




Largs Community Council
 Approved Minutes
 Thursday, 20 May 2021, 7pm via Zoom

Present: Councillor Phillips (Chair), Councillor Smith (Secretary), Councillor Cochrane, Councillor Dippie, Councillor J Perman, Councillor P Perman, Councillor Stevenson, Councillor Marshall, Councillor Murdoch, Calum Corral (Largs & Millport Weekly News), PS Donald Fisher (Police Scotland), Angus Campbell (SP Energy Networks)

Apologies: Councillor Adair, Councillor Hill

Item	Business
1	Welcome -Chair welcomed members.
2	Apologies –As noted above.
3	<p>Presentation from Angus Campbell, District General Manager, SP Energy Networks, Ayrshire District</p> <p>Angus gave a presentation on electricity reliability in Largs, Future energy expectations and EV charging. He explained the reasons for the outages to customers in Largs in January and that work has now been completed to replace a number of components to minimise future risks to supply. He also spoke about how SPEN was working towards a carbon zero target for Scotland and also in conjunction with NAC and Scottish Government helping towards increasing the number of public electric charging points in Largs.</p> <p>Councillor P Perman asked about a card provided by Scottish Government which allows free use of charging points. Angus advised that EV chargers can vary in price but the ones provided by the Council are free to use at present to encourage the use of electric vehicles. SPEN are providers of electricity not chargers.</p> <p>Councillor Stevenson stated that there are 2 chargers at Inverclyde and 2 at Barrfields but made the point that more chargers in the town centre would encourage people to leave their cars and if visiting, make use of the town's facilities. He suggested that perhaps more charging points could be installed at Barrfields. To progress this he suggested that he could liaise with Angus, SPEN being the infrastructure provider, and approach NAC/ Scottish Government for funding for this. Grants are currently available for this. Councillor Stevenson pointed out that he would also need the support of the local Councillors with regard to this.</p>
4	<p>Police Report</p> <p>See attached report for stats and summary</p>  <p>May 2021 Largs CC - Police Report.docx</p> <p>PS Fisher stated that this month's crime reports were up on last year but that was to be expected as we were in the middle of lockdown.</p> <p>Councillor Cochrane commended PS Fisher on the excellent format of the report.</p> <p>Councillor P Perman mentioned the problems caused by a car being parked right on the corner of Bath Street. PS Fisher agreed that he wanted to address the problems of indiscriminate parking but there is a balance to be achieved when dealing with this problem. Councillor Murdoch stated that he would expect what he would class as dangerous parking to be addressed appropriately. Councillor Marshall stated that the parking problems will be addressed in April 2022 when decriminalised parking is introduced and traffic wardens are operational. In the meantime PS Fisher stated that the police will strike a balance when addressing the parking problems.</p>
5	<p>Minutes of Meeting of 15 April 2021</p> <p>Approved Councillor Cochrane 2nd Councillor Stevenson</p>
6	<p>Matters Arising from Minutes and Action Points</p> <p>Councillor Cochrane stated that Gary Ennis had replied to his email and given him a name of a person who could help him with Social media - Emma Cooper. She has responded expressing interest but Councillor Cochrane does</p>

	<p>not feel equipped to discuss this further with her. The question of payment was discussed and Cllr P Perman agreed to ask NAC if any payment could come out of the Admin grant. Cllr Cochrane asked Cllr Smith to send the email containing the information about passwords etc and he will contact Emma Cooper. Cllr Smith advised that there was no website as we no longer maintained it. We are only looking to post articles on Social Media sites such as Facebook, Instagram etc which could be done by someone familiar with Social media. We could follow up on our previous idea of trying to encourage some young people, perhaps a 6th year pupil, to become involved in the Community Council and help us with Social media. Cllr Marshall advised that this had been done a number of years ago and was very successful. Cllr Stevenson suggested that perhaps the school could set up a sub group to work together rather than just one person. Discussion took place about whether the expense of paying someone to action Social Media could be justified and also the benefits of being more visible on social media as it might generate more interest in the Community Council and encourage more members. Cllr Dippie raised the question of links on sites with out of date information still being available to the public. Cllr Marshall offered to contact the Principal teacher of Business Studies to discuss the possibility of pupils becoming involved. The minutes of the Community Council from January, February and March are now on the NAC website.</p> <p>Action point – Cllr Smith to send Cllr Cochrane the email containing Social Media passwords Action point – Cllr Marshall to contact Largs Academy regarding possible involvement of senior pupils in Largs CC</p>
7	<p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walkerston House planning application <p>This application was made in March and after asking for comments from LCC, Cllr J Perman responded to NAC. The only point which was not agreed by residents was about pedestrian access from Seabank Avenue. The expiry date for this was 23rd April. Nothing else can be lodged in the planning system. The applicant lodged further plans with some changes on 10th May but the statutory consultation date is well past. Cllr J Perman checked today if any further comments could be lodged but this is not possible. Nothing was mentioned by Cllr J Perman about vehicle access and he has already communicated his response about the planning application to NAC. Cllr J Perman has not responded directly to Mr Cochrane. At this point in time no further objections or comments can be made as the statutory consultation period has expired. Cllr Marshall advised that a planning decision will be made taking into account all of the comments made about the application including those from the Community Council and Mr Cochrane.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Aitken Street planning application- currently the Livingroom – change from Class 1 shop to Class3 food and drink and hot food takeaway. No interest has been shown by any retail hence the change of use which may be more marketable. After discussion, it was agreed that the Community Council had no objections. <p>Responses from members of the Community Council – The question of no responses from members was discussed and it was agreed that if there were any big issues requiring attention, an emergency meeting would be called by the Chairman. No response to emails would be taken as no comment.</p>
8	<p>Dementia Friendly Largs report</p> <p>The Constitution has been set up but the issue remains as to how to set up the group as a charity. It is not possible to reinstate Largs Development Trust as it has lapsed. However Cllr Stevenson has discovered that the Development Trust Association Scotland changed its constitution to a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation in 2016 so it is proposed that Dementia Friendly Largs also become a SCIO. The next meeting of the group is on 21/05/21 and an update from the working groups will be given then. The bank account application has been made. National Alzheimers Day is on 21/09/21 and it is proposed to host a music event to mark this. A formal launch of Dementia Friendly Largs will also take place at the event. It is hoped to encourage some people from care homes to attend and some of the grant received can be used for this event. The project is going well.</p>
9	<p>Environment report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peelport Parc meeting on 20/04/21 – the conveyor bridge across the A78 is to be removed which will require a road closure for 1 or 2 days • There have been several enquiries received for possible use of the site – all will require planning

