





Largs Community Council
Approved Minutes
Thursday, 21 October 2021, 7pm via Zoom

Present: CCLr Phillips (Chair), CCLr Smith (Secretary), CCLr Adair, CCLr Black, CCLr Dippie, CCLr Knowles, CCLr Stevenson, CCLr Wood, Cllr Marshall, Cllr Murdoch, Calum Corral (Largs & Millport Weekly News), PS Donald Fisher (Police Scotland), Denise Fraser- Community Development Worker – North Coast

Apologies: CCLr J Perman, CCLr P Perman, CCLr Grainey, Louise Riddex

Item	Business
1	Welcome -Chair welcomed members and new members CCLr Black and CCLr Knowles. He also reminded everyone of zoom meeting protocols including recording of the meeting for minute purposes only.
2	Apologies – As noted above.
3	Results of Largs Community Council election 10 nominations received so election was not contested. Co-option of member - John Knowles – proposed CCLr Wood, 2 nd CCLr Stevenson Appointment of Office Bearers – Chair – CCLr Phillips – proposed CCLr Wood, 2 nd CCLr Stevenson Secretary – CCLr Smith – proposed CCLr Wood, 2 nd CCLr Dippie Treasurer – CCLr Wood – proposed CCLr Smith, 2 nd CCLr Stevenson Audited accounts –  Largs Community Council signed audite Admin account – Closing balance - £279.62 + admin grant from NAC – total £620 Project account – closing balance - £1588.10 made up of £633.10 LCC + £955 DFL There are outstanding accounts totalling £919 to be deducted from the DFL sum, one of which is a bill for £768.40 from Largs Printing Comp, which leaves a balance of £36. There are 2 other payments due to be paid from Largs CC accounts, £100 to Friends of Clyde Muirshiel Park and 2 month’s zoom payments of £28.78. Queries relating to accounts – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the accounts cover 2 years from 1/09/19 to 31/08/21• Domain name renewal was for the website which we had during the 1st year of accounts but which we no longer have• suggested a protocol be established in future for retiring members and office bearers as we are dealing with public money. Email received from NAC auditor regarding the accounts and requesting the following be noted in the minutes – £56.75 was spent on Christmas 2018 hospitality and the treasurer was advised, following the audit of the 2019 accounts, that this was not a valid expense and was not refunded by the Council. Largs CC was advised to repay this amount to the admin account. The 2021 audit noted that this had been done by refunding the sum from the project account. This was personal expenditure and should have been refunded by those in attendance. However given the number of personnel changes in the last 2 years, it is not possible for this money to be refunded. As such the auditor requested that the inappropriate use of the project account to refund the admin account for personal expenditure is noted in the minutes when the annual accounts are presented to the Community Council for approval. Secondly one of the cheques in the cheque book was pre-signed. This must never happen again as it is open

