

Lossiemouth Community Council Minutes of Meeting

Date: Monday 21, May 2018

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Lossiemouth Community Center

Chair: Carolle Ralph

Attendees: Maureen Garden, Stuart Garden, Marian Evans, Clair Edwards, Tim Betts, Cllr Ryan Edwards, Cllr John Cowe, Cllr James Allen

Apologies: Mike Mulholland, Evelyn Thomson, Graham Fleming, Glenn Roberts, Andy Campbell, Louise Hill, Cllr Amy Patience, Ashley Parker, RAF Lossie, Inspector Hoyle, Tim Betts

Agenda:

1. Police Update: No updates

No Police or community wardens present. Nothing to report from the monthly community safety report. Carolle advised the group on coloured biodegradable spray which could be used to mark dog poo in particularly bad areas. Several of the group agreed to go and do this in order to highlight the areas where it has not been cleaned up to bring it to the community's attention.

2. Passing of former Community Councilor John Smart

Carolle paid tribute to John who sadly passed away last week. His commitment to the community and to the community council was hugely appreciated and John continued doing what he could right up to the age of 89. Carolle has sent a card to John's family and his funeral will be held at St Gerardine's Church on Monday 28, May at 2:00

3. Minutes of April Meeting

Were adopted as a true minute

4. Matters Arising:

Secretary: Kristi Corbett is interested in the position and attended the meeting to take notes and get a feel for what the position entails. Welcome Kristi!

Tarmac Quarry Response: Carolle has written a response to the Planning and Regulatory Committee at Moray Council and has requested feedback from fellow council members on the letter before it is sent. Comments required in next 24 hours.

Imminent closure of Station Park Toilets:

This came as a surprise to the community council who only learned of this last week and were shocked to learn of this given Lossie's dependence on tourism. The cc understood that Lossie Development Trust was taking them on. Cllr Cowe stated that the Trust had indeed expressed interest in 2015 about taking them over but there has not been any follow up from them regarding this as a possibility.

Carolle had run a 24 hour poll on Facebook at the weekend and of the 789 responses, only 12 thought they should be shut, 777 that they should be kept open, the public are therefore unanimously in favour of them being retained.

- The community council could take them over for the summer but a short term lease would be needed. The annual water cost for the toilets is 1,175 pounds which the community council would have to cover along with other expenses
- Advantages such as disabled access, proximity to the park, the marina and the promenade and access to water for the planters were identified as reasons for keeping the toilets open.
- There was a suggestion of an honesty box to help fund the running of the toilets, further discussion will be needed.
- A decision must be made by the end of June if the community council wants to take over the running of the toilets on a short term basis or if we should let them be closed by Moray Council. All community councilors present agreed that we should examine the possibility of doing this at least until we know what the intention of the trust will be.

School Crossing Patrol Cutbacks: The school crossing patrol is only being cut at lunchtime; it will remain in place for before and after school. We have had several concerned parents and members of the public expressing concerns about the cutbacks particularly around St Gerardine's primary school. Cllr Allan said there were rarely any children crossing at lunchtime.

Cllr Cowe advised the meeting that the new crossing for Elgin Road will be in situ in the next few months. It costs £30,000, a significant amount of the total budget for Moray. The work at the bottom of the school brae will not come out of this year's funding.

Don Ritchie Presentation: Was deemed as a successful event attended by Don and his wife Isobel, Olympic Bronze medalist Jim Gault and former Don Ritchie Lossie high cup winner Fraser Craig. We had a most enjoyable evening attended by most community councilors and Cclrs Edwards and Allan.

Ramsay MacDonald Cup: Frances will now be taking over the running of the competition at the Lossiemouth Flower Show and the council will not be involved. Closing date for the best front or back garden in Lossie will be 12 July.

Budget Session: There will be a drop in session on Monday 28, May 2018 from 10-4 at the Community Center. This is a pop up event where questions will be answered but you won't be able to vote on issues. Full meetings will be held in Elgin, Forres, Buckie and Aberlour. Carolle expressed her concerns that the flyer had not made it clear that the Lossie session was not being held at the same level as the Elgin one.

