

**Lossiemouth Community Council
Minutes of Meeting 19 May 2025**

Date: Monday 19 May 2025

Time: 19:00

Location: lossie community hub

Chair: Carolle Ralph

Attendees: Carolle Ralph, Lily Mulholland, Alison Read, Gina McNicoll Peter White, Marian Evans, James Allan John Cowe, Maureen Halkett, Dave Walker

Apologies: Kristi Lunt Neil Cameron, Bridget Mustard Louise McBride Kirsty Middleton, Neil Cameron, Joan Cowe, Andrea Dowds, PC Sammi Jacques bridget Mustard

Agenda:

1- Police Update:

No police representatives present.

Issues raised, parking round the junctions continue to be a concern for members of the public. The new double yellow lines outside the wee Coop are there to accommodate the crossing which is going in soon.

Query raised about horses on the active travel route. Agreed to ask the police for guidance.

RAF Update:

No update other than to say this year there are no friends and families tickets available.

Minutes of April Meeting and matters arising

Bins

We still have no extra bins on Station Park despite requests. Carolle contacted Donna the community warden too. John will raise this with MC. LCC have offered to pay for an extra bin if finance is the issue.

Coastal erosion update

The first sand dune on the East beach now has 1000 marram grass plants in situ, thanks to all the children from Lossie 2 to 3 after school group, St Gerardine's primary and Hytheill Primary and our volunteers. We hope that the spell of very dry weather does not hamper their growth. Will Burnish from MC came down last week and is pleased with progress on the dune restoration work. Funding is in place for the next stage thanks to Will.

Louise and Carolle were unable to attend the **Library User group** meeting as the time was changed at short notice and we were not advised.

VE Day the events went very well starting with our morning ceremony at the Station Park.

Thank you to Lily for making the poppy wreath, ex serving RAF member Clive Mitchell for his beautiful words, Richard Anderson for his very fine piping, Gerry for raising the flag and Marian for hosting. Particular thanks to member of the public, 90 years young Bill Smith for laying the wreath. This was then followed by a very special soup and sweet and thanks to all involved especially Maureen and her group for the splendid war time entertainment.

The day finished by the beacon lighting on the east beach which was also well attended, we had the honour of lighting the beacon alongside RAF Lossie.

Banking Hub now open Monday to Friday in the town hall from 9am to 5pm. Thank you to all involved in getting this especially the town hall committee for making space for it. It has already shown itself to be very beneficial to businesses and the public.

Veolia site visit Lily and Gina to go

M Connect bus Carolle wrote to them to ask if they could include other parts of Lossie instead of going from the medical centre to the square and back. No response as yet.

2 Flower Show agreed we contribute a donation of £50 for the cup we sponsor each year.

3 Lossie United Football Club

Congratulations to the team and management of the club which has been promoted to the next league after a successful season. We were delighted to be invited to the presentation last week at the playing fields.

On another matter relating to this, we have had several people contact us unable to access the pitch to play. We have referred these individuals to the Moray council and councillors.

4 Esplanade toilets

Concerns raised about the state of the toilets run by the council. Many complaints have been received. Whilst members of the community council have been cleaning them particularly before special events, they are in a disgraceful condition for visitors and locals alike.

John to raise this matter.

5 LCC Toilets, we really need a few more reliable volunteers to assist us in opening, closing and in cleaning. In a stable position financially.

6 Phone booths

Alison said that either LCDT or the Heritage Association would take the phone booths on from BT.

7 Coastal Erosion Event 22 May 2025

All organized for the event on Thursday evening. This Moray Council/LCC joint drop in event from 5.30 to 8pm will feature representation from the Scottish Flood Forum, SEPA, Dynamic Coast and nature Scot.

8 West beach car park

Moray Council do not intend renewing their lease for the west beach car park in January 2027. This is a matter of grave concern to our community.

