

Lossiemouth Community Council Minutes of Meeting

Date: 16 November 2020

Time: 19:00

Location: Zoom

Chair: Carolle Ralph

Attendees: Fiona Birse, Maureen Garden, Marian Evans, Ryan Edwards CLLR, Carolle Ralph, Peter White, Gina McNicoll, Kristi Corbett, Tim Stanning, John Cowe CLLR, James Allan CLLR

Apologies: Louise McBride, Stuart Garden

Agenda:

1- Police Update:

No update

RAF Update: No rep present but update sent via email.

- Typhoon night flying will continue for a few more weeks but as the nights are growing darker earlier, most of this will be early evening rather than late.
- 4th Poseidon (“The Spirit of Reykjavik”) arrived in early Nov and the fleet of 4 are operationally active.
- £1M funding has been secured to sustain the childcare capacity at the RAF Lossiemouth Childcare Centre whilst COVID restrictions continue and to create space to expand numbers afterwards;
 - At present, all Wrap Around Childcare (WAC – breakfast/after school club and holidays) is being delivered outside but this is clearly not ideal for Moray winters and a more permanent solution required.
 - In the short term, 2 x “Ben’s Bothy”, wooden summer house type large sheds have been funded by RAF Benevolent Fund to provide shelter and warmth on the playing areas so expect to see those erected in the next few weeks.
 - Once the extension is complete, it will create 64 additional places which will help Moray Council massively achieve the 1,120 funded hours expansion programme in the region.
- Formal opening of the Poseidon Strategic Facility was due to take place in November but COVID meant we have had to adjust plans;
 - The formal opening will now take place in Spring 21 when CXX Sqn have their stand up parade.
 - Over the next week or so, there will be some short social media videos giving virtual tours of both the P8 and the building – you can’t come to us, but we can come to you via Facebook!
 - We will be asking children across Moray to record short video messages with any questions they might have about the aircraft or the building and send to lossiemco@gmail.com

3- Minutes of October Meeting

We will move a discussion about ways to commemorate Mike to our January meeting.

John Cowe has spoken with Lily Mulholland and she suggested having a street named after Mike, John has spoken to Moray Council and Tulloch’s about this and per the council it is up to the developer and John Tulloch likes the idea and will look at the possibility of naming a street after Mike in phase 2 of the Inchbroom development. John Cowe will pursue this.

4- Matters Arising:

Remembrance Rocks: The community really joined in on the project and it was very well received. Carole will speak to Eddie Souther about having them permanently placed somewhere near the war memorial or station park. For now we will have Craig gather the rocks and we will store them in the Station Park toilets.

School Crossings: The neighbours of St Geradines are happy with the school crossing as are the parents.

Tarmac donated £5000 instead of £3000 and have told us to keep the funds to use towards another community project. We will discuss projects in the new year.

Per John Cowe there will be a crossing at the new high school and community centre, the location has not been determined yet.

Christmas Appeal: It is up and running with many donations coming in. Plans will be announced as things progress.

Citizen of the Year: Maureen will follow-up with the trophy shop about the plaques.

Polling Places: James has raised a point about the lack of parking at the new community centre which can make it unsuitable as a polling place, the community council agrees with this. That part of town has a low voter turnout usually and we do not want to make it more difficult for them.

James has spoken with Allison from the electorate office about the issue and she will look into it.

We have questioned the lack of parking in the past and were told that they had originally planned for additional parking but they did not have the funds for it as the school costs were more than expected.

Community Council Review: They are still looking into changing the boundaries and having some of the smaller councils merged into larger ones.

Bridge Update: The project has been reclassified from being regeneration project to a tourism project. Moray Council are running the project and have suggested that the Lossiemouth Steering Committee bring on a consultant to look at the over all picture and assist with the business plan.

The Scottish Government will only pay for the bridge, not for any additional work that may be needed, they will not pay for any work on the esplanade etc if that is the location chosen.

The fact that the LCDT and the rest of the steering committee have to develop a business plan was a surprise as previously they had only been told that an economic impact survey was needed. Fiona is looking for additional funding to cover the cost of the consultant which will cost between £5000 & £15000. Moray Council will provide a list of preferred consultants and the business plan needs to be done by January.

Beaver Bridges has finished their surveys and studies and are just waiting for the results

Gardens:

The Rotary has planted bulbs at James Square and the Esplanade

We've had two big tubs of bulbs donated, Linda Crowther will plant some of them in the bed she tends on Queen Street.

Little Learners Nursery has adopted on of the beds at Station Park

It's been proposed that we do not plant in the top two tiers of the planters as they are difficult to reach.

We will just have them filled with stones.

We have also had a request for the lights to be turned on at James Square, Carole will get the key to the electric from Lily.

Microsoft Teams: We will be switching in the new year from Zoom to Microsoft Teams.

5- Correspondence:

The Community Council has received a number of complaints about the lights at the crash gate dazzling drivers and that the lights on the new hangar and runway are too bright and are disturbing residents at night. Kristi will contact Sarah Riley-Evans about these complaints.

We received a message about the bin between the Co-Op and High School overflowing and that when it is emptied the kids/members of the community will use it. Kristi will email Moray Council about this.

Carolle has attended the Moray Poverty Zoom meetings and there are different strategies being discussed.

6- Community Councilors Issues:

Maureen has had reports that the woods are getting bad again, there are signs of drug use as well as drinking, there is a lot of litter again. Carolle will bring this up to the police again.

Gina brought up that parking along the playing fields is really bad on days when there is football on, last Sunday there were so many cars parked that the road was blocked.

Carolle will speak to the football group about this, James said part of the issue right now is that parents are not allowed onto the fields because of COVID measures so they are parking along and standing along the fence to watch their kids play.

7- Councillor's Reports:

John Cowe, the Brae Lossie house will be listed with a local estate agency and there is already significant interest in the property.

8- Treasurers Report: The 2019 accounts have been finalised and Tim is having them audited. We have £16,104 in the bank

9- Chairman's Updates: Carolle is still waiting to speak with Sandra about the defibrillator and the one at Guidi's has not been replaced, they may be waiting on a new case.

10- Planning Issues: We have received pre-planning plans and information for a the airfield development, the only concern we have is that the road will need to be updated. Carolle will respond to the team and let the know that we are interested in joining for their community consultation meetings. q

11- Date and Time of Next Meeting: 18 January 2021, 19:00