

# Lennox Community Council

## Meeting of Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019

### Venue: The Spey Bay Village Hall

**Members Present;** Christine Lester, Mike Reid, Angus McNair, Donald Cameron, Pringle George, Paul MacPherson.

**Others present:** Alastair Kennedy (Interim Chair), Steve Hickin (Minutes) and Michelle Good from tsi Moray (Michelle left the meeting at 2034hrs).

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

Alastair opened the meeting at 1900hrs and welcomed all those present. Apologies were received from Anna Mary and Chris Overring.

#### 2. Minutes of the last Meeting

Alastair advised that he had overlooked the apologies he had received for the September meeting and advised that Ann Mary and Chris Overring had sent their apologies. The minutes were amended accordingly.

Following the amendment to the minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> September meeting they were proposed for accuracy by Christine and Seconded by Pringle and adopted.

#### 3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of 13/09/19.

##### War Memorial:

Paul advised the meeting that the War Memorial sign had now been cleaned and painted.

##### Dolphin Centre Road

Paul has confirmed that the Dolphin Centre road is owned by the Crown Estates, the people at the Dolphin Centre had advised him that in the past Moray Council had patched some of the potholes. Pringle added that Crown Estates representatives were coming to Portgordon to carry out a road inspection and she could raise the matter of the Dolphin Road with them.

Christine reported that Savilles, who are the Crown Estates local agent, have closed their office in Fochabers and moved to Inverness, the Crown Estates are considering opening a local office as a result. Christine stated she would be willing to contact the Crown Estates direct to bring all the issues together.

##### Representation at JCC and other external Bodies

Discussion took place on the merits of sending members to the JCC and other external bodies. Donald suggested that nominated Office Bearers should attend JCC for consistency. Mike and Paul volunteered to attend JCC and it was clarified that Community Council members attending JCC can claim travel mileage from their parent community council.

#### 4. Representations from the Public:

A member of the public has raised a concern about an overgrown Privet Hedge on Charlotte Street; the hedge is over hanging the footpath and forcing pedestrians,

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including school children walking to school, to walk in the road. The owner has previously been contacted by Moray council to cut the hedge back. During the discussion it was pointed out that the complainant should speak to the owners before raising the matter with the council. LCC will acknowledge the concerns and discuss them with the elected members at the next meeting. The Chair suggested that Moray Council Lands & Parks may be able to assist in this matter and will look into this option.

### 5. Recruitment of Community Councillors and Progress on Pop up Banner

*Recruitment:* Angus reported that he had spoken to some people who he thought may be interested in joining the Community Council but none had been interested.

A discussion took place on methods of attracting new members, it was suggested that approaching local schools to see if any senior pupils would be interested in coming along with suggestions for Agenda items that concern them. It was also suggested that students at local colleges studying social studies/politics may be interested. It was pointed out that the idea of approaching local schools had been tried in the past but with little success. The meeting decided that the matter should remain as an agenda item.

*Pop-up Banner;* The pop-up Banner is still under consideration and Anna Mary is looking into this but as she is not in attendance Alastair will contact her for an update.

### 6. Email set up:

The new Lennox Community Council email account is set up and the address is: [lennoxcommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:lennoxcommunitycouncil@gmail.com).

Donald reported that he was having difficulty accessing the new email account, Christine and Steve offered some advice and Steve offered to assist Donald if he was still unable to access the email account.

Pringle advised that the Data Sharing forms needed to be completed and handed in to her as soon as possible.

### 7. Updates from:

- a. *Facebook* – Christine is now uploading the monthly meeting Agenda to the Facebook page and has uploaded relevant community information. She is looking into how to upload the minutes of meetings.
- b. *Planning* – Angus reported that the following planning application had been made but there were no issues for the Community Council to follow up. Portgordon; Malting Anaerobic Digester, Upper Dallachy Farm House Windows, Fochabers Bungalow, Clochan House Build.

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- c. *Finance & Grants* – Pringle gave the following report; she has paid Fochabers Men's Shed £80 for work done at the War Memorial and paid £40 to the ICO for the annual Data Protection registration.

Total funds in the Lennox CC Bank account at 15/09/2019 are £3521.81 which is broken down as: remaining Micro grant funds = £250, LCC funds = £2851.81 and remaining Budget for repairs to the War Memorial = £420.

