of control and becomes a management problem. Councillor Patience to raise with the appropriate officer.                 |   |
| 16 | Community<br>Council Elections | Community Council elections open this week. We have 10 places available. If we have more than 10 nominations, there will be an election. Nominations close on 28 September. We hope that everyone will seek re-election for another 4 year term. |   |
| 17 | Treasurer's report             | Tim advised the group we have £799.25 in the bank. Jane Martin advised the meeting that all accounts have to be in or we will not receive the next year's grant funding of £544.25   |   |
| 18 | Date and time of next meeting  | Monday 18 September 7pm at Lossie Community<br>Centre  |   |
|    |                                |  |   |
|    |                                |  | 1 |
|    |                                |  |   |
|    |                                |  |   |
|    |                                |  |   |
|    |                                |  |   |

|    |                             |  | JC       |
|----|-----------------------------|--|----------|
|    |                             |  |          |
|    |                             |  |          |
| 13 | Community council elections | Carolle to attend another meeting on this, 29 June, the review of community councils goes to committee on the 28 June.  Agreed that Tim pay the sum of £75 to the JCC for costs and leaflets.  | CS<br>TS |
| 14 | Secretary                   | Unfortunately Heather has had to resign her position as secretary to the Community Council due to pressure of work. She wishes to remain as a member of the council. The meeting noted how much we appreciated Heather's input. The question of increasing payment for the role was discussed as it was agreed that the role takes some hours, minutes, agenda, communicating with various individuals and groups.  Agreed that Carolle would advertise for a secretary on facebook and the Northern Scot. | CS       |

| 11 | AOCB, Date, Time<br>and Venue of<br>Next Meeting | <ul> <li>There will be no July meeting this year.</li> <li>Next meeting will be on Monday 21 August 2017,</li> <li>7pm at Lossiemouth Community Centre.</li> </ul> |  |
|----|--|--|--|
|    |  | Members of the public are, as always welcome to attend.  |  |

#### Oakenhearlwood Wastewater Treatment Plant

#### Odour Control Problems

Oakenheadwood was constructed in 2001 at that time the population numbers on the Government website and the Moray Census showed a continuing decline in population in Moray and the surrounding area. The works therefore had been designed to the population figure at that time it was deemed not necessary to build growth into the project.

The site was designed to the average water usage in 2001 which was 120 litres per head per day. The average water usage today is 150 litres per head per day, this would increase the flow to the site by 25% before adding in any additional population.

It has been quite the reverse from the 2001 Census when the Moray population was 86940 to today's population according to Moray Council's demographic fact sheet the population is now 95510. This is approximately a 10% increase in the population number.

All the population figures were taken from the 2001 Census the next best set of figures I had were for 2011. The combined flows to the site in 2001 from Moycroft, Duffus pumping station and Lossiemouth was 3,824160 litres per day. The combined flows for 2011 for the same area was 5,162250 litres per day.

Oakenheadwood is not just a wastewater treatment plant it is the main sludge reception and treatment plant in the area. It receives sludge in liquid and cake form. It also thickens all imported sludge into cake before treatment. The area that the sludge is transported from is Banff and MacDuff, Buckie, Aviemore (and surrounding area), Moray, Naim, and Fort William. On looking at population numbers all the areas show significant Increases, especially in Aviemore which appears to be approximately a 50% increase in numbers. These figures will significantly increase the amount of imported sludge arriving at Oakenheadwood for treatment per week.

The typical dry solid content of liquid sludge in a tanker would be averaged at 5% this leaves 95% of liquid to be removed. This is done in a two stage process some of the liquid will be removed at the settling tank and returned to the head of the works to be treated in SBR's before being discharged. The settled sludge then passes through the belt press where it is reduced to an average of 22% and it is then combined with the imported sludge cake. Sludge cake should arrive on site with an average dry solid content of 22% it is then held in a silo till it passes through the thermal dryer where it is reduced to a 95% pellet. As both the liquid and sludge cake is reduced at each stage the liquor is returned to the head of the works to be combined with the incoming sewage for treatment before discharge.

Looking at the population figures for treatment of the wastewater and the increase in the sludge treatment the site appears to be overloaded. Further questions need to be asked of Scottish Water and their Operator as to how and when these issues will be addressed.