



Largs Community Council
Unapproved Minutes
Thursday 21 January 2021 by video conference

Present: Councillor Phillips (Chair), Councillor Lundie (Secretary), Councillor Dippie, Councillor Cochrane, Councillor Smith, Councillor Adair, Councillor M Wood, Councillor AA Stevenson, Councillor Murdoch, Sgt Kerr (Police Scotland), Calum Coral (Largs & Millport Weekly News)

Apologies: Councillor E Blair, Councillor P Perman, Councillor J Perman, Councillor J Murdoch, Councillor Stewart, Councillor T Marshall.

Item	Business
1	<p>Welcome Chair welcomed members. Chair expressed thanks to secretary Councillor Lundie as this would be her last meeting before stepping down from LCC.</p>
2	<p>Apologies As noted above</p>
3	<p>North Ayrshire Council Report Report from Cllr Murdoch – follow up on road resurfacing – Routenburn Road to Pier head due 3-12 Feb or sooner, Springfield Gardens to the approach at Kelburn exit to start after Routenburn (approx. 13 Feb), both scheduled to be finished by end Feb. Pavement work in Main St halted, staffing and C19 creating problems but due to recommence between 28/1-02/02. Aitken St works and traffic lights causing complaints from businesses (lack of income) for lack of parking for customers. These lights and cones due to be removed by close of business 22 Jan. The state of Nelson St is of great concern, which he has raised numerous times. This work was not to be included in this year’s budget. However, he received confirmation that funds have been found and works to resurface top of Nelson St will start 27 Jan. Several complaints regarding state of Flatt Road, he advised that Flatt Road is inspected regularly, as are all roads, and he has raised it himself due to number of complaints he receives regarding it. There are differing timescales depending on differing repairs and categories. Flatt Road will be resurfaced when building works completed but will continue to be repaired until then. The Righill planning application is due for consideration at planning on 26 Feb; he is still exploring option to speak at planning. The demolition of the Queen’s Hotel has commenced. Planning was granted some time ago for 14 flats. There are drainage issues at two locations at Douglas Park, NAC currently having meetings and obtaining costings for these repairs. There is a NAC meeting due 22 Jan regarding C19 update. New crossing to be installed on Fairlie Main Road, between War memorial and row of shops. Whilst not directly concerned with Largs this road is frequently used by Largs residents. He has received various concerns regarding the ships docked at Hunterston Jetty, including pollution and items apparently attached to the hulls at previous berthing locations and now brought to this area. Reactor 3 & 4 have been running now for some months, are soon both due to be shut down for further inspection. Subject to outcome of inspection, it will be decided if they are to be restarted for further 6 months operation, which would be their final period of operation. Shut down will commence after that. Cllr Hill advised a lot of time has been taken up with the budget. NAC is not in a good place at moment, there has been more spending on C19 activities than funds received. Various ongoing meetings regarding budgetary issues.</p>

