




Largs Community Council  
 Approved Minutes  
 Thursday, 18 November 2021, 7pm via Zoom

**Present:** Cllr Phillips (Chair), Cllr Smith (Secretary), Cllr Wood (Treasurer), Cllr Adair, Cllr Black, Cllr Dippie, Cllr Grainey, Cllr J Perman, Cllr P Perman, Cllr Stevenson, Cllr Marshall, Cllr Murdoch, Adam Lyon (Largs & Millport Weekly News), PS Donald Fisher (Police Scotland), Denise Fraser- Community Development Worker – North Coast, Skye and Katie – Youth Forum, Archie Nelson, Eilidh Robinson and Joseph McIntosh – Largs Academy, John O’Connor – member of the public

**Apologies:** Cllr Knowles, Louise Riddex, Calum Corral

Item	Business
1	<b>Welcome</b> -Chair welcomed all members, new member Cllr Grainey, 3 Largs Academy pupils and 2 members of the Youth Forum. He also reminded everyone of zoom meeting protocols including recording of the meeting for minute purposes only.
2	<b>Apologies</b> – As noted above.
3	<b>Minutes of Meeting of 21 October 2021</b> Embedded documents – if they can’t be accessed, they are distributed prior to the meeting by email. Approved – Cllr Wood , 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Cllr Stevenson
4	<b>Matters Arising from Minutes and Action Points</b> Action points Bank account – signatories changed and currently in process of changing to online banking. Confirmed all Councillors have emailed Declaration of Office to NAC but if not, this should be done now. Constitution and Standing Orders obtained from previous secretary date back to 2012. Chair and Secretary to look at these and possibly bring up to date. They can then be distributed to members. <b>Action Point – Secretary to send a copy of the Constitution and Standing orders to all Community Councillors</b> The library is still not available for in person meetings and this will be the case until 2022.
5	<b>Police Report</b> See attached report for stats and summary  Nov 2021 Largs CC - Police Report.docx In response to a number of queries, PS Fisher stated that the recent assaults are not linked and are generally as a result of spontaneous disagreements but are of course a cause of concern. Overall crimes have decreased but they have been more visible taking place out in the streets. COP26 has meant a less visible presence of the police particularly in the evenings. There will be increased patrols at Douglas Park when possible due to vandalism taking place there which is very frustrating. There have been a variety of reasons for less parking at the corners of streets, some tickets have been issued and sometimes a friendly word has been given. Discretion levels have already been reduced and will continue to do so in the areas where there have been problems with parking inappropriately. Cllr Murdoch stated he had not seen increased patrols but would appreciate if possible if the night time patrols could be increased particularly on Fridays and Saturdays. Cllr Grainey confirmed that people would like to see a greater police presence if resource allowed. Cllr Marshall stated he had been pleased to see parking tickets being issued at the Moorings which was a problem spot. However there are still non-disabled people parking in the disabled bays at Tron Place and he hopes that this will be addressed.

