





Largs Community Council
 Approved Minutes
 Thursday, 16 December 2021, 7pm via Zoom

Present: Cllr Stevenson(Chair), Cllr Smith (Secretary), Cllr Wood (Treasurer), Cllr Adair, Cllr Dippie, Cllr Knowles, Cllr O'Connor, Cllr Marshall, Cllr Murdoch, Calum Corral (Largs & Millport Weekly News), PS Donald Fisher (Police Scotland), Frank Alexander – member of the public

Apologies: Cllr Phillips, Cllr Black, Cllr Graine, Cllr J Perman, Cllr P Perman, Louise Riddex, Denise Fraser and members of the Youth Forum, Largs Academy pupils

Item	Business
1	Welcome –In the absence of Cllr Phillips, Cllr Stevenson chaired the meeting. He welcomed all members and 2 guests, John O'Connor who has volunteered to become a member and Frank Alexander. He also reminded everyone of zoom meeting protocol including recording of the meeting for minute purposes only. He also drew attention to the fact that the press was present at the meeting.
2	Apologies – As noted above. The Community Council send their good wishes to both Cllr Phillips and Cllr Black for a speedy recovery from their illness and injuries.
3	Introduction and Co-option of new member – John O'Connor gave a brief overview of himself and his experience. His passion is keeping the streets safe for people and making Largs the best place it can be, hence his reason for wanting to become a Community Councillor. Proposed – Cllr Wood, 2 nd – Cllr Adair Action point – Cllr Smith to send a copy of the Declaration of Office and Code of Conduct to John O'Connor for completion
4	Minutes of Meeting of 18 November 2021 Approved – Cllr Dippie, 2 nd – Cllr Adair
5	Matters Arising from Minutes and Action Points Bank account – signatories changed and now have online banking. Cllr Wood is still progressing her access with the bank. Confirmed all Councillors have emailed Declaration of Office to NAC. Constitution and Standing Orders are currently being updated with the assistance of North Ayrshire Council. One important issue is the consultation process including the timeline for Planning applications. Action Point – Secretary to send a copy of the Constitution and Standing orders to all Community Councillors when updated. Moving forward Community Council to consider how we can assist young people with the issues important to them and also around mental health. How to we engage with young people in a meaningful way? Denise Fraser could possibly assist with this. Cllr Wood expressed concern about young mothers with children aged 7 to 11 as well as teenagers as they have also been very isolated from their friends and support group. The Youth Forum members and Largs Academy pupils have offered to help us with Social Media so it may be useful to arrange a separate meeting with them to discuss it. Cllr Wood stated that Largs was really in need of a Community Centre where people could meet. Cllr Murdoch is arranging to get Largs Campus back in use and is helping with the renewal of their license for groups to use the premises. The use of the library, the Brisbane Centre, Toc h and church halls was also discussed. Cllr Marshall stated that it was NAC's policy to divest itself of as much property as possible and Largs Academy should be available for groups to use. There is no hope of obtaining a Community Centre. It was suggested by Frank Alexander that the money from the sale of Moorburn Municipal Chambers was to be used for a Community Centre in Largs but this was not the recollection of Cllr Murdoch. Calum Corral queried the position of the Stevenston Institute in relation to a Community centre. Cllr Murdoch confirmed that the money from the sale of the Stevenston Institute went to the Trust and was to be used for bursaries