	<p>A lot of Cllr Hill's time has been involved with school issues, distance learning and activities at Largs Academy, looking at what has gone well. Uptake in involvement has improved remarkably compared to last lockdown.</p> <p>NAC has had a proposal for using an area of Douglas Park to be used for a 'Men's Shed'. Moving forward, looking to set up a working group to include the four elected members. LCC may wish to nominate member/s to be part of group.</p> <p>Regarding our project for DFT, a few years back there had been discussions with Alzheimer Scotland, local businesses, care homes and wider community of Largs. At that time one proposal involved Barrfields to put on dementia friendly performances or use space for other activities.</p> <p>ACTION – Cllrs Smith and AA Stevenson contact Cllr Hill and Cllr Murdoch for meeting to discuss further.</p> <p>Cllr Phillips raised issued issue around gritting, particularly top of Holehouse Road, Meadowbank area. Also reports that Haylie Brae had not been gritted. Cllr Murdoch had been assured that Haylie was gritted, however it then rained, washing away the salt and then froze. Each route is given a different priority and gritted in order of priority. Regarding grit bins, there is a link via NAC website, where residents can request a grit bin. There were 3 men out gritting pavements over the holiday period; however they would be unable to cover the whole town.</p>
4	<p>Minutes of Meeting of 17 December 2020</p> <p>Approved subject to item 3 to reflect that Cllr Murdoch had asked for a meeting to be held and not that he held the meeting.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Wood, 2nd Cllr Cochrane</p>
5	<p>Matters Arising from Minutes</p> <p>None</p>
6	<p>Secretary's Report and Correspondence</p> <p>Email received from NAC regarding CC elections. These were meant to be held in September 2020 however C19 delayed these with possibility of holding these in Spring 2021. However, there is need for further delay and now anticipated to be held sometime September-November. Although this may be subject to change again.</p> <p>Secretary had forwarded emails in relation to meetings: Webinar re community asset transfers, Scottish Water annual consultation, and Transport Conference. All emails contained links for these for participants.</p> <p>Email received from David Hilditch regarding Ferry Access Group to have virtual meeting to discuss findings of recent consultation meeting. Unfortunately given very short notice neither Cllr Adair nor Lundie was able to participate.</p> <p>ACTION – Cllr Adair to make contact with David Hilditch to arrange follow up meeting.</p> <p>Given Cllr Lundie stepping down, Cllr Smith has agreed to take on the position of Secretary, therefore Cllr Lundie requests that this be formalised.</p> <p>Cllr Smith as Secretary – proposer Cllr Wood, 2nd Cllr Dippie, no objections</p> <p>ACTION – Cllr Lundie to communicate with Cllr Smith re handover.</p>
7	<p>Social Media Team Report</p> <p>Cllr Murdoch absent however had relayed message to secretary. He has updated facebook page to remove photos of ex members, he has made contact with newer members to obtain their photo for publishing. Cllr Lundie had forward previous minutes for him to upload to CC page, this has now been done. He has also loaded links in relation to recent mental wellbeing campaign by NAC.</p> <p>Cllr Lundie reminded members if they would like anything published on our page please contact Cllr Murdoch directly.</p>
8	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>In Cllr P Perman's absence report given by Cllr Lundie.</p> <p>Project account balance £823.85, Admin account balance £511.20</p> <p>Approval – approved Cllr Wood, 2nd Cllr Cochrane</p>
9	<p>Sub Committee Reports</p>

- a. **Police** – see attached. Report from Sgt Kerr.



police report
January2021.doc

As request enclosed comparative figures. AA Stevenson advised that in relation to incident approx. 3 weeks ago at the burn area at top of Bellesdale Avenue, he spoke to the police who attended and they advised that concerns should be brought to the attention of local councillors and continue to report any incidences to the police. Teenagers have since beginning of Lockdown (March time) frequently visited this area and drinking (underage). Whilst none have returned since this incident, he wishes to highlight the issue as they may be appearing in other areas. Cllr Lundie expressed disappointment that the police attending did not engage with the teenagers when they appeared from the burn area to emphasise any concern of their actions, especially since we are currently in lockdown (approx. 20 youths). Cllr Lundie confirmed that there had been 2 police, 2 ambulance, 2 fire engines, 2 on call doctors and fire chief in attendance at significant cost! Sgt Kerr advised that her team would be involved in routine checks, but emphasised that if they return please continue to report.

Cllr Phillips raised a repeated problem with cars parking at the bend in road at top of Holehouse Road just prior to Meadowbank Road. He feels that it's an accident waiting to happen as obscuring view for safe passage. Sgt Kerr advised that she has visited however no issue apparent. Cllr Phillips advised best time to visit late afternoon/evening.

Further issue Cllr Phillips raised was at the top of Nelson Street, vehicles parked too close to the traffic lights preventing any oncoming passing traffic to pass safely any waiting traffic, causing a block. Sgt Kerr agreed that this is an ongoing issue; they will continue to monitor and if necessary liaise with NAC.

Cllr Murdoch responded in relation to the Burn/Wood area, on some nights he can smell bonfires from that area. Also, there are other locations that he wishes to highlight to Sgt Kerr. Other areas include Douglas Park (up the hill area), up the Chinese Lake, the Bluebell Wood at Netherhall and various others, shelters, etc. Sgt Kerr confirmed that PC Pollard was working with Denise Fraser (NAC) in relation to engaging with local youths. She will speak to PC Pollard to see if they can reignite this effort, and keep an eye on these other areas, especially since we are in a pandemic. Cllr Murdoch expressed concern that if there are any incidents some of these areas are not very accessible.

Cllr Wood asked if they had received any reports in relation to loud bangs. Sgt Kerr advised that this had been mentioned to her but that there had been no reports.

Cllr Smith had previously raised the issue of the 2 beggars in town centre, what is the Police policy regarding this? Sgt Kerr responded that it is quite complicated depending on the circumstances of the individuals e.g. are they a victim or is there something underlying? In terms of these persons there is no concern and that they are not collecting money on behalf of others. It is more that they (Police) would like to be more present in town centre and challenging any such behaviour and if need be helping them get in touch with any support agencies. Reporting from the community is key in relation to this. There is no current concern in relation to these individuals or their backgrounds.

- b. **Licensing** – none.

