

**Lossiemouth Community Council
Minutes of Meeting 21 September 2026**

Date: Monday 21 September 2026

Time: 19:00

Location: Lossiemouth Community hub

Chair: Lily Mulholland

Attendees: Lily Mulholland, Gina McNicoll, Marian Evans, Maureen Halkett, Dave Walker, John Cowe, Bridget Mustard, Alison Read, James Allan, Val Pastakia, Chris Pastakia, Pat McNicoll

Additional attendee: Elaine Penny, MC Roads Dept

Apologies: Carolle Ralph, Kristi Corbett, Louise McBride, Andrea Dowds, Donna Jamieson, Neil Cameron

Agenda:

Additional item - Pedestrian Crossing on Queens Street.

Having met with Lily Mulholland and Gina McNicoll in the afternoon, Elaine Penny (MC Roads Dept) briefed the LCC on the options for a crossing in the vicinity of the Coop in James Sq. The crossing was discussed during a townhall open meeting in Lossie April 2024 and the then overwhelming choice of the community was for an island.

Money for a crossing is available and the work needs to be completed by the end of this financial year. There are three options which include either a widened short or longer pavement from the corner with Kinneddar St towards the Coop, or an island positioned to the west of the Coop outside house number 17. All three options would narrow the road to make it safer for pedestrians, with the island being the safest. The bus shelter (opposite the Coop) would not be moved and, furthermore, the Nos 33 (Stagecoach) and 333 (Moray Council) buses would only stop to lift or unload passengers, they would no longer use this stop for time management.

Use the link to view the three options. Scroll down to the section entitled Queen Street Crossing Points where diagrams of the options are accessible.

<https://www.moray.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/traffic-management/consultations/lossiemouth-yellow-lines-disabled-parking-and-active-travel-improvements/>

Decision (Action - LCC All): Elaine asked that the LCC decision be made at the next meeting on 19 October.

1. Police and RAF Update:

Police

No police present and no update.

RAF

New Station Commander in post Group Captain Rob Croft, logistics background, here with his family.

On the operational front the Station remains busy and has had an influx of senior visitors, most recently the Chief of the Air Force Air Chief Marshal Harv Smyth. On 1 October there is an Industry Day and, of note, between 1200 - 1245 a Typhoon and an F35 are doing a demonstration over camp. For the first time the unit is opening up to a small number of spotters (30 in total) to test the concept, if successful this may occur on a more regular basis. Uptake was very popular, within a day over 250 people had applied. Finally, during the second week in October there are two major Exercises so there may be some unusual activity around the camp and an increase in gunfire: Agile OWL will see the Unit depart from Lossiemouth to operate from Kinloss which will be run as if it an austere location; and, in the same week 2622 Sqn and 603 Sqn will be running a Reservist Exercise from Lossiemouth.

2. Matters Arising from August Minutes - none

3. Approval of August Minutes - approved

4. Community Groups.

Mens' Shed. Current membership 41. The Shed has made a wooden cross to display poppies for Remembrance and, currently, is busy completing orders for mud kitchens. The Shed has been approached by Elgin Round Table about making a chest which will hold buckets and spades and be positioned in the vicinity of East Beach/Esplanade. During discussion concerns were raised about the chest's positioning and public liability.

Decision (action - Dave): Mens' Shed Chair to ask Elgin Round Table to liaise with the LCC re the chest before proceeding with this idea.

LCDT.

West Beach. The optimal length for defence and repair, 66m of frontage, was costed at £200k. Moray Council advised that the Coastal Communities Funding application (max £50k) would be more favourable if it could provide a tangible output, rather than as seed funding for a larger project. MKA have adjusted the project scope to £50k +VAT (we're not VAT reg'd, so £60k needed). This represents approx 20m, the

length of the most critically damaged section Alison submitted an application for the £50K, for which the landowner provided a letter stating landowner permission, on Monday 21 September. If approved by Moray Council it will be decided by public vote, with the results announced probably around the beginning of November.

5. Matters Arising.

Arthur's Bridge

Following Carole and Lilly's meeting with Laura Mitchell MSP, the following email dated 21 September was received:

"I did raise the concerns around Arthur's Bridge with the Cabinet Secretary when I met with him last week and he was of course very sympathetic, and his Transport Scotland official was aware of the situation.

As we discussed when we met at my surgery, the Scottish Government faces the same difficult capital budget challenges as local authorities, including Moray Council. I understand that situation may well be about to become even more challenging, as it is expected the UK Government is set to cut capital spend across departments to increase the capital budget for defence investment. This could mean a further reduction in the Scottish Government's capital budget.

The Scottish Fiscal Commission has provisionally forecast the block grant for capital spending in Scotland will be cut by £70m in 2026-27, £87m in 2027-28 and reaching £97m by 2029-30.

Inflation is also continuing to have a big impact on the Scottish Government's capital budget, as the costs of projects it has already committed to have increased significantly, for example the latest stages of dualling the A9.

So, unfortunately in that challenging context, the Scottish Government's position remains the same as that set out in the Cabinet Secretary's previous correspondence.

