

Luncarty, Redgorton and Moneydie Community Council

Chairman's Report for the year ending May 2019

22nd May 2019

Foreword

Welcome to the LRMCC annual report for the year ending May 2019. This concludes my third full year as chairman and it has been another full and challenging year. Again we have represented our community at a Development Management Committee meeting (to clarify irregularities detected in the proposals laid down in the LDP2 document) and over the course of the year have met up with councillors or attended meetings with representatives of Council Departments to discuss ongoing issues or complaints. We are also represented on the Strathtay Action Partnership who govern the Community Investment Fund and during the year we have attended various planning, housing needs and community transport seminars.

We have a full complement of eight councillors namely;

Chairman – George Black (also police liaison and Facebook Admin)

Vice Chair – Frank Stevenson (webmaster and Facebook Admin)

Secretary – Elizabeth Comrie (data controller)

Treasurer – Moira Hutchison

Other members – John Andrews (core paths and greenspace)

Iain Matheson (planning)

Alison Hood

Bruce Burns

Alistair Godfrey has kindly taken on the role of associate member specialising in wildlife and ecological matters. This has been particularly invaluable with the ongoing work involving the A9 dualling, CTRLR and the new Bertha Park housing development and their respective impact on the surrounding environment.

Special mention must be made of our three longest serving members, Elizabeth Comrie, John Andrews and Moira Hutchison who have served our community continuously since the community council was re-established some nine years ago. Of course, no annual report would be complete without making reference to our local Perth and Kinross Councillors, Anne Jarvis, Ian James and Grant Laing who have regularly attended our meetings during the past year and provided an essential link to Perth and Kinross Council as and when assistance was needed.

Ian James had to take a forced break at the turn of the year due to a health scare but I as chairman, and on behalf of our community, am delighted to see him back in the fold once more and getting back to full health.

Of course where would we be if not for those members of the community who attend our meetings in all weathers to voice concerns or raise issues as and when they arise. I am particularly pleased to see a wider cross section of people attending our meetings bringing new matters to the fore. That is what we want as we are here to represent you.

Report

I rounded off last year's report by mentioning the resurfacing works to take place on Marshall Way, Luncarty was about to commence. Those works were completed earlier than planned I am glad to say and passed without any real disruption. The result has been excellent with many complimenting the condition of the new surface.

The planning decision to refuse permission in respect of the proposed Kinvaid eco camp was appealed and the decision to refuse was upheld.

Unfortunately the Great Plastic Pick-up rubbish collection did not go ahead as planned but this did not deter some of the locals taking up the idea themselves to do mini versions of their own volition in Luncarty and Moneydie both of which were a success.

Below is a summary of our activities over the past year in addition to the above updates.

1. Liaison with Community Greenspace regarding the condition of the new path leading from Langlands Park to Marshall Way with a view to tidying the edges and monitoring tree roots.
2. Dealing with a complaint regarding interrupted Sky television signals in and around Marshall Gardens resolved by branch trimming.
3. Seeking resolution to complaints of noise and inconsiderate use of the new bottle banks on Marshall Way resulting in them being removed pending being re-sited slightly further north in the village and not as close to houses. There was also an issue regarding indiscriminate vehicles parking just off the bend causing an obstruction.
4. Liaison with relevant cycling groups to ensure that future large events are notified to us timeously in order that residents may be warned of potential roads disruption (400 competitor sportive in May in and around Pitcairngreen, Moneydie and onward to Pitlochry via the A9 and feeder roads.)
5. Support given to the organisers of 'Luncar-T in the Park' held in July at Brownlands Park by advertising via the Facebook Page.
6. Regular liaison with BEAR Scotland regarding the condition of the A9 road surface between Luncarty and Inveralmond to ensure it isn't neglected as work to dual the road continues further north.
7. Updates to our website to ensure that the terms laid down in the new GDPR legislation is complied with.
8. Meeting with Roads Department personnel regarding the monitoring of the school traffic exclusion zone. This has now been confirmed as a permanent arrangement and by the nature of the legislation in place can only be policed by Council Parking Wardens as and when they can attend in the area.
9. Fly tipping in and around the Moneydie area came up once more and various measures suggested to try and curb the problem. The police, council and local residents all played a part in reducing the incidence of such and hopefully this will continue.
10. A question was raised regarding why Luncarty is seeing double decker buses used more frequently than before rather than the usual single deck ones. This was taken up with Stagecoach who confirmed it was purely for logistic reasons to reduce wasted mileage by not having buses

running empty between areas depending on their usage needs elsewhere in the area. At times of low demand they would continue to use smaller single deck buses where possible.

