

LENNOX COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

31 May 2023

Attending: Paul McPherson (Chairman), Pringle George (Secretary/Treasurer), Roger Austin, Donald Cameron, Jenni Cameron, Ben Williams, Marc McRae, Michelle Goode, Chris Overing, Ana Mary Overing

Apologies: Peter Horton Moira Morrison,

Paul welcomed everyone. **Noting a few Counsellors will be attending later**

Pringle has sent out the Police Reports to everyone.

Paul had no guest presentation.

Minutes of Last Minutes Meeting: The May minutes could not be ratified as there wasn't a quorum. This will be carried on to next month.

Matters Arising: No matters arising.

Correspondence: Paul Leanna and Pringle attended the Coronation Service in St Laurence Church in Forres. She said it was a lovely service.

University of Aberdeen: The young man has got back in touch and is ready to complete the survey. A date will have to be agreed to complete this.

Paul has sent Peter Hortons details to Debra Duke.

Treasurers Report: Pringle has sent a copy to everyone as well as a copy of the Cash Book. **Balance at todays date is £610.20**

Ringfenced

Honorarium	£150.00
Treasurer/Secretary/Chairs Expenses	8.56
Remembrance Service Wreaths/Hospitality	120.00
Dallachy Maintenance	200.00
Subs Laptop	54.99
Data Protection Subscription	40.00
Audit Fee	25.00
Unallocated Funds	11.56

Next Administration Fee due in October 2023

Moray Counsellors Update: Ben commented that he could not speak for Marc and Shona but the committees he sits on have been very busy. There is a budget of £1500 for each ward for community projects and if anyone has any suggestions as to where this money should be spent, please get in touch with Marc Shona or Ben. Marc said he had little to add. Everyone was trying to get work done before the summer recess. The Moray Council was moving on regarding renewables (Hydrogen Fair) as well as a Jobs event. Roger

brought up the subject of the Milnes Area Forum which was being relaunched the following evening. He asked about its history and its purpose. Ben explained that its being held in the Urquhart Parish Hall with the goal of discussing ways to improve the local area using ideas from various Community groups. Marc put forward the positives and negatives of the Forum. Donald gave a short history of Milnes Forum before Covid. It was felt that the present Moray Council and Community Councils adequately covered all activities etc and there was little need for another group. It was also felt it would be a better idea if the existing groups supported their Community Councils. It was suggested that if the Community Councils played their part and did the jobs they were there to do, there was little need for another group to duplicate the work. Donald gave a history of the group duplicating the area's work. Ben suggested that the Moray Councillors could promote the Community Council to the Milnes Area Forum, looking for new members.

Planning: Roger had nothing to put forward. Michelle brought up the subject regarding the Portgordon Village Hall who need planning permission for air to air heat pumps. Michelle requested the Community Council to apply on their behalf as fees would be cut by 50%. Our treasurer said we have done this in the past and were only too pleased to assist. If the Community Council applied for the planning permission the planning fees would be cut by 50%.

Events: Paul will represent LCC at the AGM of Portgordon Hall on 8 June 2023. Pringle and Roger will be attending the SSEN Beatrice Grant board meeting.

Remembrance Service at Dallachy: Chris painted the two half barrels that were donated by the Cooperage and has got the bricks to place under them and Anna Mary has seeds to be planted. Moira has spoken to the contractor working on Grants new storage facilities, David Smith, and he will be pleased to donate the soil Moira had approached for the soil. Bert and Chris Scott of Crest windows will be donating a new PVC oak covering for the display board and hope to get this in place for 1st July. With the hot weather a Watering of Plants rota to be set up. Paul said the remaining work will be next we suggested that we paint the fence this summer. Money is available in the budget. Application for cost to regild 5 placques will be discussed at the SSEN Beatrice Field board meeting on 8 June 2023. Chris Hunter of Moray Council is approaching the Parks Department to cut grass the week commencing 1 July. Ben has promised to follow this up.

Canada Day Memorial Service 1 July 2023 at 11.00am Mrs Mary Duncan, Honorary Canadian Consul for Scotland will be attending with her husband and her friend Jennifer Walker (Walkers Shortbread) along with some Canadian ladies, Peter Bloomfield RAFA, Ben Williams and Zara Gordon-Lennox. Chris Overing will lay wreaths. Naomi Ward of Fochabers Cubs and Scout will provide a presence. Other guests include Richard Lochhead MSP, Mrs Claire Tombe and Mr And Mrs Bert Scott. Mrs Mary Duncan is sending up some Canadian bunting. The service will be organized by SWO Joe Mulholland. Before leaving Rob Brydon is contacting Flt Lt Cooper to see if she is available to lay the wreath from RAF Lossiemouth. After the Service people will attend Spey Bay Hal where the ladies will provide refreshments. Numbers will be provided nearer the time.

Area Updates

Portgordon: Grissons are 50-75% there but have been hampered by the weather. The Hub is progressing well. Next site meeting (Harbourworks) will be held on 8 June.

The Village Hall is having some upgrading (painting lighting and electrics) being done now. Fire alarm is being upgraded to meet present needs.

Outstanding - the heating has still to be carried out and will seek out funding for this. The AGM is to be held on 8 June.

Defibrillator – The old one must be serviced and needs new pads. There is a temporary one in its place. A given to the Village Hall for new pads. Michelle to seek funding for this and it was discussed. Paul thought notifications should be in place to let everyone know the where the defibrillators are in the village.

Vattenfall – Plans are updated from local meetings held last year. They intend having 2 days of open meetings locally in late August.

Road Safety - Children riding electric scooters dangerously have been reported. Please look out for them.

Clochan: No representative so no update

Fochabers: Donald had two sets of keys for the Fochabers noticeboard. One set now with Roger Austin who can deputise if Donald cannot manage.

A month ago he received a phone call from Moray Council regarding East Street issue. No one has appeared. Can Marc look into it.

A friend of Donalds had attended a meeting in the Lhanbryde. Bellie Cemetery and was disappointed to find that the bin was overflowing and the grass hadn't been cut. She thought that the churchyard needed tidying up. Marc will contact the Parks Dept to see if they can make some improvements. It was suggested that the Heritage be contacted but this was not in their remit. Various suggestions were looked at and Marc will contact Parks and Grounds to see if some improvements can be made at the same time as grass being cut at our memorial. It was suggested that Fochabers Heritage be contacted. Chris said that the Heritage Group were looking at this, but now not in their remit. The Bellie Cemetery new section looks well but the old part really needs looking at. Pringle has already spoken to James Hunter re the War Graves to see if it could be improved by 1 July.

The new section looks well but the older part really needs looking at. Pringle and Moira to contact Jim Kilpatrick to see if Friends of Bellie can be restarted as since Covid the Friends of Bellie have folded. Chris queried the maintenance of the graveyard but said you would need volunteers to carry this out.

Spey Bay: No representative so no update

Joint Community Council: Paul and Pringle attended a meeting in the Lhanbryde Hall. Minutes have not been released yet. They covered resilience and other topics. Pringle mentioned the problems in Lossiemouth and Elgin with vandalism. Portgordon has improved.

Local Development Plans: No plans

Date of Next Meeting: 28 June 700pm. Invitations by Zoom. Minutes for April and May will hopefully be ratified then.

Update: Lennox Community Council was to receive £900 to give out as a microgrant for the area. At the SSEN Beatrice meeting it was decided that Lennox, Keith, Buckie and Strathisla are to be given £2500 each as a microgrant. The application for Dallachy War Strike Memorial was discussed regarding the 5 plaques. Pringle and Roger had to leave the meeting at this point as they had an interest. No detail is known at present.