I remain willing to work with the community to ensure Moray Council does all it can with regards to Arthur's Bridge and will discuss this issue SNP councillors, and Graham Leadbitter MP, at the earliest opportunity. I am aware you're meeting with Graham at his next surgery in Lossiemouth in early October so that will be a good opportunity to look at a potential role for the MOD here."

This important matter is ongoing.

Defibrillators

Given the significant costs facing the LCC associated for a Keiran's Legacy maintenance contract and refurbishment of its 6 units (£150 per unit per year), Gina proposed an alternative solution with Yvonne Murray undertaking the servicing and Dave undertaking the general maintenance (following her work with Keiran's Legacy, Yvonne is a qualified in defibrillator servicing); LCC would provide the liability insurance.

There was an outstanding bill of £260 for the replacement pads for the LCC's 6 units to be paid to Keiran's Legacy.

Finally, Bridget Mustard has spoken with MC Chief Exec and asked that a message be circulated to all Community Councils, through the JCC (Debra Duke), that the service contract issue was a matter for them all to consider.

Decision (Action - Gina). The LCC unanimously agreed that Gina contact Keiran's Legacy to

- Contact Keriran's Legacy to pay for the replacement pads, £260 total, and advise that the LCC will not be signing up to a maintenance contract at a cost of £150 per unit per year.
- Contact Yvonne Murray to formalise the arrangement for her and Dave to service and maintain the LCC's 6 defibs.

November Remembrance. Lily had ordered wreaths for the LCC and 2-3Gp.

Christmas Lights James Square. The task of setting up the lights in the flower beds would be delegated to volunteers. Individuals would be assigned a flower bed each plus the lights with the aim of having the lights in place by a given date.

Decision 1. (Action - Lily). To seek volunteers.

Decision 2. (Action - Gina). LCC agreed that manufactured obelisks would be the best rather than cumbersome trees, and Gina was to provide costings at the October meeting.

Charity Christmas Fair, Saturday 28 November. Rent for the Town Hall for the day was £150 which required 15 tables at a price of £10 each to cover costs. To date 6 positive responses had been received; the target was 20 to 25.

Christmas Extravaganza Sunday 29th November. Plans for this year's event s are progressing. Santa and Mrs Santa had been confirmed and the 2/3Gp would run the

bookings. Lossie United FC would open the cafe to provide refreshments for both Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th. Moray Concert Brass had been confirmed.

Astro Pitch. Currently closed temporarily for cleaning. Users have been offered grass pitches.

MC Toilets (Esplanade). These are in need of refurbishment, they are filthy and smell. It has been noted that the MC appointed cleaner has only a 15 minute window to clean both facilities. John Cowe offered to write to MC including environmental health, asking for a review of the facility and way forward.

Decision (Action - John Cowe). Write to MC including Environmental health drawing their attention to their state and seeking a positive way forward.

Skatepark Danca-thon 27 September. This is a Skatepark initiative being held in Lossiemouth Townhall from 0830 - 8pm Sunday 27 September. Classes cost £5 each or £25 for the entire day. Volunteers are required to help at the entrance door, raffle table and general help.

Decision (Action - All). Promote event and seek volunteers to help on the day.

Indian Night 25th November. This is a fund raising event to raise money for the servicing and maintenance of the Community Toilet. Maxm number on the night will be 45 persons. Ticket price will be announced IDC.

6. Community Councillor's Issues

Cycle Path. Bushes along the Elgin/ Lossie cycle path were trimmed within days of Dave requesting that the work be done.

Litter picks. Litter picks mostly stopped for the autumn/winter. Nevertheless, the volunteers wish to continue making a difference and the aim is to clear the weeds growing along the pavements in our public spaces.

7. Elected Member Updates.

James Allan. Post office to open on 13 October.

John Cowe.

StG Artefacts. According the Lands & Parks, artefacts form St Geraldine's can be relocated to any location where no new internment is planned. Relocation of the Pillar has to be agreed by Historic Scotland. Finally, The Planning Dept advise that planning will be required and a building warrant.

Lossiemouth Cemetery. The cemetery is being extended eastwards towards the sewage works. To date £21k of the total allocation of £87k has been spent.

Seatown Flood Protection. £200k has been allocated in FY 2026/2027, with £75k allocated FY 2027/2028.

Coastal Defence Repair. £75k is the allocated budget.

8. Treasurer's Report.

Calendar sales £400. Not yet in profit

MC small lottery registration fee. £20 paid

At end August , total in bank was £42,657.61. A large percentage of this money is ring fenced for different projects eg toilets, resilience. The LCC general project bucket has £3867.78 from which the Christmas Extravaganza and the Christmas James Square will be funded.

September is the LCC financial end year and the finances will be checked by an external financial person and reviewed at the next LCC meeting in October prior to sending to MC.

9. Planning Issues. Nil

10. AOCB. Letter from the Lossiemouth Flower Show Committee thanking the LCC for its donation. The Committee were delighted with the day as the number of entries were up and the overall stand was very high

Date and Time of Next Meeting: 19 October 7pm at the hub.