

**Lossiemouth Community Council  
Minutes of Meeting**

**Date: 20 Nov 2023**

**Time: 19:00**

**Location: Zoom**

**Chair: Carolle Ralph**

**Attendees: Carolle Ralph, Peter White, Kristi Corbett, Lily Mulholland, Gina McNicol, Kirsty Middleton, Marian Evans, Dave Walker, Neil Cameron, James Allan, John Cowe, Bridget Mustard, Fiona Birse**

Apologies: Louise McBride

**Agenda:**

**1- Police Update:**

No representative, no update

The caravan is still at Gregory Place but now the wheels are gone, Neil has raised this twice with Moray Council.

**RAF Update:**

**Operations.**

Team Lossie continue to be busy 24/7 at home and overseas with a Typhoon Sqn deployed to Cyprus on Op SHADER.

A small contingent of RAF Lossiemouth personnel have relocated to the Mediterranean regime in response to unfolding events in Israel and Gaza should they be required to support the UKs response. QRA and Maritime Patrol continue with normal seasonal surges in activity so you may notice our aircraft a little more active at unusual times of the day and night.

**Growth.**

Much of RAF Lossiemouth continues to be a building site as we move to the end of the formal Lossie Development Programme.

The new Single Living Accommodation blocks are steadily coming online.

The E7 facility is going up at a rapid pace together with a combined E7 & P8 engineering facility.

The contractor complex at the bend in the Lossie to Hopeman road is in the process of being returned to original state.

**People.**

E7 crews and family currently based out in Australia are beginning the process of relocating to Moray from summer 24.

Thank you to everyone who supported Remembrance Activities across Nov – it is always very heart warming to see our local community come out in force to show their respect and appreciation for the Armed Forces community and the sacrifices made.

the Moray Dandelion Project is now live with Priyanka Chard appointed as the Education Support Officer whom will be a dedicated source of support and advice for both local schools and Armed Forces families as they navigate the challenges of moving in and out of Scottish education. This role is a HQ based one focussed on policy, process, training and direct engagement between parent & school when conflict occurs. It is not a direct pupil support project.

## **Community Groups Updates**

### **LCDT:**

Laich of Moray Active Travel Route is currently at a standstill. They will put a last effort in in January to reform their committee and drum up community support. They, and us, are very disappointed in Moray Council for their stance on the Active Travel Route. Richard Lohead is going to write to Moray Council about their stance.

The Men's Shed has received a donation from Douglas Ross from a portion of his salary.

Skate Park has started their fundraising.

Station Park, they are meeting with Estates to sort out a few issues before going to valuation.

We should hear about a donation from Visit Scotland to use for improvements in the toilets soon.

### **2-3 Group- No update**

**Men's Shed-** had a successful opening night and they will have a stall at the two day Christmas market at the town hall.

### **3- Minutes of October Meeting**

Library – Moray Council has no short term plans to allow us to use this space as it is currently being used by Moray Council. Bridget will ask if a fire risk assessment has been carried out for their use of the space. The Fire Brigade want to do a check of the space.

### **4- Matters Arising:**

Christmas extravaganza – Jimmy, penny farthing bike, will be our Santa this year. Kirsty is going to be Santa's elf this year to help get the kids to Santa.

Plenty of volunteers this year. Will finish up between 4-4:30, then people can go over to the Square for a Christmas Lights switch on if the weather allows.

Thank you to John for securing the tree for us. Criminal Justice and Men's Shed will be helping with the lights etc.

Toilets- Closed for the winter, the water has been drained off. We've applied for grants to help fund the works needed.

Poppy Displays- Thank you to everyone who helped with the organization and display this year. We will be taking it down on Wednesday.

One of the photos we posted received over 4,000 reactions and was shared by the Press and Journal as part of their Remembrance Tribute.

We will look into obtaining a PA system for next years event. LCDT has one that we can use if we can sort out power for it.

Donation from Baptist Church – Donated £1000 specifically to be used for James Square.

Grant from Mc/ Ward Payment – We received a grant from MC to use towards upgrades in the Square.

Democracy Matters event January- We will be holding an event 27 January to discuss the Place Plan and Democracy Matters. We'd like to tie it in with an event honoring Ramsay McDonald and a coffee morning to get residents involved. Allison from the trust will apply for the grant to help fund it. Marian has suggested that we have a one-way systems in place to guide people around to make sure they are

seeing everything. Lily, Gina and Peter will help organise the event, Neil will also help. It was suggested that the councillors have a table at the event as well.

