

LOREBURN COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Minutes

Meeting: Tuesday 2nd April at 7.00pm

Held at Municipal Chambers, Buccleuch Street, Dumfries

Sederunt: Robin Wishart (Chair), Simon Jones (Secretary), Susan Garnsworthy, Graham MacLeod, Keith Walters, Jim Wallace, Carol Hastings, Karl Drinkwater, Artemis Adams, Sandy Rogerson, Malcolm Johnstone, Andrew Pearson, Sgt Dale McEwan (Police Scotland), Lucy Lee, Jan Smith, Jeanette Abendstern, Anne Lindsay

Apologies: Maureen Johnstone, George Cameron, Chris Woodness, David Slater

Part 1 Community Forum

RW: John Dowson has retired from Loreburn Community Council. LCC notes with appreciation the work he did while with us. He has gone to work for the Town Board. LCC expresses support for the Town Board.

Police report DM: 62 parking offences ticketed in the town centre. Delivery cyclist charged with dangerous driving. Incident at Burns Statue which resulted in 5 youths arrested. There was more anti-social behaviour over the Easter weekend coinciding with the Oasis Centre not being open.

SR: asked about parking enforcement. Disappointed it's not more.

DM: gave a snapshot of current open police tasks. They are always busy and other matters are of higher priority than parking.

SR: concern about driving on the High Street.

GM: asked about police numbers.

DM: there are 6, 3 teams of 2, that cover an area up to Thornhill and Annan plus community officers.

A Pearson: said there was trouble in the Riverside Tap. 2 people threatened staff with a bottle. Asked about reporting it.

DM: ring 999 at the time, 101 or online form after the event.

Questions to Councillors

SJ asked about new road works online system.

KW the system will have more interactive maps but there are no plans to consult with the public.

open forum for Loreburn area residents

AA: asked about scaffolding at Fleshers.

MJ: Max McCall came to the pub and said a report had to be written. A buddleia has been removed. He will chase up with Building Standards.

RW: Council can serve a repair notice if needed.

Jeanette Abendstern: raised the proposed new McDonalds drive-thru restaurant on Annan Road. It's a breach of climate policy, active travel strategy, and the Council Plan (eg facilitating behaviour change).

Jan: McDonalds can lead to obesity, depression, litter. It's not welcome.

RW: observed that for the purposes of Planning Committee neutrality Councillors could listen but not comment. Recommended the consultation event Tues 9th April 3pm at the Baptist Church.

RW: the Planning Committee will look at planning considerations rather than wider but non-planning issues.

Jeanette disagreed. Objections can be based on Council and National policies. Lucy Lee asked how to raise non-planning objections.

KW/MJ: write to councillors.

Anne Lindsay asked about the deliberations of the Climate Panel.

MJ has asked about this. Was told they were "collating the information". Told Anne he would welcome her input.

KD asked about Council consultation on Big Litter Strategy.

KW: a draft litter strategy was brought in at Communities Committee today. (Item 12 here <https://dumfriesgalloway.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=148&MIId=5916>)

AA: 13th July there'll be a mediaeval market for the Robert the Bruce birthday celebrations.

Part 2 Reports and other business

DPAG update. RW: There's to be a review of Dynamically Different Dumfries to keep it up to date and improve communications. They are supporting grant applications for local partners. They are a champion for active travel working with Systra. There will be an April consultation on new cycle path ways. One from Cornwall Mount to Whitesands.

Town Board: SG suggested meeting with DPAG and LCC. GM & RW suggested inviting Richie Nicoll to the next LCC meeting. GM asked that Town Board meetings take place publicly.

Police Station visit (SJ) a written report is available on the LCC website.

<https://loreburn.comcouncil.scot/documents>

Tree preservation orders (AA): suspended last year because of Planning Dept capacity issues. Reinstating them agreed at Full Council Dec '23. KW has been told that they are doing them now. CH said they have a list that they are slowly working through. SG asked if trees could be chopped down while waiting to be reviewed. CH: Yes. KW will ask how many are outstanding and what the situation is. Forms are available <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15334/Protected-trees>

Local place plan. Anne Lindsay did a trader's questionnaire achieving 80% return. The responses highlighted 3 things the traders dislike most: litter/dog mess, trees growing out of buildings, inconsiderate parking. A report on the survey has been published on the LCC website. <https://loreburn.comcouncil.scot/documents> SG, Anne, SJ and RW to meet and advance the plan. RW said that work, rest and play are key themes.

MSQ update. GM was voted in unanimously as our new LCC representative.

Dockhead/St Michael's Bridge Road junction stakeholder engagement (SJ). SJ will talk to Gilbert West.

The Hub closure (SJ). SJ said that charity The Hub is now closed and paid tribute to the work it had done. RW, a director of The Hub, stated that they are looking for someone to use the building.

Grants update (SJ): Dumfries Cornets Club have asked for £500 to help the principals with kit such as riding boots riding hats, jackets etc and to help the cost of hiring their horse. – Approved unanimously. The Railway Gardeners need a battery-operated lawn trimmer. With the money they saved on the previous award for a mower they only need £99 for this. – Approved unanimously. Incredible Edible asked for £450 for new leaflets, signs for the plots and posters. The new material is to emphasise that people can pick and use the produce as well as get involved. – Approved unanimously.

Bin clutter on streets (SJ) SJ reported that the Carers Centre have expressed concern about the bins on Nith Place. Andrew Pearson reported that badly secured bins on Brewery Street are attracting rats and creating a public health hazard. KW and MJ will look into it.

Minutes of last meeting – approved unanimously.

Matters arising from the minutes – none.

Finance report – SJ asked about using the Admin money for grants. RW will look into it.

Planning & licencing CH: BT are building hubs to improve communications. Weatherspoons are challenging listed buildings consent decision. Andersons were stopped from putting plastic windows in.

King's portrait

Correspondence

Date and place of next meeting

Tuesday 4th June, Municipal Buildings, Buccleuch St.