

**Lossiemouth Community Council  
Minutes of Meeting**

**Date: 16 May 2022**

**Time: 19:00**

**Location: Lossiemouth Youth Cafe**

**Chair: Lily Mulholland**

**Attendees: Rab Forbes, John Cowe, Harry Halkett, Joan Cowe, Kirsty Middleton, Marian Evans, Peter White, Debra Duke, James Allan, Gina McNicoll, Kristi Corbett, Neil Cameron**

Apologies: Carolle Ralph, Louise McBride

**Agenda:**

**1- Police Update: See CSP Report that was emailed on 10 May 2022**

**2- RAF Update:**

RAF Lossiemouth Update (Operational Activity, Growth, People)

They are still looking for a rep, so if you know of anyone from the local community who works at LOS that would be interested in the role, please have them contact Sarah Riley-Evans. The following is an update from Sarah Riley-Evans.

**Operational Activity:**

As events continue to unfold in Ukraine, RAF Lossiemouth is tasked with delivering the UK's contribution to the wider NATO response.

We are operating 24/7 providing Typhoon aircraft who are conducting Enhanced Vigilance Activities over Eastern Europe.

Part intelligence gathering, part reassurance to our NATO allies and part a physical presence in the air defending sovereign airspace.

Our P8s are also contributing to intelligence gathering and tracking maritime activities in the region and across our area of responsibility.

Working 27/7 on such an operational tasking puts incredible strain on the Squadron holding the duty and all Station support functions; combined with our regular cycle of operational and training deployments and daily responsibility for securing the skies and protecting the seas of the United Kingdom, we are collectively running hot.

This will impact upon our ability to support wider/ad hoc local activities and our people, normally the first to volunteer and get involved in their communities, may be less able to participate.

**Growth:**

We enter the next phase of the Lossie Development Programme, and it is visible to all that we continue to be a large very busy building site!

Current big projects include creating nearly 400 new rooms on camp (all ranks), Typhoon training facility, new hanger for IX(B) Squadron, new Fire and Rescue Station and a new air traffic control.

The drainage work which has resulted in some disruption to the Hopeman to Lossie Road and the Golf Course is coming to an end this summer.

Enabling works for some of our E7 Wedgetail buildings will also be getting started later in the year.

**People:**

Team Lossie is heavily involved in the main UK Jubilee celebrations providing aircraft and people for the fly past in London.

Locally, we are producing the Lossiemouth Jubilee Beacon which will be lit on East Beach on Thursday 2nd June; Thank you to Lossiemouth Community Council and LCDT for their partnership for this event.

We will also be supporting the Lord Lieutenants Parade through Elgin on Sunday as part of the Rotary event in

Cooper Park.

### **3- Minutes of March Meeting**

Gina proposed we accept them, and Kirsty seconded

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

**Welcome to new councillors and to Rab who is representing the LCDT, Debra Duke from Moray Council and Joan Cowe from the Lord Lieutenant's office.**

**Carpark Swimming Pool-** We are still waiting to find out about funding from the Scottish Government, we had been told no a few months ago but due to Covid delays there now may be funding available. Coulardbank Road is quite treacherous on Saturday mornings when the football is on, Moray council does not believe that there is an issue, but the community does, additional parking at the Community Centre would help with this.

**Red Park Project-** We have been told by planning that it will be at least a year before they can look at any plans for an update to the playground equipment.

We have started the community consult; the residents are happy to have more trees but do not want shrubs as they are used to hide things.

Overall, the residents are negative about an update to the play area.

Moray Council will be putting in additional parking as the area needs it.

**Inchbroom Road Traffic Calming:** At this time, we do not have an update on when the measures will be put into place.

### **Bridge update:**

Official opening will be May 31, 2022. Bridge will be opened by Ivan McKee the Minister for Business, Trade, Tourism and Enterprise. The bridge should be open to the public by noon.

The steering group has asked for a soft opening and Moray Council has gone back and forth; we are hoping for May 28<sup>th</sup>.

The bridge is complete, and the grass is going down on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May.

There will not be any money for additional work to the Esplanade at this time.

The steering committee asked for a proper pedestrian crossing across Clifton Road but was told that there was not room for one.

The Gregory Place carpark will be redone, possibly tarmacked.

**Surfable Scotland plans:** Both the LCC and LCDT support the project, but both feel that Station Park would be a better location than Gregory Place due to the loss of public parking at Gregory Place and the distance from the new bridge. They will most likely move forward with Gregory Place as they have their funding in place.

