

LOREBURN COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Minutes

Meeting: Tuesday 1st October at 7.00pm. Held at Municipal Chambers, Buccleuch Street, Dumfries

Sederunt: Graham McLeod, Carole Hastings, Karl Drinkwater, Simon Jones, Artemis Adams, Peter Kormylo, Caroline Lockerbie, Euan Skinner, Cllr Keith Walters, Cllr John Campbell, Cllr David Slater, Cllr Malcolm Johnstone, Sgt Callum Dagleish-Little

Apologies: Robin Wishart, Susan Garnsworthy, Andrew Pearson

In Robin's absence Peter Kormylo kindly acted as our Chair for the meeting.

Part 1 Community Forum

Police report. CDL: 2 males arrested for scrap metal theft, youths arrested for vandalism at St Catherine's St Play Park, masked youths stole bicycles from around the back of Marks and Spencers, 49 parking tickets. Reduction of youth disorder in the town centre.

AA asked about scooters and offroad officers. CDL: we're deploying quad bike officers to patrol. DNA Selector spray now being used to spray offenders for later identification. GM asked about why they're being pursued. CDL: danger to walkers, cyclists, dog walkers. The spray is not harmful, only shows up under a certain kind of light, is legal and is the same as smart water which is used to protect property.

DS asked about anti-social behaviour. CDL: big reduction, Burns Statue activity reduced, social work and youth justice one to ones are effective, a slight increase outwith the town centre. PK kids don't want to do community service in the middle of town, eg the Greensands.

CH asked about zombie knives. CDL: not an issue in Dumfries. Caroline Lockerbie asked about amnesties. CDL: a lot of weapons do get handed in.

SJ asked about reposting of the police report. CDL last month's police report was part reposted on Facebook. Concerned that content was reposted as criticism. Will work with the LCC Secretary on the best way going forward. The police need to review the process. Community councillors made the point that, once given to the community council, information is in the public domain.

AA asked about a licensing objection by the police to late night extension for Halloween at the Fleshers Arms. CDL: Sgt Anna Parker is the licensing officer.

CH asked about offroad crimes. CDL the police are able to request scramble bikes from HQ.

Questions to Councillors

AA asked about the **Fleshers Arms Halloween licensing** extension. It will be dealt with under delegation by council officers.

KD asked if **trees** can be replanted at Burns Statue. DS: yes, in the near future.

PK saw **rats** in 27 Castle St. The property is neglected. He is in correspondence with DG Council. DS has been raising the matter of derelict buildings. DG Council should be keeping an eye on such buildings, notably Moat Brae. Some Moat Brae assets have been removed for more secure storage. MJ: we need to find out what we can do.

AA raised the matter of **fly tipping** at the New Bazaar car park. Apparently the fridges etc belong to the owner. KW raised the possibility that the land is being used for the wrong purpose (ie waste rather than parking).

PK complained about **street cleaning** particularly in response to complaints for dog walkers in Nith Avenue about broken glass. JC: Karen Brownlie is in charge of Streetscene. AA Nicola Simpson also has a role. DS signage is bad, broken and missing. Creates an issue around parking enforcement. PK the team that empties the dustbins is doing a great job. AA: cleanup after events excellent. Catherine L: sweeping streets by retailers, gutters is a matter of civic pride. The retailers do try however some things, like blocked street drains are difficult for them to do. PK everyone is involved in civic pride. He suggested a seminar on civic pride be discussed at the next LCC meeting. JC recognised the volunteer effort in keeping the town clean. DS: gully cleaning and sign maintenance will be happening in the next 2/3 weeks.

SJ asked about **gutter cleaning machines**. JC to follow up with DG Council.

CH chased up **bandstand** – work held up because of lack of money.

KD working with Bryan Scott to repair **Burns Walk path**. Good work has been done and he thanked everyone who has helped make it more walkable.

Part 2 Main Topic

Local Place Plan SJ explained that a strong draft has been produced by members of LCC and Dumfries Partnership Action Group (DPAG). It is an update to the Dynamically Different Dumfries action plan with greater specificity and detail and bold vision for town centre residential development. Loreburn Community Council voted unanimously to go forward with the Local Place Plan.

Part 3 Reports and other business

Summerpark Marchfield development. CH: there was supposed to be a school, GP, shops, among other things in the original masterplan for the development. Locharbriggs and Heathhall primaries are full. MJ: with a lot of housing developments there can be questionable delivery of things like pavements. JC: the masterplan showed a lot of nice things but planning applications don't necessarily have these developer contributions. AA: it's up to the Planning Dept to enforce these.

Greensands participation update. AA, KD and PK will take the lead on this going forward. Karl and Pod can make the meeting this week, along with SJ.

Community Council elections. SJ explained the AGM format meeting that will be run by DG Council officers until a new Chair is appointed. Nov 5th. Catherine Lockerbie and CH gave apologies. LCC happy for Simon to continue as Secretary until the new one is appointed that evening (approved unanimously).

Grant funding update (SJ) SJ in correspondence with funder, new money will be available in due course.

Loreburn Flood Group (SJ) SJ asked to be allowed to continue to run the flood group as a sub-group of LCC. Approved unanimously.

Minutes of last meeting – approved unanimously.

Matters arising from the minutes

Finance report SJ to circulate.

Common Good report (Carole) Loreburn Hall still haven't got their lease yet because of an issue with the Girl Guides' sublease. This has been resolved with the Girl Guides due to move to the Municipal Buildings, Buccleuch St. Lack of a lease is affecting the Loreburn Hall's ability to do things. JC and Stephen Thompson have been chasing it up. It will move forward once the Girl Guides move.

Planning & licencing. CH: 20 flats and a café to be built in English St. Amusement arcade in old Shoezone building on the High St. AA: new shop being developed in front of Loreburn Shopping Centre at the old Subway building.

Correspondence KW asked if LCC had been contacted about Moat Brae. SJ: no

PK St Andrews steeple. We had previously directed them to sources of funding for repair works. Discussion of funding for derelict buildings. JC to look into it.

Catherine Lockerbie: Loreburn Hall engagement event for businesses was very successful.

Date and place of next meeting 5th November 2024, Municipal Buildings.