

LOREBURN COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Minutes

Meeting: Tuesday 6th June 2023 at 7.00pm

Held at Municipal Chambers, Buccleuch Street, Dumfries

Sederunt: Anne Lindsay (Chair), Simon Jones (Secretary), Robin Wishart (Treasurer), Sandy Rogerson, Graham McLeod, Carole Hastings, Artemis Adams, Susan Garnsworthy, John Dowson, Cllr John Campbell, Cllr Maureen Johnstone, Cllr Keith Waters, Chris Woodness (DGC Ward officer), Karl Drinkwater (Loreburn resident), Ralph Coleman (Loreburn resident), Cath Nesbitt (Kingholm Quay CC), Elaine Ferguson (resident, St Michael's), Sgt Dale McEwan (Police Scotland)

Apologies: none

Part 1 Community Forum

including:

Police report

DM: a 12 year old child set fire to the convent. Other crimes included a significant cannabis bust, knife, knuckleduster, several shoplifting offences.

70 fixed penalty notices were issued in the town centre for parking offences.

DM noted an issue around youths congregating around the Burns Statue. The police are working with Youth Work around this issue.

The police open day was a success attracting 2500 people. JD: this was a great event.

DM: the police priorities are set nationally. Top priorities are domestic abuse, serious road traffic offences and drugs.

A vote of thanks to the Police was passed unanimously.

Questions to Councillors

Parking decriminalisation.

JC: external consultants should be reporting at the end of the month.

RW: proposed use of cameras for road traffic offences.

JC: signage will be upgraded in council car parks

Concerns were expressed that charging for town centre parking has crept into the plans for decriminalisation. Several community councillors expressed firmly that decriminalisation must not get stalled because of the conflation of charging for town centre parking (which is controversial and requires considerable infrastructure, eg parking meters and new signs) with the relatively simple job of getting parking wardens back. The August Communities Committee will consider the report on decriminalisation.

SJ complained that it's taking a while for Council committee proceedings to appear on Youtube. JC explained that it's better to use the Council site directly.

KW observed that the clock at Greyfriars Church is now working.

JC: the Community Safety team will be in town on 22nd June

<https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/26789/Community-Safety-Team-Engagement-Day-2023>

RC raised concerns about the road closures for the UCI world cycling event here. He said that he was aware of carers who would not be able to get to their clients. CW invited anyone affected to contact DGC. cwc@dumgal.gov.uk

Part 2 Main topic

Keeping the town clean.

KD is part of the Nunholm Neighbours Community Group.

Karl does litter picks, deals with fly tipping, wildlife, fires. He recommends we support the reintroduction of coin op supermarket trolleys as currently many get dumped with some ending up in the river. There is a lack of litter bins on Burns Walk.

AL: there are many cigarette butts littered outside betting shops.

KD: D&G Eco beach cleans are doing amazing stuff. <https://www.dgecowarriors.co.uk/>

JD: we organised a clean up working with DGMA but it was stopped because of concerns about public

liability. JC explained that Community Council volunteers are covered by insurance. EF suggested connecting with youth orgs (eg Oasis). SJ suggested considering using Unpaid Work Orders.

JD proposed that LCC organise weekly litter collections. Agreed unanimously.

RC suggested lifting dump restrictions. JC observed that the new zero waste park will replace the Lockerbie Road dump. AA said that James McLeod is the DGC officer responsible and community councillors may wish to write to him.

Part 3 Other Topics:

Grants (SJ): our request for two laptops has been added to the Community Wishlist.

Loreburn Hall clarification and vote on minutes correction

SJ apologised for omitting a decision from the February minutes. It was agreed unanimously that the minutes should be corrected. (Note: done).

Planning

RW expressed concerns about the railway station redevelopment. AL said there's an open day at the Cairndale on 15th June.

RC observed that shutters that breach conservation area rules are going unaddressed.

Common good

CH: Electric Theatre Company misrepresented Loreburn Community Council as supporting their bid. We agreed at the February meeting to support the Drill Hall Initiative bid. CH will attend the Common Good Committee on our behalf.

Ladyfield/Kingholm Quay Community Council update

CN reported meeting with Cllr Malcolm Johnstone and Cllr Ian Carruthers. AA advised us that the key Economics and Resources Committee meeting will be televised at the Robert the Bruce pub. (Now available here: <https://youtu.be/UmKw53wtUIE?t=5284>)

AL mentioned plans for a walkabout.

Treasurer's report

RW we have £3000 in the bank. £2000 is ANBC money. We agreed to discuss what to do with the money

at our next meeting.

Events

SJ attended an Army engagement event on LCC's behalf.

SJ and SG will run a stall at the Youth Beatz festival in cooperation with Mid Steeple Quarter.

Dumfries Fountain official public launch Friday 23 June, 12 noon

<https://thestove.org/event/dumfries-fountain-public-launch-unveiling/>

with a guided walking tour leaving at 10.30 am (ticketed).

<https://thestove.org/event/mostly-ghostlys-lifeblood-stories-of-cholera-calamity-hope/2023-06-23/>

Any other business

EF asked for LCC's support in setting up St Michael's Community Council. General agreement.

CW is the ward officer for St Michael's and Hazel Kerr is DGC's Community and Democratic Services Officer.

SJ explained that a community council in Edinburgh has developed a practice of writing to the local schools and inviting engagement. A student from the secondary schools and a parent from the primary schools to be co-opted onto the community council. It was agreed unanimously that we send invitations.

CW burial ground strategy going out for consultation.

Date and place of next meeting

Tuesday 4th July 2023

Please note there will be no meeting in August.