11. Following on from the resurfacing of Marshall Way it was noted there were still no road markings three months down the line. This was reported and rectified.
12. Cars are still going off the road at the slip road leading from the A9 (northbound) into Luncarty. I met with a senior roads manager from Transport Scotland who was to order BEAR to carry out a review to investigate what measures can be taken to reduce such incidents. (Sadly though at least three others have gone off there during the springtime usually after a shower of rain after a lengthy dry spell so drivers have their own part to play in taking account of the prevailing conditions.)
13. The Bertha Park housing development is well underway with the school opening in August 2019. Regular contact is made with representatives over there and Community Council leaflets have been left with sales staff there for handing out to new residents as and when they take occupancy.
14. Regular contact is made with the Police Community Support department for updates on current crime trends etc. Unfortunately we have not seen any community officer at our meetings this year however we still receive regular bulletins keeping us up to date.
15. A complaint was received from a resident in Marshall Road regarding the number of shipping containers which have been sited at the primary school one of which has been placed at the corner of Langlands Park. Enquiries revealed this was owned by the local football organisers and had been placed quickly and in the wrong place. A meeting was held involving myself, Cllr Jarvis, the school Head Teacher, a council estates officer and representatives of the football clubs. Resolution was attained by this container being re-sited closer to the changing pavilion and security lighting being installed. The containers within the school are largely temporary and being used for necessary storage.
16. Two interested parties each made separate application to open a pharmacy within Luncarty. This is in addition to a previous application the previous year which was withdrawn. One of the new applicants is

currently involved in the next stage of the process (public consultation) having acquired premises near to the Luncarty Inn. This is still pending.

17. A complaint was received regarding the number of estate agent advertising boards popping up at junctions nowhere near the actual property for sale. This is not the first time this has been raised and contact was made with the relevant people to cease this practice which has significantly reduced. The Community Council have been granted permission to remove unlawfully sited boards if on council land.
18. The long term issue of parking around Marshall Way when the football is on was raised again and a reminder issued to request people using this facility to park within the school grounds rather than all the way around the bend including the mini roundabout at Taypark Road.
19. We had representatives of the West Stormont Woodland Group along to give a talk on proposed plans for the upkeep and use of the wooded areas including 5 mile wood outside Stanley and associated paths etc which lead down to our area.
20. Balfour Beatty, the main contractor for the A9 works held an inaugural meeting with representatives of local community councils to keep us updated as to how things are progressing. They operate an open door policy and hope to hold regular meetings along with opening a 'drop in' facility for interested members of the public.
21. A 40 mile per hour speed limit at Redgorton is to be introduced during the summer of 2019 with a 30 limit along the front of the houses within the village itself. The 40 area will commence at the top of the slip road to the A9 from Luncarty and extend to a point west of the junction of the road to Moneydie at the Redgorton crossroads. (With 40mph signs at the top of the off-slip this MAY also reduce the number of cars going off the road at that location provided drivers slow down on seeing them - see point 12 above).
22. Weed killing on public areas/ verges is to be done by the council twice annually including the reclaimed area within the car park at the Memorial Hall (allowing for extra parking spaces there).
23. A reminder was given to those wishing to renew their garden waste collection permits that the cost is to be £30 for the coming year.

24. Complaints have been made regarding sporadic internet outage in some houses in and around the south end of Luncarty. BT and other providers were made aware and carried out various work in the hope of resolving this.
25. Liaison with The Redgorton Garage regarding heavy vehicles parking on the new footpath there.
26. Notifications received at various times over the year regarding Scottish Water carrying out necessary works to renew or repair water pipes in the Luncarty area. There was concern this was to involve digging up the new road surface but those fears were allayed and assurance given this was not to be the case.
27. In March 2019 we had a talk from Mark McDonald, a representative of the group behind the proposed Stanley to Luncarty (and onward to Perth) cycle track. Plans are at an early stage but it is a promising prospect.
28. It has been revealed that there may be a plan to create a new cemetery in the Luncarty/ Redgorton area and three potential sites have been identified. Enquiries are currently ongoing to establish the current situation.

No annual report would be complete without making reference to Luncarty and Redgorton in Bloom. This is a group set up to make the visual amenity of the area what it is with the emblazonment of floral displays at strategic points in the villages. The group have recently been successful in obtaining a grant of over £6600 from the Strathtay Community Investment Fund. I am sure this money will be put to good use and in fact there are already plans in place to place – with the much appreciated help of Steve Wilson of Wilson Construction - a number of benches in and around the area where residents and visitors alike can take a seat and enjoy the local amenity.

In closing I would like to say thank you to the Luncarty Church Centre whose hall we use for our regular meetings. I would also invite members of the public not only to keep an eye on the Community Council website and the notice

board at the Spar) but to look at and “like” the Facebook page. That way you will get regular updates or see local issues raised as and when they happen along with regular updates. To date we have well in excess of four hundred “likes” and this is growing almost weekly.

We meet at 7.30 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month except July and December at the Church Centre, Marshall Way, Luncarty.

George Black, Chairman, LRMCC