	<p>and youth education. He does not know what the current position is. It was suggested that the press reports at the time could be checked. Cllr Murdoch also stated that due to budget constraints it is unlikely Largs will get a new Community Centre. Cllr Marshall stated that this was all historical information and the position is that there is sufficient accommodation eg school campus, church halls for community use.</p> <p>Cllr Stevenson highlighted Centre Stage in Kilmarnock as a great example of a community organisation and suggested the elected Councillors may find it useful to visit.</p> <p>Cllr Stevenson has arranged for a Dementia Friendly Largs presentation to be delivered to the Youth forum in February.</p> <p>Cllr Smith has given Denise Fraser some information about our Social Media accounts for the Youth Forum representatives.</p> <p>It was suggested that perhaps a talk from the NAC's Flooding Officer at one of our meetings might be a way forward at some point in the future. Cllr Marshall advised that SEPA have produced flood plans for Largs and the whole of the Clyde Coast and NAC have asked for a full report on it which will be published. This will be a source of information for the Community Council. It was agreed that this would be an acceptable way of taking this forward and can be part of the Environmental report rather than a separate agenda item.</p>
6	<p>Police Report See attached report for stats and summary</p>  <p>Dec 2021 Largs CC - Police Report-1.docx</p> <p>PS Fisher referred to the assault on Ian McCallum last month and confirmed that an arrest had been made and referred to the Procurator Fiscal.</p> <p>Internet fraud continues possibly due to people being at home more due to Covid restrictions. People should feel confident in saying no to an unsolicited approach as they do not owe any money but unfortunately money is transferred as a result of these approaches. Some parking tickets have been issued but there is a fine balance to achieve. Cllr Knowles expressed his concern about dangerous driving in town particularly at Gallowgate Square and the main road along to Nardini's. Cllr O'Connor raised the question of the amount of local police engagement with the public which he felt could be improved. PS Fisher stated that this was also a 2 way issue and the current town centre police are very approachable. He feels they do have a good working relationship with the community but will pass on this information to them.</p> <p>Cllr Wood referred to an incident in Moorburn Road in the early hours of Sunday morning when a group of youths were drunk and fighting and this upset people living there. PS Fisher will check this out.</p> <p>Cllr Adair referred to parking at junction of Union Street and Bath Street which was causing a problem for traffic in that area.</p> <p>Cllr Murdoch referred to the success of Santa's sleigh travelling around town and surrounding areas. All agreed it was excellent and enjoyed by all.</p>
7	<p>Secretary's report – Cllr Smith referred to 3 emails containing different surveys from North Ayrshire which hopefully Councillors completed. NAC plan to have induction training for Community Councillors in the new year.</p>
8	<p>Social Media – ongoing discussions taking place with Denise Fraser. Cllr Stevenson referred to a Community Council meeting at Callendar which he had attended. He has checked out their website and found it to be very informative. He recommended that we all take a look at it.</p>
9	<p>Treasurer's Report – All bills are up to date. Admin account - £512.41 Project account – remaining £36 paid to Dementia Friendly Largs, balance is £468.25.</p>
10	<p>Sub Committee Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dementia Friendly Largs and District  <p>Dementia Friendly Largs and District.1</p> <p>Bank account is now open and Cllr Stevenson is currently making a complaint to RBS about the length of</p>

time this has taken. Balance is £4036. Other grant funding applications are now being considered. Having made the first presentation to the Probus Club, the group would now like to make a presentation to the Community Council which would take approximately 30 minutes. All agreed that this could take place at January's meeting. Cllr Dippie suggested that this could be advertised in the local paper.

Action point – Calum Corral to include notice of this presentation in the local paper

Action point – Dementia Friendly Largs presentation to be arranged for the next Community Council meeting on 20 January 2022 at 7pm

Cllr Stevenson is keen to make the presentation to as many local groups as possible and particularly the Men's Shed with a view to getting assistance with a sensory garden.

- **Electric Vehicle Charging Points**



EV Charge
Points16.12.docx

- The EV charge points were not discussed at the meeting of Councillors on 23 November.
- It was noted that Morrison's are installing charging points.
- **Environment and Community Garden**



Environmental report
16.12.docx

- Rigghill appeal is now 7/01/22, Cllr Dippie has accepted an invitation to Largs CC to accompany the Reporter on a site visit in respect of Routenburn Road. This will not be about the Rigghill Windfarm but about the use of Routenburn Road by local people and the concerns held about its redevelopment. Cllr Wood expressed an interest in accompanying Cllr Dippie if permitted. No questions to the Reporter will be allowed. Cllr Dippie has already sent a paper with various points about the redevelopment.
- Hunterston Parc – Mainstream – Although there is a letter of agreement, it is dependent on a number of other factors as to what happens.
- **Community garden**



Community
Garden16.12.docx

Cllr Stevenson thanked Calum Corral for including an article in this week's local paper about the Community Garden which thanked all contributors to the garden. The garden has been well received by local people. It is good to see Largs Community Council being promoted in a positive light. The next event will be an Easter theme.

- **Hunterston** – Cllr Dippie attended a meeting on 2 December.



