

**Lossiemouth Community Council
Minutes of Meeting**

Date: 20 Feb 2023

Time: 19:00

Location: Zoom

Chair: Carolle Ralph

Attendees: Lily Mulholland, Peter White, Carolle Ralph, Kristi Corbett, Gina McNicoll, Glyn Morris (Surfable Scotland) Kev Anderson (Surfable Scotland), Dave Walker, Marian Evans, Debra Duke, Fiona Birse, John Cowe, Bridget Mustard, Louise McBride, Neil Cameron

Apologies: Harry Halkett, James Allan, Kirsty Middleton

Agenda:

1- Police Update: No Rep

2- RAF Update: No Update

3- Community Groups Updates

Surfable Scotland: (See email for documents and plans)

The goal is to provide better accessible facilities for their service users and they are looking for an option in Lossie. The current plans are to build a facility at the Gregory Place carpark.

This would take up approximately 13 currently available parking spaces and they would also need reserved parking spaces for their service users and staff. The facility would be shared with the newly formed Lossiemouth Surfing and Life-Saving Club.

Their pre-planning application is in with Moray Council and they have funding in principal and are ready to go to Moray Council for Planning Permission.

John Cowe will speak to Andrew Miller at Moray Council to see if there will be any issues from Moray Council and what the community can do to help.

Marian brought up concern that service users will have to cross Sea Town Road and asked if a safer crossing will need to be installed. Kev and Glyn have said that this is part of their risk assessments and that they have protocol in place to assist their service users with any street crossings.

Bridget advocated for the facility and how much it is needed for the comfort and safety of the service users.

The only major concern for the Community Council is the loss of parking at Gregory Place and the impact it will have on Clifton Road and Station Park parking. The benefits of the project do outweigh the parking concerns.

LCDT:

*Will be ordering the beach wheelchair for East Beach next month, it will be in place for Easter. The storage facility will be attached to the surf school and the trust is looking into booking systems for it.

*The Men's Shed project has launched, they have funding, a facility etc. and are waiting for their charity status to come through.

*The Skate Park is getting to launch their fundraising, once planning is permitted by Moray

Council the applications will go out.

*Seafest will be July 1-8, the carpark will be closed from 30 June-2 July for the market day but will be open the rest of the event. They will not be having a marquee this year due to complaints about the carpark being closed for the full week last year.

*Stakeholder meeting for Station Park will be held on Wed Feb 22, Carolle will attend on behalf of the LCC.

*Laich of Moray Active Travel Route- they have met with Nicola Moss from Moray Council and the outcome was negative. Moray Council is in support of the cycle track but they will not take over or run the project (this would help with funding and obtaining the land), they will not give letters for compulsory purchase orders and delineations until the funds have been raised, funders are requiring that we have these before we can raise the funds. The committee is looking into different ways forward at this time including the option of going to the press.

LBA- Carolle will speak to Maureen to see if they want to send a rep or updates.

Lossie 2-3 Group:

*First phase of the building has started and is being sponsored by the SSC, Moray Council, the Baxters and Adams Family Trusts. They have the funding now for phase 2 of their building now.

*The Soup and Pudding is being attended by 80+ a week with 20+ carryouts a week as well. They have received funding from TSI for another year.

*A new mental health group will be launching in the coming weeks.

*The Buggy Walks have started and will be on every Wednesday

*Peep sessions will be starting in another week or two.

3- Minutes of January Meeting

John Cowe has not heard back from Roddy Burns about Community Centre Parking. It may be time for us to move on from this as Moray Council is not bending.

The Afternoon Tea was a big success. We do have funds left that could possibly be used towards a coffee morning later in the year.

Lily spoke to the Ball Group and their biggest concern is the parking and crossings at James Square. Carolle has asked if one of the councillors can follow up with Elain Penny about the crossing there and to have someone look at the sinkhole in the Station Park carpark.

People are still driving across and parking on the grass at Cromarty Place, even after the bollards have been installed. This will need to be revisited.

Canal Bridge- Dave has looked at it and it's in worse condition. Per Beaver Bridges it is irreparable and will need to be replaced. Carolle hasn't been able to get a hold of Colin from Watson and Bell who are responsible for the bridge and canal, she will get his contact information to John Cowe who will try to get a hold of him.

The bridge needs attention sooner rather than later and Moray Council has said that they will just close it if it's not repaired/replaced.

4- Matters Arising:

New Members: Dave joined the LCC in August but it was never officially minuted as him being co-opted.

Kristi officially proposed co-opting Dave to the CC and it was seconded by Louise, Gina and Carolle.

JCC: 50th Anniversary of the community council is forming up and they are looking for memories of the work done by community councils and what they are currently working on. Debra Duke will send out more information.

The youth issues are Moray Wide.

Moray Council is looking to have more engagement in Lossiemouth on the development plan and they will come to our next meeting.

Toilets/ Store:

The little storage area is almost full of gardening and resilience supplies.

We hope to have the toilets opened the end of March, Dave and his group are helping with the maintenance.

Electric contract is up in March the new estimate is up from £460 to £1,100. EDF wants to install a smart meter and Gina is trying to put them off, if she's unable to the LCDT will need to move the cables in front of the meter.