Data Protection Training Workshop: Workshop run by Elgin CC will be held at Cedarwod in Elgin 24 May, 2018 at 6:30 we need at least two people to attend and Maureen has said she will go, Tim will try and attend and Carolle will also attend if no one else is able to.

100 Year Commemoration of the RAF: We need to decide if we want to do something for the event and if so what. Please start thinking of ideas and opportunities we can use.

Carolle has purchased a “There but not there” Tommy for the event and also talked about the very striking 6ft silhouettes which cost £750 but could be used for future armistice events if we were to consider fundraising for this option.

History Room RAF Lossiemouth and the RAF Lossiemouth Friends and Family day:

Mike had met with Donna Brown and asked if anyone on the council is interested in visiting the history room or attending the friends and family day, Carolle to email people for names when dates are offered.

Day of Meeting: It has been proposed that we change our meetings to Tuesday nights or to another Monday night during the month to reduce conflicts for the council members. No decision was made because we need feedback from all members. Mondays are better for James and Maureen, Evelyn is unable to attend on our current days because of a schedule conflict.

5. Correspondence: None

6. Community Councilors Issues:

Potholes: Tim brought up the size and state of the potholes by the old cemetery and Cllr Cowe is going to contact someone about getting it repaired.

Cemetery Fence Issue: The fence in the new cemetery has been damaged by people climbing over it instead of going around to the gate and there has been a request to have a gate put in instead of repairing the fence. The tree roots make going around to the current gate difficult for the disabled and those with prams and pushchairs. This also led to the discussion on how full the cemetery is and what the current expansion plans are for it.

Dumping of rubbish at Inchbroom has once again become an issue but has been reported to the council and to the police.

Post Box: Carolle has written to Royal Mail Chief Executive again as there is no sign of the centrally located box yet.(promised in December to be up by end of March)

Speeding on Shore Street: A resident has expressed concerns about the speed of traffic and is concerned that it is just a matter of time before we have a fatality. Carolle has written to Inspector Hoyle in the meantime.

Planters for Esplanade: It will cost £660 to repair the planters and the money will be needed up front. An application has been made to the Boyd Anderson Trust for the flowers. We may not therefore have to use the funds that had been set aside for a secretary to pay for the flowers.

Elgin Road burnt house: It could be another year before any decision are reached on what is to be done with the house. It looks like the fencing around the house may have been tampered with and it needs inspecting, Cllr Edwards has said that he will follow up on this.

Cycle Track: The tender has been written and we are waiting for further progress.

Community Center: The need for space for community programs and activities in the new High School and Community center was discussed as there won't be as many spaces available in the new building. The community council and Cllr Edwards met with Shona Lease and Nick Goodchild today at lunchtime to discuss plans and agreed that it was a useful meeting. CC offered to liaise with the school and the community Centre if need be to ensure that all needs are met in the new development.

7. **Treasurers Report:** We have nothing outstanding and the figures were reported. £1892.00 plus grant of £551.96. Stotfield - costs for guests was £88. Councilors and community councilors paid their own bills. We are unable to use the funds that had been set aside for a secretary to fund other projects.
8. **Joint Community Council Updates:** Maureen and Carolle attended and there were two presentations on Licensing and on Clash Gour wind farm community ownership opportunity. Participatory Budgetary is taking off and has been well attended across Moray with many community groups benefitting. Eventually 1% of the budget locally will go on PB.
9. **Chairman's update** Carolle attended the meeting with representatives from NHS re the future of pediatrics and obstetrics in Moray. She suggested that there should be further consultation with community councils across the north east as the position with recruiting consultants and junior doctors continues to be a significant problem. 8 junior doctors are required to keep pediatrics open after September; so far only 2 have applied for Dr Grays.
10. **Planning Issues:** None
11. **Citizen of the Year:** It was decided to give this as a joint award between two of the nominees. Claire will organize the award and the ceremony. It was decided that the plaque should go on display, possibly at the library, and that a keepsake award would be given to each recipient.
12. **Date, Time and Venue of the next meeting:** Monday 18, June 2018 7:00 PM
Lossiemouth Community Center