Hunterston report
16.12.docx

- Anybody wishing more reports from Hunterston should contact Cllr Dippie
- Hunterston representation requires to be taken to the full Community Council for a decision to allow all Councillors to express their interest. Cllr Dippie considered that there needs to be continuity regarding attendance at the quarterly meetings. Frank Alexander advised he had worked at Hunterston A and B stations for 40 years and is willing to offer his services to the Community Council. Cllr Stevenson stated that he would probably need to be either a full member or an Appointed adviser. Frank Alexander confirmed he would be happy in an appointed role if that was possible.
- **Action point – Frank Alexander to be considered for Appointed role**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion about the sub groups and their membership will be held over to the next meeting when our Chair, Jim Phillips will be present. • Action point – Sub groups and their membership to be included as an agenda item • Licensing –No update • Planning – a) Largs Thistle have applied to put in 6 floodlights at Barrfields. This is to make better use of the facilities during the evenings (5 to 9 pm). The neighbourhood notification includes Brisbane Street, Brisbane Road and Beachway, where properties are adjacent to Barrfields. Calum Corral stated that this was a very exciting time for the football club which is doing exceptionally well and Barrfields is a fantastic facility also being used for local groups. Floodlights will make it even better. No objections raised. • b) There was also a request for EIA screening opinion for the proposed rebuilding of the seawall between the lifeboat station and Aubrey Crescent. It has been agreed that the works are of a nature where an EIA is not necessary. • Transportation – No update.
11	<p>North Ayrshire Council Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Marshall advised that the waste ground at Bath Street has been an ongoing issue. The site is now being cleared and Mr Valerio’s area is to be fenced and leased out for parking spaces • Marks and Spencer application is going through the planning system. There are about 9 or 10 objections and there should be a decision early next year. • National Planning Framework 4 – promoting idea that there should be small modular reactors at Hunterston. This was discussed at a full Council meeting, it went to a vote and the Council agreed to support this. Rolls Royce is developing this. Scottish Government may change their views on this in the future. There is also another nuclear generation facility being planned for North Ayrshire for nuclear fusion. NAC are working with Glasgow University to get this based at Stevenston Ardeer which would create much needed jobs. There is a concern that when B station closes many jobs will disappear and not be replaced. • Another debate took place at the Council meeting about the Health and Wellbeing census for schools. Cllr Marshall objected on the grounds of being a breach of privacy and that the questions were inappropriate. The Children and Young People’s Commissioner for Scotland asked for the census to be stopped. The census is a very sensitive issue for anyone with children. Cllr Marshall and Cllr Murdoch had differing views on this census. Cllr Murdoch voted in favour of the survey following an amendment to provide an opt out clause which allows children to not take part in the survey. • Cllr Knowles raised the subject of Brisbane Street which was recently resurfaced and then dug up again for a new sewer at the old Queens Hotel site. He queried why emergency work was required and why the Council allowed it. He understood that there had to be a minimum of 6 months before the road could be opened up again. He was unhappy that the road and pavements had been dug up so recently after being resurfaced. Marshall advised that a contractor can ask for a road to be opened up but the onus is on the contractor to reinstate it to its former state. Once planning is given to a contractor they have 3 years to start the work. Cllr Marshall gave his assurance that the surface would be reinstated to its former state. He confirmed that this was not an emergency road closure but a normal one for emergency work. This is allowed under the legislation. • Cllr Murdoch also agrees with Cllr Knowles point and has complained to NAC. He is also unhappy that the budget for resurfacing streets in Largs only allowed for 2 streets to be done as Brisbane Street over ran the budget and the other 2 planned streets will now be in next year’s budget. Cllr Murdoch has asked if this work can be brought forward to this year. • Cllr Murdoch has asked NAC to reconsider how future financing of public toilets in North Ayrshire should be done but this will be very difficult due to tight budgets. He also noted that within the tendering and procurement list of NAC, there are 26 businesses but none are tradespeople. This has now been taken up by NAC. • Cllr Murdoch has also asked NAC to take action about the issues with fly tipping, dog fouling, littering etc and their enforcement

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr O'Connor wanted to thank Cllr Murdoch for his assistance in contacting NAC for help to deal with a problem of 8 bins belonging to Tinto Tapas being left in the street in front of their neighbour's property. Although the number of bins has reduced, this remains an ongoing problem as the bins create difficulties for disabled people on the pavement • Cllr Murdoch continues to try to address the Cumbrae ferry issues • Men's Shed – bank account has been set up, SCIO has been applied for but they are still looking for suitable premises
12	<p>A.O.C.B. – Cllr Stevenson thanked everyone for attending the meeting and on behalf of Cllr Phillips wished everyone a happy Christmas and New Year.</p>
13	<p>Date of Next Meeting – 20 January 2022 Action point – All Cllrs to send in their reports prior to the meeting and no later than 17 January 2022</p>