	<p>permission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing issues about noise from the drill ships being addressed • Halkhill Forestry public path restarts on 24/05/21 • Replanting of trees on hold • Road link on A760 – no movement on funding. A grant from Paths for all could be applied for by the Community Council. The maximum amount is £3000 and the cost of the roadworks is £20,000. North Ayrshire Council are willing to project manage the work but do not have the money to fund it. This is not in the North Coast locality area as it is in the Garnock Valley. However walking on the grass verge beside the road is dangerous for people. There were no suggestions as to how the shortfall could be addressed and as it is outwith the Community Council area, the matter was not taken any further. • Brisbane mains – the land has been sold and a number of trees are currently being planted • Friends CMRP now have a committee of 9 with a chair, secretary and treasurer and a public financial announcement will be made in the near future • Gogosite Road garden has some new plants and hanging baskets. A new sign is to be put up saying Largs Community Council garden. The neighbour at the B&B will water the plants and has donated £40 to Largs CC which will cover the cost of the sign and the hanging baskets. • Dawn Fresh fish farms – looking to establish 3 fish farms at Greater Cumbrae, west side of Wee Cumbrae and at Bute. A CAR license is required from SEPA for chemical and waste emissions. Consultation is ongoing at present. Cllr Dippie provided details about the proposed fish farms and the potential impact on the local area. Cumbrae, Fairlie and West Kilbride Community Councils have already lodged objections. There is an online meeting taking place this evening for interested parties to discuss the proposals but unfortunately it coincides with the monthly Largs Community Council meeting. However the meeting is being recorded and so will be available to listen to later. Cllr Dippie considered that Largs CC should work together with the other Community Councils on the North Coast and oppose the project. Cllr Marshall referred to a similar application for a fish farm in Arran in April which was rejected and the reasons are posted on the website. After discussion it was agreed that Cllr Dippie would draw up a report to be circulated. Community Councillors should respond by email within 48 hours of receipt of the report and Largs CC's decision about whether to object or not will be based on the views given.
10	<p>North Ayrshire Council Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Dippie asked Cllr Marshall if there was any possibility of the Council finding any money for the A760 road link. Cllr Marshall advised that there might be a possibility at the end of the financial year. He and Cllr Murdoch will discuss with the Head of roads. • Due to the length of the meeting Cllr Murdoch advised he had nothing urgent to raise. • Cllr Phillips expressed his concern about an incident 2 weeks ago when the Monseigneur of St Mary's Church was refused permission by ferry staff to bypass the cars queueing for the ferry and as a result was very late for his service. Cllr Murdoch will investigate this. • Cllr P Perman asked about the breakdown of the costs charged by NAC for Douglas Park. Cllr Murdoch has a complete breakdown of costs and will advise at the next meeting.
11	<p>Secretary's Report – all emails forwarded. Cllr Murdoch commented that the elected Councillors did not see why the new housing unit at St Colms Place should be renamed.</p>
12	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Admin Account - £377.47 with 1 outstanding cheque for £14.39</p> <p>Project Fund - £1743.10 which includes £1050 from Dementia project plus £40 in cash from St Leonards B&B which is for plants and a sign for the garden.</p>
13	<p>Sub Committee Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Licensing - none b. Transportation – none c. Hunterston – In the absence of Cllr Wood , Cllr Dippie asked if he should attend the meeting on 3/06/21. Agreed.

14	A.O.C.B. - none CCLr Phillips thanked everyone for their participation.
15	Date of Next Meeting – 17 June 2021