Two thank you emails have been received from successful Microgrant applicants, one from Lady Stitchers and the other from Fochabers Community Theatre who have also sent two tickets for this year's Christmas Pantomime. There was a discussion on what should be done with the Pantomime tickets and Donald suggested donating them to a good cause via Sam Noble at Fochabers Village Hall. The meeting unanimously agreed with this proposal. Pringle will email the Theatre Group and advise them of the community council's decision.

The ex-Treasurer is still a signatory for Lennox Community Council's Bank Account; Pringle has spoken to the Royal Bank of Scotland and now has the paperwork to install new signatories. A total of three signatories are required for the account, as interim Treasurer Pringle is already a signatory. Following a discussion Christine and Paul volunteered to become account signatories and this was accepted by the meeting. Pringle, Christine and Paul will liaise with the Bank to complete the necessary paperwork.

Two applications have been received for the remaining Microgrant sum, after a discussion there was a vote to decide the recipient which decided that the remaining Microgrant would be awarded to Clochan Community Centre for the purchase of signs to advertise their Coffee mornings and other events. The unsuccessful candidates are welcome to apply for future Microgrants.

- d. *Health & Wellbeing* – A discussion took place regarding the relevance of a Police representative attending Lennox CC meetings. It was agreed that Alastair would contact the local Police Commander to arrange for a Police representative to attend meetings.
- e. *Elected Members* – The attendance of local elected members at Community Council meetings was discussed at the previous month's meeting. It had been thought at the time if LCC meetings reverted to the regular pattern of the last Wednesday of each month the elected members would attend accordingly. After a further discussion it was decided that Alastair would email the elected members in question and advise them of the dates of forthcoming Lennox CC meetings.
- f. *Nether Dallachy War Memorial* – Alastair circulated photos of the War Memorial showing its current impressive condition and a copy of the 'Fochabarian' newsletter containing an article on the War Memorial, both of which he had received from Anna-Mary. Paul reported on the painting of the fence which has

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been completed. Mike queried if the grass at the War Memorial will be cut before the Remembrance service, Alastair will look into this.

## **8. Maintenance of Footpath from Nether Dallachy to Old Post office**

Christine reported that an enquiry about this footpath had been received through the Facebook page; the footpath was overgrown and encroached by undergrowth making it almost impossible to traverse. The enquiry wanted to know if the Community Council could do anything about it. Angus advised that this footpath is owned by the Crown Estate who would arrange for it to be cleared if they were made aware of its condition. This will be added to the list of items to be raised with Savilles/Crown Estate by Pringle and Christine.

## **9. Protection of Children & Vulnerable Adults Policy**

The policy was discussed and adopted unanimously by the Community Council.

## **10. Remembrance Day**

Mike reported that everything was in hand for the Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Nether Dallachy War Memorial where Paul will lay the wreath on behalf of Lennox Community Council, Mike will lay the wreath at Bellie and a volunteer is needed to lay the wreath at the Fochabers ceremony. Alastair will ask Chris Overring if he can lay the wreath at Fochabers, if he is unavailable Donald will step in.

Mike advised the meeting he has a kitty of £641 available for memorial duties next year.

## **11. Timeline**

A discussion took place and it was agreed that the current progress should continue, Alastair suggested that LCC should consider inviting guest speakers who may be able to suggest ways forward.

## **12. Items for the next meeting's Agenda**

Donald stated that, although the Community Council would not normally meet in December because of the festive season that, considering the pending General election, the Community Council should hold a meeting in December to discuss the outcome. A discussion took place but was unable to agree. The Chair called for a show of hands on the matter. There were 3 votes for holding a December meeting and 3 votes against; the Chair exercised his casting vote in favour of holding a December meeting. A provisional date of Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 was set. The matter will be further discussed at the next meeting.

## **13. AOCB**

Angus reported that he had attended the A96 Dualling meeting in Forres and circulated information materials to the meeting.

Alastair reminded the meeting that the Moray Council Online survey was still open for submissions and members should make every effort to complete one.

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 2100hrs

**The next meeting of Lennox Community Council will be on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 1900hrs in Port Gordon.**