	<p>to fraudulent use of the funds. The Christmas outing referred to was arranged by the previous Chair. Accounts – proposed - CClr Wood and 2nd - CClr Stevenson Change of signatories and moving to online banking was discussed. Action point - New Office bearers to take this forward. Declaration of Office - this must be completed by all Community Councillors and returned to Melanie Anderson at NAC who is happy to accept an email from Community Councillors in lieu of a signature. Action point – Secretary to send the Declaration of Office and email address to all Community Councillors who should then forward their completed form to NAC. CClr Black requested a copy of the Constitution and Standing Orders. Action point – Secretary to send a copy of the Constitution and Standing Orders to all Community Councillors</p>
4	<p>Minutes of Meeting of 16 September 2021 Approved – CClr Wood , 2nd – CClr Dippie</p>
5	<p>Matters Arising from Minutes and Action Points Action points Cllr Marshall has spoken to the head teacher at Largs Academy and was advised that there are now 4 new House Captains and he would be happy to encourage 2 of them to attend. Cllr Marshall will pass on their email addresses and CClr Smith can send them an invitation to the next zoom meeting. Denise has also identified a young person from the Youth Forum. She will set up a meeting with CClr Smith and invite the person to the next meeting. Use of the Livingroom – there are restrictions on the numbers permitted so not an option. The room in the library can only take 6 people due to social distancing but the librarian is hopeful that this will be reviewed at the end of October. Action point – CClr Smith to follow up use of the library. Cllr Murdoch again raised the subject of the recording of the meetings and was again reminded that these recordings were for minute purposes only. He also again advised that he was unhappy that the North Ayrshire Council report had been moved to later in the agenda. He was again advised of the reasons for this by CClr Phillips and that the matters he had raised had been explained to him previously. Cllr Marshall confirmed that in his experience recording of the meetings is for minute purposes only, he also does not mind where the Council report is in the agenda as he is happy to have a flexible approach and come in at different times. He also considers that 2 hours for a meeting is generally enough to avoid people becoming irritable. It was suggested that as we are now a new Community Council we should draw a line under this and move on.</p>
6	<p>Police Report See attached report for stats and summary</p>  <p>Oct 2021 Largs CC - Police Report.docx</p> <p>PS Fisher was asked about the impact of COP26 on the policing of the town. Resources will be drawn away from all areas for the event but there will be backfill for the police on the street. All of Scotland will be impacted. Cllr Marshall commented about the problem of non- disabled people parking in disabled bays around town and asked if the town centre police could action this. He also asked PS Fisher for his views on people riding electric scooters on the prom at considerable speeds up to 25 miles per hour. PS Fisher advised that 25kms or 16miles per hour is the threshold without license but depends on the model of scooter. He will ask his officers to check this out. Parking issues and road traffic incidents were also discussed. PS Fisher advised that a fair amount of discretion is applied to parking issues and he has been asking his officers to lower their discretion but there is a balance to be applied. The yellow lines in Tron Place have now been replaced and so Cllr Murdoch would like to see some enforcement of parking issues.</p>

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Environment and Community Garden



Environment
report21.10.docx

Cllr Dippie was thanked for his report summarising the environment work carried out over the past year.

- Riggill/Routenburn Road Consultation– The windfarm has been appealed to the Scottish Government and a consultation document has been produced. The road will require to be widened up to 6 m and roadside verges and trees will be cut back which will alter the whole aspect of the road. Cllr Marshall stated that the transportation report stated that the Council have a responsibility to cut back the vegetation but he did not think that the Council would be willing to do that although the contractors may do so. The concern is that trees would need to be removed, the radius of bends would need to be altered and there will be a huge impact on the town centre of Largs and Fairlie with a large number of very long vehicles travelling along the roads. This was the reason the Planning Committee rejected the project. Cllr Murdoch has asked to speak at the appeal hearing of this and is also very much against it. Very few residents of the Red Road have been consulted about this development. Cllr Dippie advised that the transportation on the Red Road is a consultation about the changes which will take place to widen the road etc and is open until 31/10/21. Cllr Stevenson stated that he thought that the traffic impact goes as far as the Stevenston bypass. Cllr Black fully supports the points made and the objection. He also considers NAC should be asked if the designation of the road will change from a B class road due to the fundamental changes. Calum stated that the local paper had published 2 articles about the development and expressed his surprise that people did not know about it. Cllr Dippie advised that new information has just recently become available. Cllr Black suggested a Freedom of Information request could be made to find out how much was paid for the land needed to widen the road. Agreed a further letter be written and sent by Cllr Dippie reinforcing our previous points.
- 3 fish farms have been given CAR permits. There is now a 21 day response period and it will then go to planning. Largs CC is supportive of the objections.
- Gogo bridge – grant aid is no longer being pursued, the bridge is to be replaced but no timescale yet. Positive news.