	<p>It is still hoped that decriminalisation of parking will take place next year.</p> <p>PS Fisher stated that there could possibly be a seasonal increase in burglaries in the run up to Christmas but did not have stats to hand. Covid restrictions reducing and people being out more had probably contributed to number of assaults.</p>
6	<p><b>Secretary's report</b> – all emails forwarded</p>
7	<p><b>Social Media</b> – Denise introduced the Youth Forum members – Skye and Katie. The forum is a voice for young people and they have a number of projects ongoing including a website with information for young people. As mental health is a concern, they are doing mental health training and raising awareness of it to help people. They are trying to get a building for young people to meet, chat and relax together. They are also COP 26 local champions to raise awareness of climate change.</p> <p>Youth Forum is for 11 to 18 year olds.</p> <p>Cllr Murdoch is concerned to hear that the young people are in need of somewhere to meet up.</p> <p>Skye has been talking to teachers about the need for more mental health assistance. There is a mental health ambassador team in school which is for year 6 but they are trying to get it opened up for all ages.</p> <p>Skye and Katie feel that the pandemic has greatly affected young people's mental health as they have been out of school for a long time and using Zoom instead which has heightened people's anxiety. Social anxiety has increased and this is the 1<sup>st</sup> time that many students are sitting exams which is nerve wracking. There are only 2 counsellors for a school of 1000 pupils which is not enough. Cllr Phillips offered the Community Council's assistance if needed for any of their projects. All 4 North Coast Councillors would also be willing to assist in any way they can.</p> <p>Cllr Stevenson advised that, he and another member of Dementia Friendly Largs, had recently visited Centre Stage in Kilmarnock. This is a charity which took over an old building, raised the money to renovate it for the use of all the youths in and around Kilmarnock. It is for the use of all the community and all age groups and their work is very inspiring.</p> <p>Largs Academy pupils introduced themselves – Archie Nelson is one of the Captains and Joseph McIntosh and Eilidh Robinson are 2 of the Vice Captains of the school. All are actively involved in the Pupil Council and try to be approachable to other pupils to allow them to get their voices heard within school. They want to promote leadership and be part of the Community Council as a voice in the local community and report back after the meetings.</p> <p>Cllr Stevenson asked the pupils what they thought that Largs as a community should provide for the younger generation. He also advised that Largs Community Council require some help with Social Media as we currently don't have a Social media presence and are not visible. It would be great if they could help us with that. The pupils stated it would be good to have communication with the School Pupil Council and Largs CC and they are also sure that there would be capable pupils in school who could help with Social media. They will discuss it at their next meeting. Cllr Grainey expressed her reservations about Social media and its impact and considered that Largs CC could help as a listening ear. Cllr Phillips clarified that Social Media was for information purposes eg to post the minutes. Denise advised that Skye and Katie had offered to help with Social Media and perhaps they could also liaise with the Pupil Council. Cllr Murdoch explained that the North Coast Locality Partnership had 3 priorities – stress and anxiety in young people, social isolation in the elderly and financial inclusion and Denise would be able to give further information about these priorities. Cllr Smith advised that we used Social Media in the past when we had young people on the CC to publicise meetings, minutes and other communications from the North Coast Locality Partnership etc. She also referred to Cllr Black's email about access to meetings and the fact that Largs CC is not making the public aware of our existence and what we do. A Social Media presence would help to address this.</p>
8	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b> – Admin account opening balance - £620 less £83.20 for postage, wreath and Zoom – balance £536.80. Project account - £100 donation paid to Friends of Clyde Muirshiel Park. Balance of Dementia Friendly is £36. The project fund is from grants etc and the bank statement showing the balance will be sent from the bank. Accounts – proposed – Cllr Adair, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Cllr Stevenson</p>
8	<p><b>Sub Committee Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dementia Friendly Largs and District</b></li> </ul>



**Dementia Friendly  
Largs and District18.1**

Opening of bank account is still ongoing due to a problem with Councillor Stevenson's address having 2 postcodes. Councillor Stevenson may have to remove his name from bank account to allow it to be opened. £36 is the balance of funds held as the grant has been spent.

The group is hosting a stand in Morrison's on Friday 17 December to issue the emergency tubs and looking for volunteers to man the stand.

Councillor Stevenson asked if the youth forum would like to become involved in the Dementia Group. If any are musically talented they could perhaps join the visits to care homes for the musical events.

Denise would like someone from the group to speak to the forum.

**Action Point – Councillor Stevenson to arrange a presentation to the Youth Forum**

Councillor Phillips praised the work of the group.

- **Electric Vehicle Charging Points**



**EV charging  
points18.11.docx**

Councillor Stevenson has been advised that a presentation to local Councillors is scheduled for 23 November. The method of payment for the charging is not yet known. NAC are going to start charging for the electric chargers in December. The amount of voltage installed will be subject to budget restraints.

- **Environment and Community Garden**



**Environmental  
report18.11.docx**

- Councillor Dippie submitted further comments about the Red Road consultation as agreed at last month's meeting.
- Dawn Fresh – a pressure group from Bute have commissioned Dr Scanlon to do a modelling study for lice and chemical dispersion for the site. Dawn Fresh has accepted that there will be a relatively low level of pollution of Largs beaches.
- Hunterston Parc – a scoping request for an EIA on XLCC project made. Any feedback should be given to Councillor J Perman within the next few days.
- Hawkshill – replacement bridge has been ordered and hope to have it installed within 6 weeks. Councillor Murdoch commended Councillor Dippie for his work in getting the bridge reinstated. Councillor Murdoch can confirm that the link path should be installed by the end of March.

**Community garden**



**Community  
Garden18.11.docx**

- **Hunterston** – Councillor Dippie is still receiving communications which he has passed on to Councillor Wood but there seems to be a problem with the emails not being received. Next Hunterston meeting is 2 December.
- **Licensing** – No update
- **Planning** – a) Councillor J Perman has responded to the M & S consultation with 4 issues raised by CC – the building is very close to margins of site and over towering the local residents, potential noise from plant machinery, alienation of Townhead Close and access and ingress from A78. Environmental health has raised the noise aspect and NAC roads – insufficient parking spaces for size of building and alienation of Townhead Close. There is nothing yet about the A78 access which will be a problem in many ways. Discussion took place about the CC consultation process for

planning applications ie emails are sent out for responses by a certain date and it is up to individuals to respond or otherwise. All comments made are included in our submission. A question was raised about receipt of the relevant emails and the process for responses. It was stated that the process had been agreed by the CC and minuted in a meeting. There is a limited time to make the response to the planning application. Cllr J Perman confirmed that the M & S overall development was not opposed only the 4 issues already noted. Cllr Black considered that the present process is not clear nor is it properly documented. Cllr Phillips reiterated that the CC was not collectively against M & S and considered it would be good for the town. Cllr Phillips, taking on board the discussion and points made by those present, agreed to consider the process and discuss further.