### **Jubilee Celebrations:**

Bring your own picnic event June 5 with entertainment from local groups.

The Community bunting will be hung beforehand, the bunting was made by the Health and Wellbeing art group.

The Ladies Guild from the Scottish Free Church will have a table with tea and coffee for the public.

The Town Hall will be available if there is rain.

James has said that we can use the chairs in the store.

The Elgin Rotary will be helping with the Beacon Lighting.

The Lighthouse committee is looking to light the lighthouse as well.

James Allan is hosting a an over 70's Jubilee lunch on June 4<sup>th</sup> at the Football Social Club.

The churches will be participating in a Ring out Moray bell ringing event on June 3 at 12:30

### **Clean up campaign:**

From Marian

There has been an excellent response to the campaign with individuals, families, youth groups (Boys Brigade,

Brownies, Guides) and Lossiemouth High School actively participating.

Only halfway through the month and already our streets, car parks and residential areas are benefiting from participants endeavors. Indeed, one group that has made a noticeable impact is the Boys Brigade who did a 3-hour litter pick cleaning the grounds at Hythehill School and all the way down to the Coularbank Road then all the alley ways and lanes around CO-OP and the CO-OP grounds making a difference to the area, Boyd Anderson Drive near the CO-OP, and along the lane between MacDonald Drive and the School. The BB filled 15 bags of rubbish.

Given the success of the month's clean-up campaign to date, it's been proposed to cancel the clean up on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and reschedule it for 3 July to focus on the East Beach.

Lily has asked if Moray Council will empty child friendly bins if we buy them, we have asked the councillors to look into this.

From John Cowe, there are currently twenty-seven bins between the caravan park and Station Park, they are sea-gull proof.

**Disabled parking bays Station Park:** There are currently no disabled parking at Station Park, when Lily asked lands and parks if we could have some of the green space removed for parking, she was told no.

**Electric Charge Points in Station Park:** We need more but they are quite costly, there are sixty new charging points being installed in Moray, but we do not know where yet.

There was a complaint to the Councillors about MC employees parking at the points in Station Park during evening hours, CLLR Allan responded that he has spoken to the council about this, and the situation should be resolved.

#### **JCC feedback:**

**Toilets:** The cleaner is now cleaning them every morning, they are open 9:00-19:30 and are checked at lunch time every day.

The new Community Toilets sign has been installed.

£340 has been donated from mid-April to now.

The water bill is quite high because of the flushing cycle, this can be slowed according to Harry. We will need a plumber to look at it for us.

There is no word on when the West Beach toilets will re-open with the café.

**High School Crossing:** They are waiting on funding from Sustrans as it will be part of a cycle track. We do need to investigate the options for a crossing at the Queen Street Co-Op.

**Venue for forthcoming meetings:** We will try the Community Centre and Action Marine Park and decide between them and the Youth Café for future meetings.

#### **5- Community Groups Updates:**

**LCDT:** They have completed and published their new five-year plan.

From their previous Five-Year Plan:

Skate Park- will possibly be finished by December.

Bridge – The new bridge will be open on 31 May.

Seafest – Is going strong and will be held again this year.

Cycle Track- See separate update below.

New Five-Year Plan:

#### **Men's Shed**

**Allotments** – the LCC discussed a Moray Council plan at our 20 May 2019 meeting, Moray Council had a press release about community growing spaces on 7 Aug 2019. The contact for this program was Sharon Dunbar.

Hopefully Moray Council will be able to help the LCDT take this forward for Lossie.

<https://newsroom.moray.gov.uk/news/community-food-growing-sites-identified-in-moray>

**Station Park** – The LCDT has a note of interest in on it and have been told that they can have it as soon as they want it. The CAT will take time, but they can start a project before it goes through.

The full Five-Year Plan is available here: <https://lossietrust.org/literature/>

Debra Duke stated that Rhona McNicol has been working with Moray Council departments to see if any of them are currently working on or have plans for any of the items on the five-year plan. She has been working with Fiona Birse on this.

**The Laich of Moray Active Travel Routes (Cycle Track):** We need a new rep to the committee.

It was suggested that LCC push for Moray Council to run the cycle track program, at taking issues like this to Moray Council is part of our role, we have not had a request to do so at this time. If we do receive an official request, it is something that we can do for the committee.

The Golf Club was not happy with the article in the Lossie Local and we were asked to publish a statement on our Facebook page on their behalf, as we are supporting the project, we felt that this would be a conflict of interest.

