

Old Luce Community Council meeting - held online via Zoom at 7.45 pm on Monday 6th September 2021

Present

Fred Murray - Chairman	Mike Lane	Kenny McKinstry
Ian Paterson, Vice Chairman	Diane Lowe	PC Gary McCutcheon (part meeting)
Mick Bird	Susan Maxwell	Councillor Jim McColm
Elizabeth Innes	Gordon McKinstry	

In attendance: Jane McDowall, Minute Secretary

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

1. Apologies

Derek Sloan, Jane Dodds, Marion Muir, Joan Miskimmins, Pamela Marshall and Ean Stewart.

2. Police Business

PC McCutcheon gave the following update.

Reported Crimes

On the 19th July 2021 Police received a report of an Accident at Carscreugh Farm involving a male on a quad bike. Male taken to hospital and incident investigated by Health and Safety.

Incident reported on the 28th July 2021 that a vehicle was vandalised in Motehill. The vehicle was scratched along the driver side door. Enquiry carried out however no suspects were identified.

Incident reported on the 29th July 2021 that a vehicle in Church Street was damaged when a person under the influence has fallen against the vehicle causing minor damage. This person was subsequently traced and agreed to pay for the damage.

On the 5th September 2021 at Carscreugh Farm Police received a report that a container has been broken into and various items stolen. Owner of the container is currently away therefore only brief details have been taken. Further enquiries to be carried out.

PC McCutcheon will follow up on the abandoned car.

*PC
McCutcheon*

The chairman thanked PC McCutcheon for his attendance and input. Gary left the meeting.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting (5th July 2021)

All agreed that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting and the adoption of the minutes was proposed by Ian Paterson and seconded by Gordon McKinstry.

4. Matters Arising not covered on Agenda

None.

5. Updates on Local Issues raised at Previous Meetings

- **Back Burn footpath, Glenluce (December 2020).** No action taken and no update from Cllr McCamon. Jane to raise matter with D&G Council.
- **Pavement adjacent to Lady Stair Park (September 2019)** - It would appear that work is due to start but still has not commenced to date.
- **Underpass lights at Stairhaven junction (July 2020)** - still not repaired. Transport Scotland had asked Amey to arrange for the work to allow isolation of the electricity supply and modernisation of fittings to be carried out. Cllr McColm is going to follow up.

Jane

*Cllr
McColm*

5. Updates on Local Issues raised at Previous Meetings (continued)

- **A75 signage at junction of C55W (first raised July 2020)** - Ian is still awaiting follow up call from AMEY. Jane has twice contacted MSP Emma Harper's office with no reply to date. *Jane*
- **Path Link - tarmac path close to skate park to the top of new gravel path that runs through Glen (March 2021)** - Fred advised that the grant application has been submitted and approved. Slavin's have provided details of the Public Liability insurance to allow for the draw-down of funding.
- **Biodegradable dog waste bags and dispensers (March 2020)** - The two dispensers have now been ordered. It was hoped they would be in place by the time of next meeting.
- **Stairhaven - human and dog excrement (May 2021)** - Fred would go and check to see if the mains water pipe had been repaired and the toilet block was in working order. Fred would also see if any signage had been installed or information on where black / grey waste collection containers were located. *Fred*
- **OLDT - Local History Project (May 2021)** - Mike advised that the primary school slides were not in the Trust's office. Susan will check at School to try to find out who had been given them for safe-keeping. *Susan*
- **Disabled Parking Bays (March and June 2021)** - Main Street and Motehill. Still no action. Jane to raise matter with D&G Council. *Jane*
- **Japanese Knotweed growing beside burn near bridge at Freemasons - (June 2021)** - still growing. Jane to report. *Jane*

6. Core Paths Maintenance

A letter had been sent to D&G Council's Chief Executive on behalf of the Community Council to raise the issue of lack of maintenance of core paths. Receipt of the letter had been acknowledged and the letter had been passed to Steve Rogers, Head of Economy and Development, who has passed it to the Environment Manager for investigation.

Kenny had discussed core path maintenance with a contractor but the original prices quoted had been higher than hoped. Kenny supplied information about the opportunity to purchase a second hand heavy duty brushcutter. After discussion it was agreed that due to the time of year to leave any purchases until further discussion about the best way forward on maintenance. The chairman thanked Kenny for all his work.

Jane to make enquiries about insurance and health and safety of volunteers operating machinery and carrying out path clearing on behalf of local community including recommended equipment for carrying out the work (Access Officer or Simon Fieldhouse). *Jane*

It was noted that Tom Copeland had cut much of the vegetation along the St Helena path.

7. Councillors Update

Cllr McColm advised that they had been in recess for July and much of August. Chief Executive Gavin Stevenson is now back at work after a period of ill health.

The Borderlands programme is now moving forward and Whithorn, Wigtown and Stranraer are set to benefit in the first stages. Other places will not be overlooked. A Youth Action Programme is being set up and the Council are slowly moving towards in person meetings.

8. Correspondence

Letters had been sent to all four Wigtown West and Mid Galloway Councillors raising the concerns of the Community Council about the lack of attendance and action on matters raised at meetings. Councillors have advised that they are available to be contacted at any time and

everyone is welcome to contact them with any concerns they wish to raise.

9. Finances and Micro Grant Application

Fred advised that there was £5,971 in the bank account.

The annual fee for work by Foundation Scotland has been re-negotiated in light of there being less work to be carried out due to the block grant allocation. The annual fee has been reduced to £11,109 per annum - a saving of £8,311.

Micro Grant - The additional information requested for the application from Glenluce Primary School had been supplied, along with endorsement by Mr Ferguson. It was unanimously agreed to award a grant of £500.

Derek

10. Planters

Members had been asked at the last meeting to consider proposals to "adopt a planter" and put forward any additional ideas. No new proposals were put forward but it was agreed that it was worth a try.

11. A.O.C.B.

Lorry Park - Mike advised that the Asset Transfer was in the hands of Dumfries & Galloway Council's legal department, which was dragging out the process and putting obstacles in the path of the Trust.

12. Date of Next Meeting - **Annual General Meeting**

7.45 pm on Monday 4th October - and it is hoped to hold it in Glenluce Public Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Fred thanked everyone for their participation and Councillor McColm for input.

Future meetings: 1st November, 6th December 2021, 7th February and 7th March 2022.