Cllr Grainey referred to an article in the local paper that residents of Park View had not received the notifications sent out in regard to the development and asked Cllr Marshall for his comments. Cllr Marshall advised that there are 21 days to object from the date of the notification of an application. He also confirmed that 119 neighbour notifications had been sent out and the list is on NAC website. In addition the developers sent out approximately 280 to residents round about last August. Cllr Murdoch noted that not all owners are residents. Cllr Stevenson stated that this was a development company applying for the planning not M &S. He also stated that the CC had agreed that if it was necessary to call a special meeting for further discussion we would do so but it highlights the need for standing orders. Cllr Phillips agreed with this.

- b) -EIA from cable manufacturing plant at Hunterston which has been sent out. Responses to be made by 26 November
- **Transportation** – No update.

**9 North Ayrshire Council Report**

- Cllr Marshall advised that there is a further meeting next week to progress the refurbishment of the seafront toilets. Cllr Adair asked about the cost of the refurbishment. Approximately £150,000 to £180,000 is the cost of a complete strip out. The only way to fund the refurbishment is to use the car park fund. The Council will borrow money from the Public Works Loan Board at reduced rate. The work will go out to tender. In response to a question from Cllr P Perman, Cllr Marshall advised that Saltcoats have set up a local group similar to Cumbrae to seek grant funding. There will be different options for the method of paying for entry to the toilets.
- National Planning Framework 4 – lists all the potential developments across Scotland. Hunterston is part of that programme and is regarded as a strategic asset. Page 59 gives details. Any development there provides jobs for North Ayrshire but has to be environmentally acceptable. Cllr Black is interested to hear the views of the pupils about when they leave school where do they want to work and what is there locally and in Glasgow. Hunterston is a large brown site and what do pupils see as being acceptable to develop there.
- Cllr Murdoch has been in favour of refurbishing the toilets and installing a pay and entry system for some time and proposed that the money be borrowed from the future income of the car park. This has been agreed and the work should be completed by next Easter.
- If a pilot scheme is introduced for multiple recycling bins, Cllr Murdoch would welcome them in Largs town centre
- Due to Brisbane Street overrunning the budget for resurfacing, Kelvin Street and Haco Street will not be resurfaced this year and the work has been postponed.
- Flatt Road will not be resurfaced until next year but Cllr Murdoch considers it should be done now
- Repair work to the pavements and parking bays in Main Street is ongoing
- Largs Events arranged for the illuminations to be put up early. The tree in Tron Place will be powered from underground due to the work that has taken place to make this possible.
- Yuletide night was cancelled due to Covid issues. Santa will be taken around town on his sleigh, date to be confirmed. Selection packs will be issued to the primary schools in Largs, Skelmorlie and Fairlie. This has been supported by Largs businesses.
- Spare ground in Bath Street will be resurfaced and also fenced off
- The Men’s Shed which is to help social isolation is being well supported by volunteers but is still

	<p>looking for suitable premises.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Adair raised the concerns of residents at 21 Union Street about the cutting down of trees at the back and asked for Cllr Murdoch's advice</li> <li>• Cllr Wood stated that the condition of the road at Fraser Street was very bad with potholes and this is causing a problem for the disabled people living there. Cllr Murdoch will raise this with the Roads Department. Sandringham was also discussed.</li> </ul>
10	<p><b>A.O.C.B. –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Grainey asked if the sea level/flooding issues could be an agenda item with a report obtained from NAC 's Flooding Officer. Cllr Murdoch stated that Arthur Cowley is the Flooding Officer. Cllr Phillips suggested that this could be included in the Environment part of the agenda.</li> <li>• Cllr Black suggested that to accommodate the public at CC meetings, we could provide a slot at the beginning of the agenda to allow them to raise any issues</li> <li>• Denise felt that the young people attending tonight were a breath of fresh air and those from the Youth Forum would like to attend on a regular basis and also help with Social Media</li> </ul> <p><b>Action Point – Denise and Cllr Smith to discuss Social Media</b></p> <p>Cllr Phillips thanked everyone for attending the meeting.</p>
11	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting – 16 December 2021</b></p> <p><b>Action point – All Cllrs to send in their reports prior to the meeting and no later than 13 December 2021</b></p>