At this time the project cannot move forward without them.

#### **6- Community Councilors Issues:**

Peter asked if posters to support domestic abuse victims could be hung in the community toilets, we have said no as they are already in many public places around Lossie, and this request came from an individual and not an organisation.

From Gina, the high school wants to start a heritage trail, Ms. Shearer is heading the project, but they have no funding. This is something that the LCC is interested in hearing more about and Gina will speak to Ms. Shearer about the project.

#### **Marian:**

##### **Campervans**

Over the past couple of months LCC has been liaising with Moray Council (poc Will Burnish) to update campervan signs for the car parks. On 12 May, Will circulated examples of the finalised signs to our elected Councillors, as there were no dissenting emails the signs will be erected soonest.

A donations box has been placed outside the cafe on West Beach.

##### **1. Meeting with Sports Centre Manager**

On 25 April Carolle and I met with the Sports Centre manager. Adequate accommodation for the provision of activities is a challenge. There is no dedicated space for indoor cycling and, consequently, the bikes and classes are integrated into the exercise and weights bay with the number of customers limited to 5 (in the old sports centre there were 10 bikes and classes had waiting lists). The new all-weather sports pitch would be available for use within weeks, for the users the changing rooms are inside the Sports Centre along the corridor from Reception (within the school) and car parking is at the school car park with no dedicated parking close to the pitch for those bringing kit and training equipment.

The situation is not expected to ease. School numbers are predicted to increase over the coming two years with the exam period heightening the demand for accommodation.

- The Sports Centre Manager liaises with the school management team, and regular meetings are expected now that Covid restrictions have eased.

- The Sports Centre Manager would look at options for re-organising the exercise/weights bay in attempt to accommodate one or two additional indoor cycling bikes. Should this be successful, the LCC would seek grant-funding for the required bike(s).
  - IDC refurbishment of the sports ground pavilion should be pursued.
  - LCC to seek an update on the erection of pedestrian lights at the new crossing on Coularbank Road.
2. Rainbow Park. Following a request from the LCC, REACH (Boeing community support group) will refurbish Rainbow Park and are aiming to do the work over the weekend of the 28th/29th May They have been given approval for the purchase any paint/weedkiller/other materials that we may need. They have been asked to give the area a repaint,
  3. Lossiemouth High School At today's midday assembly (Monday 16 May), I gave a short introductory brief to S1 and S2 about the LCC and gave the safety brief ahead of the school's litter picking efforts. Ref the LCC, the School is keen to establish links between the School's Pupil Forum and ourselves. FYI, I suggested that an open exploratory discussion between the Pupil Forum and the LCC could be a good way to start.
  4. Thursday 2 June – Beacon (RAF Lossiemouth lead). WO C Younger, RAF Lossiemouth, is the project officer for the 'QPJ Beacon lighting'. The event will take place on East Beach, all Service personnel, some local dignitaries and the LCC will be invited to the event, the timings are TBC, but the schedule will include:

Piper and bugler  
Lighting the beacon  
Lossiemouth military wives' choir

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

John Cowe: John stated that the golf course has the funds and space to put in a private carpark and wonders why we are accommodating them with the use of the West Beach Carpark when they will not help us with the LoMATR. The golf course is being very selfish in not allowing the cycle track.

Neil Cameron: The cycle track committee has decided to be more assertive towards the possibility of compulsory purchase, if Moray Council steps in to run the project this would be much easier. They will be holding an open day soon for the project. Neil will be stepping down as a trustee for the cycle track due to a conflict of interest.

James Allan: The Phase 3 handover of the high school is done; the project is complete now.

The roof has been sorted so that it will no longer rattle loudly in the wind.

A seagull deterrent sound system has been installed at the new pitch.

Additional CCTV cameras have been installed at the school and there has been less vandalism.

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

Admin. 177.57  
Toilets. 2350.20  
LCC Projects 4620.32  
Gardens. 5317.94  
School crossings. 7811.09  
Tullochs. 4000  
Food Larder. 381.22  
Pensioners. 1227.67

Total as of May 11th. 25886.01

Data privacy has been paid for and we will cancel Zoom for the summer.

**9- Correspondence:** The LBA has arranged for a meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> at the Golf Club with the RAF to give in

detail what they are doing, it will start at 19:00

**10- Chairman's Updates: None**

**11- Planning Issues: None**

**12- Date and Time of Next Meeting: 20 June 2022, location TBD.**