

**Lossiemouth Community Council
Minutes of Meeting**

Date: 20 July, 2020

Time: 19:00

Location: Zoom/Virtual Meeting

Chair: Mike Mulholland

Attendees: Mike Mulholland, Carolle Ralph, Gina McNicoll, Maureen Garden, Tim Stanning, Louise McBride, Kristi Corbett, Fiona Burse

Apologies: Marian Evans, James Allan, Stuart Garden, John Cowe, Ryan Edwards

Agenda:

Police Update: The Police are unable to attend Zoom meeting so there was not a representative.

RAF Update: No formal update but the new P-8 facility was turned over to the MOD and things are on schedule for the P-8's to relocate to RAF Lossiemouth from RAF Kinloss.

Matters Arising:

Station Park Toilets and Utilities:

Water Bill: Gina has sorted out the water bill and it will be £16.66 per calendar month, a direct debit has been set-up for the payment.

Electricity: It was discovered that two of the Seafest fridges had been left running and that is why we have had such a high electricity bill. The bill has been £33 over three months, we will need to monitor it over the next few months to see what the difference is in the bill. Fiona will bring this up to the Seafest committee. The electricity bill will be £130 over three months, this will be standing charges and VAT.

We will keep the Station Park lease until the spring and then decide how to proceed next year.

Traffic Situation:

Miele's and the butcher's are very unhappy about the traffic cones that Moray Council has placed in front of their businesses. The cones from Miele's have all been moved to be in front of Rizza's, the cones were also affecting the residents who live in the flats on the shore front. The Co-Op delivery vans have also been parking in front of the butchers because they cannot park in front of the Co-Op with the current restrictions.

The area in front of the Re:Store is quite dangerous with the restrictions in place as the road is quite narrow there and we have lorries and buses that both use the street frequently.

As there is a precedent from Forres for having the cones and parking restrictions removed Carolle will speak to Moray Council about having them removed from Lossiemouth.

Gardening:

The Rotary Club has adopted one of the James Square flower beds and have offered to paint the anchor, Carolle will let them know that we would like them to paint it.

Mike is to meet with Jack Thompson once they are able to, to discuss the irrigation system in James Square and have it assessed.

Carolle will speak with Kate and Amanda to make sure we have enough afternoon tea vouchers to give the small group of volunteers that have been leading the gardening team for James

Square through the lockdown and social distancing. They have continued with the weeding and maintenance of the planting beds around town.

Criminal Justice was going to clean up the benches prior to the lockdown, we will need to verify if they are still planning on doing it once the restrictions lift.

Litter Picks:

Carolle has all of the equipment for the litter picks for any groups that want to do them. We will ask Peter White to do a litter pick around the Hythe Hill Primary School area.

We will ask on the CC Facebook page if there are any community groups like the scouts or guides who would be interested in doing a litter pick around the town.

Carolle will contact the Council to find out the pickup schedule for the bins on the Esplanade.

COVID Community Effort:

The funding and management of it has transitioned to the Lossie 2-3 Group. They will continue to work with the Lossiemouth Community Development Trust on managing the funding.

A new list of 60 vulnerable people was discovered on 20 July, the list is mainly comprised of people with dementia. Carolle and Louise will make effort to contact them to find out what aid is needed and if social work needs to be involved. The team at the church will look over the list and decide what aid that they can provide for them.

There are still quite a few people who due to anxiety and other health issues need assistance with shopping and other errands so we are still quite busy on that front. We have many residents who are struggling to cope now because of the lockdown and shielding, many have lost their sense of empowerment and are very unsure of how to manage now.

Volunteers:

We will be using vouchers from Amanda at Café 8 as a thank you for those who have helped the most.

We will look into possibilities for a community thank you, maybe a plaque or a monument in James Square.

School Crossings:

We currently have £2,800 in the bank towards the crossings with promises of a further £4,000 from local businesses. Carolle will follow up with Tarmac, Tullochs and Moray Council to see what we need to move forward with the project.

New High School:

The current rumors we are hearing is that the school won't open until Easter and possibly won't open for students until the 2021/2022 school year. We don't have any firm information though at this time.

Community Space:

We are currently using the Baptist Church and will be there for the foreseeable future, the arrangement suits both them and our community relief group.

We will check with the medical practice and the charity shop to see if they will be available for the community pantry in the event that the church is no longer available. There is also the possibility of using space in the Recycling Centre, we would need to speak to Moray Council about that.

Seagulls:

We need clear guidance on what the council's policy and responsibility is towards the community where seagulls are concerned. We have many residents who are being attacked by them and the mess in some area's is quite bad. There is also the issue of homeowners/residents allowing seagulls to nest on their property which can cause issues for their neighbors.

Correspondence:

Carolle has been in regular contact with the police throughout the lockdown period to discuss local issues that need their attention.

She has requested guidance from them on how we and the public should handle it when we see people wading across the river as this is a police matter.

We have been asked to submit an article for the Lossie Local, we'll write an update for what we have been doing in the community and provide emergency contacts for those needing support.

Treasurers Report:

Toilet Fund	£2,400
School Crossing Fund	£2,800
Private Donations from Community for COVID	£3,000
From Rotary for after COVID celebration	£250
From Moray Council for Vouchers	£1000
Miscellaneous	£3272
Total	£12,722

The check for the data protection has not cleared the account yet, Tim has spoken to them and they have a backlog but have noted that we have paid.

Community Councilor Updates:

Gina: The bridge process is moving forward and plans are being taken to the Scottish government and the tender should be awarded within the next few weeks.

Chairman's Updates:

Mike attended a virtual meeting with Jeremy Quinn MP, the Minister for Defence Procurement and other community leaders to discuss the MOD contractor's travelling issue.

Mike led into the discussion by sharing views from members of the local communities on the issue and the disrespect that they felt was shown to the communities by having contractors travelling to and from the area frequently during the lockdown period, and that they were not always following the social distancing guidelines.

Westminster did not have a response to this.

Mike has been asked to speak to the national press on the issue but he does not want to as he does not think that it would be in the best interest of Lossiemouth to do so. At this time he feels that there is nothing further to be done and he's not going to pursue it further. He does still want to challenge Moray Council on how they handled the situation when there were requests to Health and Safety to inspect the local premises where the contractors were staying to verify that they were following the proper procedures and as far as the group of local leaders from Hopeman, Lossie, Elgin and the

surrounding areas are aware no inspections were carried out.

Douglas Ross MP has spoken to Volker Fitzpatrick to find out more about the type of testing that they have been carrying out, there was no update on this at the time of the CC meeting.

10- Planning Issues:

There is a planning application for the old bank to be turned into a Fish and Chips shop.

The Windyridge application was approved with amended plans showing a path to allow access from the road to the old railway line.

11- Date and Time of Next Meeting: 17 August 2020, it will either be a Zoom meeting or at the Lossie Baptist Church depending on current guidelines.