- c. **Planning** – Cllr J Perman absent by forward confirmation that no applications to be considered.

- d. **Environment** – Reported by Cllr Dippie – re Brisbane Mains woodland has been approved by Scottish Forestry. In our response we had asked for five additional styles to be added, they have added four. They have made no other changes as suggested by LCC. No upgrade to core path, no consideration regarding views around Knockhill. Cllr Dippie is disappointed that no further consideration given to our suggestions. Representative advised that if NAC have any further comments or concerns then they would be happy to discuss further.

Cllr Dippie wrote to NAC regarding funding of CMRP (as per minutes Dec 2020), response received today (21/1/21) advising that their rangers do all lot of the work that CMRP do, they work alongside

park staff. They also provided a link with dedicated NAC staff if wishing to discuss further. Councillor Dippie would indeed like to discuss this further on behalf of LCC, if not, then privately.

ACTION – agreed Councillor Dippie make further contact on behalf of LCC.

Councillor Dippie had received Clean-up Scotland Newsletter which he intends to circulate to members. Regarding Halkhill Estate – they are still in the process of applying for funding to repair the bridge over the Gogo burn and various other items. They have now submitted a funding application to Scottish Forestry. Councillor Dippie is disappointed at time taken for this process – pathetically slow! More forestry work due to start, probably February.

Regarding Righill, this is coming before NAC planning 26 February 2021, no other details to report at this time.

- e. **Transportation** – Councillor Adair reported that regarding Ferry Access Group update (he was unable to attend) he did receive minutes of the meeting this morning. Suggestions include removing all parking in Fort Street, which he is not happy with, meaning no residents would be able to park near their properties. He also advises that another suggestion was for foot passengers to queue down alongside the ticket office. He feels that this is too narrow. Other than that he has no other information regarding the proposals.

Councillor Murdoch advises that the proposed drawings have changed since the first consultation. The preferred option was to retain some/all of the parking but personally, losing all parking would be acceptable providing that it was compensated by relocating elsewhere.

Councillor Hill added that there are 3 different options on the table, but really up to residents to feed in to the process. This applies to both sides. (Largs and Cumbernauld). The main aim is to have the ferry working efficiently and stop the back up and prevent blocking Bath St and beyond. Part of the proposal would allow for a short area of two lanes towards the ferry terminal, therefore losing about six parking spaces, so allowing Calmac staff to marshal the traffic and minimise traffic spilling onto the main road, this would also aid local island traffic to be assisted. The original plans would have been far more drastic and had greater impact on Fort St.

Councillor Adair feels there will still be issues with volume of traffic on Bath St. Councillor Murdoch advises that some of the options were to make include one way system and remove parking. He had opposed making Bath St one way in North direction as the surrounding streets would not cope (Crawford St and Union St). Congestion as far back as Charles St only occurs on exceptionally busy days, perhaps a dozen times a year. Pre booking/advanced ticket sales is also essential, therefore only cars queuing at dedicated sailing times.

- f. **Hunterston** – none.

- g. **Largs Projects – Dementia Friendly Town (DFT)** – AA Stevenson liaised with Councillor P Perman and NAC and has submitted an application for £1050 for funding from the Participatory Budget to cover the likes of posters, press, printing, survey, launch event, etc. He has had confirmation from Fiona Galbraith and Jenifer McGhee that application has been received. Since last meeting he has also spoken to Manager (Andy Naylor) and Community Officer (Lorraine Nicol) of Morrisons. AA Stevenson is keen to speak with Calum Coral (Largs & Millport Weekly News) to arrange some form of editorial to make it known that LCC are looking to take this forward as we need to set up a sub-committee of LCC with Appointed Advisors. We need to engage with carers, sufferers, local retailers, doctors, councillors, etc to be on the committee. AA Stevenson is happy to be on the committee. Councillor Murdoch offer to help set up meeting with NAC contacts to guide with other funding avenues. Councillor Hill confirmed there are lots of things that are free and that there is also grant funding available for things such as adaptations to local premises. There are a lot of good things already happening eg. Cycling without Age, it may be a case of pulling these existing things together.

AA Stevenson advised that Councillor Smith has put forward the idea of displaying pictures of old Largs and that the likes of this would incur costs.

ACTION – AA Stevenson to email Councillors Hill and Murdoch to arrange virtual meeting to discuss further.

Chair asked to be kept updated.

10 A.O.C.B. – Councillor Phillips thanked Councillor Lundie for years of service as secretary and welcome to Councillor Smith into

	the position. Meeting closed.
11	Date of Next Meeting – 18 February 2021