James Square- See information on grants/ward payments

#### **5- Correspondence:**

None

#### **6- Community Councillors Issues:**

Defibrillators (Carolle)- When 999 was phoned for Marina defib to be used they were not able to give the code. Lily has been advised any new defibs will not be kept locked because of time delays in getting the codes. Marina has said that the cost of having unlocked cases is going to be quite costly. We need to consider what will happen to the St Gers defib once the church closes, Gina has said that due to regulations the church will still have electric.

Carolle will contact Keiran's legacy for information on if we need to replace cabinets and the pads. From Fiona- Defib and cabinet cost including installation is £2000, yearly maintenance fee of £125, pad replacements £250. We have to decide how many we can realistically fund to maintain.

HMIE Inspection Visit- They wanted to hear about the trust and 2-3 Group, we were very clear on how we felt, especially with levels of support we get from Moray Council. We should be getting a report from the meeting, it was pointed out that we get a lot of reports with very little action. This meeting was to see how the Community Support was interacting and supporting the community groups, they wanted to see how we fit in with Moray Council Strategic Plan. It was made clear that we were not part of the plan and we had never seen the strategic plan document.

Coastal Erosion- A meeting has been held with Will Burnish to discuss coastal erosion. Gina attended a further meeting with Scottish Government on what the coastal erosion policy was. They were surprised that we had not been informed of what the triggers were for action to happen. They are not concerned about the dune erosion. We've been getting different information on how high of a priority Lossie is. John Cowe has said we were penciled in for 2022 but budget issues have pushed it back, Lossie has a good cost benefit it is a priority, but it will be 2028 now for the Seatown flood defence. The breakwater has had a JDA investigation, but Moray Council says it's not a priority due to funding and a lack of homes being at risk.

East Beach dunes are quite dangerous right now and the West Beach path has all but eroded away. The West Beach erosion is quite bad under the car park path, and there is still standing water in the carpark, there is no drainage in place and there are questions on who is responsible. Gina and Carolle feel we need to meet with Will Burnish and Debbie Haliday to discuss what the triggers are.

50 Years of Community Councils Event in Elgin wasn't well attended but it was good to look at all of the different projects we've been involved in. It was a good day. Not a public event, it was just for community councilors and councillors.

Peter- Peter's father has been awarded the Shipwrecked Mariners Society Stokes Award for Lossiemouth

Quite a lot of rubbish on West Beach right now. We've had people asking if we have equipment to help clear it. Marian has suggested that some of it will go back into the sea eventually, it's not something that we can physically move we will need to wait until the end of the storm season because it will be never ending right now.

### **7- Councilors Updates:**

John asked if the bins have been put in on Prospect Terrace or the mess at Station Park cleared, Marian has said no the bins have not been put in and that Moray Council has said that the grit mess that is there is not their responsibility because it was dumped there during covid.

He also asked about the water payments at Station Park, once the CAT goes through and LCDT is responsible for Station Park there will not be a charge as LCDT is a charity.

He will also chase up the Gregory Place parking signs as they still have not been installed.

### **8- Treasurers Report:**

Year end books have been signed off and will be sent to Moray Council next week.

We won't get our next grant until April, this is the admin fund.

Zoom is back up to £15 a month.

Marine Park bill has come in, it will be £15 an hour to use.

She does have a new fund for the Christmas Activity, Santa is fully booked at this time.

### **9- Chairman's Updates:**

Carolle was unhappy with Moray Council's suggestion that Community Councillors could be used as road safety champions/wardens. Neil feels that it is inappropriate of Moray Council to ask this of community councillors, no one on the community council would be willing to do this role, especially as it doesn't sound like support or training would be given.

It was proposed that we donate all of the old printers and computers to ReBoot, this was seconded by Kristi, Marian and Lily.

Alex Lauriston will come to the January Meeting to discuss the plans for the playing fields.

### **10- Planning Issues:**

Lily has brought up that the old Harbour Bar is being auctioned off and sold with planning permission that was already granted.

The old TA Building on Church Street has been sold at Auction.

Lily spoke to Elaine Penny about crossing at the high school, there's big problems they've run into.

The drainage and bus stop need to be moved and planning permission needs to be sought. Lily has asked if one of the councillors can follow up with this to find out what is happening. John will chase it up.

11- Date and Time of Next Meeting: