

**Lossiemouth Community Council
Minutes of Meeting**

Date: 17 April 2023

Time: 19:00

Location: Zoom

Chair: Carolle Ralph

Attendees: Peter White, Lily Mulholland, Carolle Ralph, Kristi Corbett, Neil Cameron, Marian Evans, John Cowe, Dave Walker, Harry Halkett, Bridget Mustard, James Allan, Louise McBride, Kirsty Middleton

Apologies: Fiona Birse, LCDDT

Agenda:

1- Police Update:

The police are wanting to meet with Carolle and Louise as a follow-up to the 4-week patrol programme.

Last weekend was probably the worst it's been. There were youth we hadn't seen before mixing with the ones we were familiar with. The new youth were quite volatile and our volunteers were feeling intimidated by them as were some of the other youths. There was a large fight that involved large rocks and hammers. The police showed up just as the volunteers were leaving due to the fight.

Further discussions will be needed on what if any action we can take at this point. There is not much more the community council can do, at this point it is becoming a police and government matter.

RAF Update:

No update

Community Groups Updates:

LCDDT- No update

LBA- The business rates have had a significant increase and the threshold for exemption has decreased. This will affect many of our smaller and local businesses. There is relief available, but businesses need to apply for it.

2-3 Group- Just waiting for their funding to come in.

Men's Shed- Currently at 13 members.

They have received their charity status and are now working on opening their bank account.

They have had a shed donated to be used as a store, the workshop will be open in about two months.

Many of the members have taken up the offer from the 2-3 Group for the mental health training course and are interested in taking additional courses as they are offered.

The Forres Men's Shed has donated about £1000 worth of tools.

They have had several projects brought forward.

3- Minutes of March Meeting

Correction: the seawall will need to be cleaned before it is repaired.

4- Matters Arising:

Breakwater- In 2014 it was assessed as only having a life through 2029 at the latest, at the time it was estimated that it was a £3 million repair. It is now in worse condition and is split down the middle. If the breakwater fails, it will leave the Esplanade and Clifton Road open to the sea which could be costly if there is a storm or high tide.

Marian also pointed out that the hole in the seawall near the public toilets hasn't been repaired and has only gotten larger.

The Seatown Flood Alleviation scheme has also been pushed back until 2027.

Carolle will email Nicola Moss about the situation, and we need to keep the breakwater on future agendas.

Transport Forum- Dial M for Moray bus is supposed to be the transport link for people in Hopeman and Burghead to attend the doctor's surgery in Lossiemouth but there are limitations on it.

It needs to be booked 24hrs ahead and is only available from 10:30-14:00. Per Bridget this is leaving people afraid of being stranded in Lossiemouth.

Doctors Surgery- The transport forum discussion led to this topic which wasn't on the original agenda. Hopeman and Burghead residents felt that the consultation was just a check mark and that they were not listened to.

Bridget feels that Ian McDonald is blocking the discussions on anything but transportation at this point. Others suggested that as Ian is normally quite easy to work with that this might be coming from further up the chain.

There has been a push to move patients to digital appointments using an app.

The Equality Impacts Assessment said that for the surgeries to be closed Maryhill practice in Elgin needed upgraded, the digital appointment system needed to be addressed as did the transport issues. At this time, it seems the upgrades to Maryhill have been overlooked.

We all agreed that it feels like the decision to permanently close the surgeries was made two years ago.

Cycling at Station Park Play Area- Cyclists are going through the area at a high speed, this is dangerous for the children playing and pedestrians in the area.

Gina will contact Grant Speed at Moray Council to ask about signs asking for cyclist to dismount or warn them to slow down. She will also contact them about the benches at the playing fields that are in need of repair.

West Beach Ramps- The ramps from the West Beach carpark to the beach are in poor repair and are becoming hazardous.

The beach is also inaccessible again for those in wheelchairs due the rocks needing to be cleared again. The coastal path from the carpark heading towards the lighthouse has almost eroded away.

Kristi will contact the Moray Coastal Officer about the conditions there and invite them to a meeting.

Roads Meeting – As a follow up to a meeting with all four of the councillors the Roads Department has invited members of the community council to a meeting to discuss the waiting/parking issues around town, specifically along the playing fields, on Stotfield Road and across from the chemists. As well as a discussion on the Inchbroom Road Speed limits.

Per John they are looking at double yellow lines along the playing fields, and across from the chemist. They are offering a compromise on Inchbroom Road of closing the cemetery exit permanently and widening the entrance to allow for two-way traffic which is something we asked for in the past. But they will not extend the lower speed limit past the old railway line. This is something the CC feels it could be happy with.

Marian asked about the possibility of countdown markers for the lowered speed limit or traffic slowing

measures like narrowing the road in places. It was agreed that the countdown markers would be a good idea.

We will discuss it all at the meeting with the roads department.

Youth Issues

See police update above.

5- Correspondence: None

6- Community Councilors Issues/Updates:

Marian:

The litter picks on the 14th and 15th were successful events with the one on the 14th at the East Beach being very well attended. She thinks in the future we will focus our efforts on the East Beach over the West Beach as it is busier.

Next litter pick on East Beach Monday 8 May in support of the Coronation 'Big Help Out'.

RAF Lossie leading a cleanup on West Beach Friday 5 May.

Invitations have been sent to various youth and other groups for the May 2023 Clean Up Lossie event, responses requested by 24 April.

All campervan signs updated with the new telephone number for Silver Sands.

Gina asked if there was an update on when the sinkhole in the Station Park carpark will be repaired.

Neil said he'd questioned Moray Council about it and was told that it was not a Moray Council carpark, he will chase it up again and get clarification on who is responsible for the carpark.

7- Councilors Updates:

Bridget: Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee will address the cycle track at their meeting this month.

John- Wished Marian and Gerry Evans good luck in the London Marathon.

The CCTV in Lossiemouth is not working yet but he had had an email stating that they are working on a plan B to get it working. BT is currently saying it doesn't have the upload speed it needs for a live feed.

James: the roads department is also looking at double yellow lines in places along Stotfield road, everything else was discussed in the roads meeting section above.

Neil- no updates he was just going to discuss the roads meeting.

8- Treasurers Report:

We raised £46 at the indoor car boot.

The Youth Café Grant has been received.

As of March 30,

Admin	773.02
Toilets	2008.57
LCC Projects	4281.55

Gardens	2545.03
Resilience	3204.85
School Crossings	7811.09
Tullochs	4000
Food Larder	246.22
Pensioners	430.95
Ukraine as of April 18	48.25 As of 18 April it is 0
Total	25,349.53

9- Chairman's Updates:

None

10- Planning Issues: None

11- AOCB

Lily- wanted to know where we were with designs/plans for the seawall. This will be discussed by a committee once the cleaning and repair works has been done. The community justice group will take care of the cleaning.

She also asked if we have any updates on the canal bridge.

John has not heard back from the factors yet. Carolle had communication that they would provide the materials for the repairs but would not carry them out.

We had discussed asking the Army Engineers at Kinloss to help, John will get their contact information for us.

We are still trying to work out who is responsible for the bridge. The Heritors of the Spynie Canal are responsible for the canal itself.

12- Date and Time of Next Meeting: 15 May 2023, 19:00 at the Lossie Youth Cafe