

LOREBURN COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Agenda

Meeting: Tuesday 3rd September at 7.00pm. Held at Municipal Chambers, Buccleuch Street, Dumfries

Sederunt: Artemis Adams, Carole Hastings, Karl Drinkwater, Graham McLeod, Anne Lindsay, Simon Jones, Robin Wishart, Sandy Rogerson, Susan Garnsworthy, Cllr David Slater, Cllr Keith Walters, Catherine Lockerbie, Graham and Lia Bartlett, George Cameron, Andrew Pearson, John Dowson, Sergeant Callum Dalgleish-Little

Apologies: none received

Part 1 Community Forum

Police report (written report available [here](#))

CDL: a helicopter was deployed for policing anti-social behaviour. SR asked about the 6 youths assaulting a man on the Whitesands. The offenders were given restrictions not to enter the town centre (with a map given to them) and they will also be charged in court under Youth Justice. GM asked about weed factories. CDL explained that there can be a delay while police are trying to make sure they catch the people higher up the chain. KD thanked the police for their good attendance at two antiracism demonstrations. AA asked about convictions for weed. CDL: investigation of the site owner and the people they caught there. GC asked about ASB resources. CDL: The Operation Resource Division at Glasgow manages these. They have identified 8 nominals (offenders). Kids are put on curfews. A policy of intervention talks is used to get them away from that lifestyle. GC: kids are drinking on the High St and Queensberry St including 11-12 year old kids. He's concerned D&G is lacking resources and that we have to beg them from Glasgow. CDL took note of the drinking incidents. AA: Fleshers Arms have asked for a radio. CDL will speak to Dale. DS asked a further question about the weed farms. CDL: Serious and Organised Crime Unit working on how these activities fit into a broader picture. CDL: antisocial behaviour patrols will be running at the weekends. CH asked about a fight in the car park in Catherine St. CDL ongoing investigation.

The community council expressed our thanks to Sgt Dalgleish-Little for his patient and comprehensive answers.

Questions to Councillors open forum

DS: Councillors are looking at electronic traffic control measures.

KW: plans for an asymmetrical (4.5 day) week for schools. Committees reorganised. 3rd September saw the first meeting of the new Economy and Infrastructure Committee.

SG asked about consultations. Is it just going through the motions. KW gave an example of the car parking charges consultation which saw proposed charges dropped after the public response to the consultation. Councillors are open-minded with regard to the school week change. One advantage is that it may become easier to recruit staff.

SR asked about decriminalisation of parking. It's in progress. DS raised a concern about the financial viability.

GC asked about the relations between the Council and the police.

DS: DGC meets 3 times a year with the Police and Fire and Nithsdale Area Committee.

GB asked about Nith Avenue work. It will be discussed at the November meeting of the Economy and Infrastructure Committee.

Part 2 Main Topic

Local Place Plan

SJ reported that the draft plan was taking longer than hoped to prepare and suggested that the Community Council could consider it at an October meeting if it wished to. RW said that a mandatory 28 day consultation would follow acceptance of the plan by LCC and DPAG. AL asked about Active Travel. SJ: Active Travel is a key part of the Place Plan. RW: in addition Systra are working with DPAG and DGC to deliver Active Travel improvements and that will go to a separate consultation. Money for that will be coming from Scotgov and Sustrans. AL suggested that a number of simple fixes are possible eg dropped curbs and crossings.

Part 3 Reports and other business

Moat Brae SJ: Moat Brae is now closed and was closed down very quickly with little time for the community to react. SG: it's on the market but can only be sold to a charity. It's been insolvent for over a year. It was over-engineered based on inflated visitor numbers. It's received unkind comments on social media. The trustees and volunteers had good intentions. AL noted that higher profile writer's houses like Dickens House and Bronte House don't make money. KD asked about Moat Brae's charity records. (The OSCR record is [here](#) and the Companies House records are [here](#) and [here](#)). DS: The Council provided £1.5 million of the £7 million spent. Most of the money was sourced from external sources including the Scottish Government. GB commented that Rosefield Mills needs to learn lessons. RW: its financial problems have been visible for a long time. GM: they were living in "Nevernever land." JD suggested that the Minerva Building could be linked with the Moat Brae site as a heritage quarter.

Community Council elections it was established that enough people will be standing to form a viable Community Council.

October meeting it was agreed unanimously that Loreburn Community Council will meet on Tuesday 1st October.

Robert Burns statue (SG) Karen Brownlie has written to state that the statue has been cleaned and a 3D scan has been made. SG to ask that the results of the 3D scan be shared with Loreburn Community Council and Mr Donald Gibson.

Grants (SJ) grant giving is paused while we wait for new wind farm money to come in. SJ in correspondence with the Community Benefit Company.

Minutes of last meeting. Moved by CH, approved unanimously.

Matters arising from the minutes. None.

Finance report. Available [here](#).

Common Good report (Carole). A Contractor is to be appointed to fix the bandstand in Dock Park. The play area will be getting a new play unit.

Planning & licencing. 80-82 English Street erection of a retail unit plus 20 flats and refuse store and park. Peel Centre will be getting a Burger King drive thru restaurant. Monihans Queensberry St new windows. Church Crescent new signs.

Correspondence AA raised an issue of fridge freezers being fly tipped on Whitesands. DS to raise with the Council.

RW stated that this will be his final meeting as Chair of Loreburn Community Council. He stated that it has been an honour and a privilege. We do really important work. We may not have power but we do have influence.

Date and place of next meeting. Tuesday 1st October 2024, Municipal Buildings, Buccleuch St.