On 8 May, we had a lengthy meeting with officers from MC and councillors from the economic development committee as well as representatives from various community groups. The revetment which would have been built perhaps in the 50's to help protect the coast from wave action has not been maintained and is disintegrating. The council explained that given the rising levels of the sea, it would need significant financial input to rebuild in order to last for any considerable length of time. It is further predicted that in doing nothing, the car park will continue to flood several times a year particularly likely during spring tides. As this is a relationship between a landlord and tenant the council were unable to go into too much detail about possible outcomes. What is clear is there is no capital funding for flooding locally or nationally. John Cowe suggested that we speak to the landowner as soon as can be

arranged. In the meantime, we need to consider the facts presented to us at that meeting in planning ahead. All the community groups are committed to doing what we can to continue access to this car park and to the west beach.

9 Mural

We are delighted with the finished mural which has exceeded our expectations. It has already attracted lots of interest and our Facebook page which normally gets around 49000 hits per month, is now over a million. The total cost was £2444.72 and we were able to do it so cheaply largely due to the assistance from businesses and members of the community. The wall was funded by the ward members contribution to funds and money donated from Tulloch's the builders. A great example of partnership working led by LCC and joined by Lossie High and Mikeysline. We are hearing that visitors numbers have increased as people come to see it.

10 The Square

Well done the gardening team and Moray Council for all the hard work in digging out the tired old bushes and planting new shrubs, laying bark. We have had several donations for new shrubs which has been appreciated.

Awaiting quote for fixing the leaking tap.

11 Christmas

Gina advised us that the town hall has been booked for Saturday 29 November for the craft fayre and Sunday 30 November for the extravaganza. We need therefore to be organized for the trees etc for the square and the lights.

12 Litter Picks

Marian gave dates, Friday 30 May 8am east beach and 4.30pm at the west beach then Sunday 1 June for the dog poo pick up near the caravan park in partnership with Joanne's coffee cart. Time to be arranged.

The bins at the flats at Hythehill/ St Margaret's Crescent are as bad as ever despite the community warden raising the issue again with Grampian Housing.

Correspondence:

Community engagement

We have given comments to the Moray Council in response to their community engagement email. We ask what resources are available to us, how much time is required and assurances that this is not another tick box exercise.

Carolle and Louise to attend the School learning estate meeting this Wednesday from 5.30 to 9pm. We hope that this will be a valuable meeting and not just another time consuming meeting for volunteers.

The new chief executive Karen Greaves would like to visit all Moray CC's. We have invited her to attend at any time.

Group Updates

LCDT

Alison advised the meeting that the Trust are actively looking for core funding for their posts and office costs.

The growing group is going well and they have obtained funding for a seed library which

enables local people to help themselves to seeds.

The Lossie Local in conjunction with Nicky will start again soon.

They are working with Outfit Moray on the Cairngorm to Coast event on 23 August at Station Park. To check out access to electrics.

AGM on Monday 26 May.

Men's Shed

Dave advised the meeting of the various interesting talks and visits the Shed have enjoyed and that tomorrow will see the event planned with the RAF to commemorate the 80th anniversary to mark the deaths of 8 Church Street residents and 3 RAF crew following the Wellington bomber crash on the 20 May 1945. The community are all welcome.

Mobile Home/Campervan Group

Marian organizing a time for us to meet with Alison to ensure that we are working together on this theme.

Councillors update

James advised the banking hub had been very busy and no confirmation of a post office yet. John congratulated the community council on all their work in bringing the mural to completion and other community projects. He will raise issues of bins and toilets.

JCC

Lily to attend as we are all at the coastal erosion event on Thursday, she will give our thoughts on the upcoming elections. WE have a wealth of information and photos on our fb page to use for this later this year.

10- Treasurer's Update:

Nothing to report other than costs of mural as already discussed.

14- Planning Issues: Nothing this month.

15- Date and Time of Next Meeting: 16 June 2025 at the hub