****AMMENDMENT – Due to the differences in the prices we will be having a smart meter fitted on 20 March to help lower our costs*****

The electric testing has been done, the cost was £383.76 and Gina will get Dave the list of needed repairs.

Funding for other groups- Leave for another time, the groups are all well funded at this time.

Community Spirit Award:

Hythehill Primary School entertained the Darby and Joan club, they are planning a litter pick and are going to be making soup for the soup and sweet and come and help with the serving.

St Gerardines and Lossiemouth High School are both working on plans and will have their projects launched soon.

Carolle has asked Gina what the protocol is and it's very much been left to the schools, the projects should be completed by the end of May and the end goal is to get the schools engaged with the community in a positive way. Unfortunately all of the youth seem to be being seen in a negative light because of the actions of a small group and this needs to be repaired.

Anti-social Behaviour:

This has been a big issue since October.

Two different groups have been identified and we are working with the police, youth workers and schools to find a solution for both groups.

Group 1 is local youths primarily P6-7 and S1-2 youths who are bored and need a safe place to congregate outside of school hours. This group is the ones who have been causing issues around town with ringing doorbells, stealing doorbells and general unruly behavior.

Group chats on social media have been discovered as part of this group and taken to the school. The schools are now very much working with us on this problem and helping to address the behaviour of the students.

For this group a drop in session was organised at the Youth Café on Fri 17 Feb. About 40 youth attended and we had positive feedback from the youth and their parents.

Group 1 is mainly looking for someplace to hangout and not get into trouble, the top of their list on what they want is a skate park. For Group 1 we will continue to work with the organisations to find a long-term solution and will actively work on short-term measures.

Group 2: This group has been identified as older youth who are traveling in on buses from around Moray and are causing problems Moray wide.

The youth cannot be refused transport by Stagecoach regardless of having a bus pass or not.

They are currently congregating around the back of the high school with alcohol and drug use very prevalent.

Members of the public have been assaulted by this group, police reports have been made but police are very stretched.

Local members of the community have been cleaning up the smashed glass on the weekends and the schools have also been cleaning it up before and after school hours.

Most of these youth are not engaging with their schools and cannot be reached that way.

Carolle will write to the Chief Inspector about the situation as we have no idea how to proceed with this group, the police will need to be involved and we need to find a way to engage the parents of this group.

Youth Café: Funding has been applied for to have a 12 week pilot programme and reopening the Youth Café, we have liaised with the Elgin Youth Café about them taking it on but they need to discuss it with their board.

If the Elgin Youth Café is unable to take it on we will need someone to run the programme, we will need to hold a public meeting and form a steering group.

Carolle has proposed that we consider we use some of our community projects fund for supplies if the café does reopen.

We need to find out from the Town Hall committee what their plans are for the Youth Café after the 2-3 Group moves to their new facility.

The school is now working with us on this project.

Mental Health Group: See 2-3 Group Update

Water on the Square: Carolle has requested that the connection be repaired and is waiting to hear back from the plumber.

Feedback from Planning Meeting:

We can clean the sea wall with water, if we use chemicals then SEPA will need to be involved. Dave has had feedback from the fire department that we'd be better off with a power washer than having the fire truck spray it down.

There is surface damage to the seawall that Gina is having looked at to see if we should repair it then clean it or clean it and then repair it.

For the Coronation the Soup and Sweet will have a special meal that week and Marian is organizing a litter pick. We have too many conflicts and other commitments at this time to hold a larger event.

Surgery Update: No final decision has been made; they are holding further investigations. At this time, it does not look promising that the Hopeman and Burghead surgeries will re-open unless another

practice takes it over.

5- Correspondence: None

6- Community Councilors Issues:

Peter: Tiles have been blown off the roof at the football pavilion, he will report this to Moray Council using their online form.

Lily: Asked if the new caravan site at Duffus House will allow tourers, camper vans and tents. Marian says they will, but space will be very limited.

Marian also provided an update that Silver Sands will still allow campers vans to empty their green waste for a fee, they will also still allow limited tourers and now have glamping pods. The owners are happy to arrange tours if we want one.

7- Councilors Updates:

Neil: Asked if we have any openings on the community council and we do have 1 vacant position. He thinks that we need to make a big deal about what the community council has done in the past and what they are currently working on.

He has spoken to Nicola Moss about the parking issues on Coularbank Road and has asked if the councillors can all work together on this issue.

This is the start of Gaelic Week, and he will send out a link to Tuesday night's online presentation.

John: He will speak with Elaine Penny for updates on the crossings.

He has a meeting on the 28th about the Inchbroom speed limit, he does not agree with the roads departments decision on where the speed sign goes on Inchbroom road and he is looking for support from his fellow Councillors that it should go out beyond the exit from the cemetery.

The plant boxes on Clifton Road will be cleared.

The Moray Flag project is moving forward.

8- Treasurers Report:

We have received the admin grant from Moray Council.

There are enough funds from the Pensioner's afternoon fund for a coffee morning.

Asked if we want to keep zoom for committee meetings and such, it was decided that we would.

9- Chairman's Updates:

10- Planning Issues: The only issue is a personal objection from a member of the community on a proposed project. The Community Council has no objection to this.

11- Date and Time of Next Meeting: 20 March at the Youth Cafe