Community garden



Community
Garden21.10.docx

The garden will need some more attention in a couple of weeks. Cllr Stevenson is trying to make this more than just a summer garden as it is in a prominent location at the entrance to Largs. He would like seasonal displays using donations for the garden from Morrisons.

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Sub Committee Reports

- **Dementia Friendly Largs and District**



Dementia Friendly
Largs and District21.1

The group would like to have a table at Yuletide evening to promote the project. Awaiting a decision about whether Yuletide will go ahead this year. The group are all now working together to focus on the 10 point action plan.

- **Electric Vehicle Charging Points**



EV Charge
Points21.10.docx

An email was received from Fiona Chan, NAC Sustainability Officer on 20/10/21 stating –
At present, the aim is to progress with EV charge points at the Seafront Car Park.
Sustainability Team Manager (Operations) and Senior Sustainability Manager attended Largs Elected Members meeting and talked about strategic approach to EV charge point installation in North Ayrshire. It was agreed that a detailed technical and financial information on Seafront Car Park EV charge point proposal will be presented to Councillors in November for their review and approval.
Cllr Murdoch stated that at the onsite meeting the location chosen for the charge point was opposite the amusements.

- **Hunterston**

Cllr Dippie issued 2 documents from Hunterston this week but will resend them.

- **Licensing** –No update
- **Planning** – 2 proposals – extension to Scotts to make a permanent structure at their outdoor seating part and balconies at Warrenpark which is now a requirement in care homes. The care home has 90 beds. Cllr Marshall stated that there was likely to be a planning application coming in next week for a Marks and Spencer store and also one for the cable manufacture at Hunterston before the end of the year.
- **Transportation** – No update.

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North Ayrshire Council Report

- Cllr Marshall advised that the refurbishment of the seafront toilets should be completed by Easter next year and thereafter the other toilets would be considered but the funding for this has not yet been fully identified by NAC. The Council have set up a tourist working group to identify issues in Largs and other places to improve provision for visitors.
- Cllr Marshall confirmed the site of Marks and Spencer is Pearsons garage. Vehicle access remains a problem. No site identified for Aldi or Lidl at present.
- Cllr Murdoch stated that Charles Street and Brisbane Street have been resurfaced.
- Flatt Road will not be resurfaced until next year but Cllr Murdoch does not see why it can't happen now as the work on the houses is now at Linn Avenue.
- Funding is in place for the link path
- Routenburn Golf Course – major changes due to movement of tees. A meeting with KA Leisure is being arranged to discuss this.
- Car park infrastructure will hopefully be in place by next month
- Community Wealth Fund – Cllr Murdoch has asked for local contractors to be involved in this.
- Men's shed for North Coast and Cumbrae– potential premises identified, there are over 50 people interested in starting a Men's shed and over 20 people interested in forming a committee. Office bearers are in place.

Cllr Stevenson stated that the new 3 bedroom houses in Flatt Road have only 1 parking space and people are now parking on the road which is causing a problem going up Flatt Road. He also suggested Helter Skelter as potential premises for a Men's shed.

Cllr Knowles asked if there was a strategy for preserving the roads by having weight restrictions on them. Cllr Murdoch stated that there are designated streets for heavy goods vehicles and they should not be using other streets. Contractors are given a designated route to use during construction work. Cllr Marshall confirmed that when a planning application is granted the contractors are given a designated route to use. There are no weight restrictions on the access roads to the back of the town.

Cllr Black stated that on one occasion all roads into Largs were closed for various reasons and it was almost impossible to get to Largs. He asked that this be fed back to the Roads Department and ask that they consider the impact of road closures. Cllr Murdoch advised that this issue has already been fed back to the appropriate body.

	Cllr Murdoch and Denise will be having a walk round the town to discuss the installation of the Christmas lights.
10	A.O.C.B. – Cllr Phillips thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
11	Date of Next Meeting – 18 November 2021 Action point – All Cllrs to send in their reports prior to the meeting and no later than 15 November 2021