




Largs Community Council
 Approved Minutes
 Thursday, 20 January 2022, 7pm via Zoom

Present: Cllr Phillips(Chair), Cllr Smith (Secretary), Cllr Wood (Treasurer), Cllr Adair, Cllr Black, Cllr Dippie, Cllr Grainey, Cllr Knowles, Cllr O'Connor, Cllr J Perman, Cllr P Perman, Cllr Stevenson, Cllr Hill, Cllr Murdoch, Adam Lyon (Largs & Millport Weekly News), Denise Fraser and Louise Riddex North Ayrshire Council, PS Donald Fisher and PS Mark Semple (Police Scotland), Frank Alexander – member of the public, Christine Malcolmson and Davy Macdonald Dementia Friendly Largs and District

Apologies: Cllr Marshall, Largs Academy pupils and members of the Youth Forum

Item	Business
1	<p>Welcome –Chair welcomed all members and visitors. He reminded everyone of zoom meeting protocols including recording of the meeting for minute purposes only. He also invited any of the elected Councillors to step in if they wished to comment on any of the topics raised during the meeting.</p>
2	<p>Apologies – As noted above.</p>
3	<p>Dementia Friendly Largs and District Presentation Cllr Stevenson introduced Christine Malcolmson and Davy Macdonald, members of Dementia Friendly Largs and District steering group, who delivered a presentation of its work to date. It was set up as a result of Largs Community Council survey in which it was suggested that Largs should become a dementia friendly town. The presentation provided information about dementia, statistics on the number of people living with dementia, explained the contacts Dementia Friendly Largs and District had made with other organisations, detailed what DFL had achieved to date ie the emergency help tubs, leaflets providing information about the help and support available locally for people living with dementia and their carers, Purple Alert, Herbert Protocol, Playlist for Life and Lifebook (Age UK). Busy Bees is a new organisation in Largs which helps to support people at home. They also showed 2 very moving videos which showed the power of music to help people living with dementia. Dementia Friendly Largs and District is now a registered SCIO and there are a number of plans for the coming year to take the group forward. Cllr Phillips thanked Christine and Davy for their presentation. He found it very humbling and had a very strong message.</p>
4	<p>Litter Problem Cllr O'Connor expressed his concern about the litter and fly tipping problem in Gateside Street and in Largs generally over the past year eg in the car park at Gateside Street, items such as a toilet, bar stools, a complete bed, have been dumped along with general littering. The local paper ran an article this week following a conversation with Cllr O'Connor highlighting the problem. Cllr O'Connor considered that there were various reasons for the problem and they fall into 3 areas, flytipping, adults and school children dropping litter and visitors leaving their litter. The question is how to improve this situation and he feels that education is the key. Cllr O'Connor suggested that the Community Council consider education of adult groups and school groups and suitable signage. He gave various examples of signage he had seen elsewhere. He appreciated there was a budget implication. Cllr O'Connor suggested setting up a subcommittee within LCC to start to tackle the problem and take forward the ideas. He commended NAC for reacting positively to any areas he has raised to date. He has given it a temporary name of 'Lose the Litter'. Cllr Murdoch advised that he has been addressing the litter and flytipping problem for some time and he does not want to see duplication of effort by way of another campaign. There are numerous groups already involved in tackling the litter problem. He feels a joint approach is required rather than working separately. Cllr O'Connor stated that his idea was to get the message through to people that it was not acceptable to drop litter in the 1st place. Cllr Murdoch stated that he felt that if more people were fined for dropping</p>

	<p>litter this would help to stop the practice. Councillor O'Connor was in agreement with a joined up approach with the elected members and asked how that could be done. Councillor Hill is very much in favour of an educational campaign as they need to be run every 3 or 4 years as a reminder to people. Involving the schools is an excellent suggestion which the CC could lead on and elected Councillors could assist. There was considerable discussion about the flytipping and litter problem with everyone expressing their concerns. It was agreed that the way forward was to organise a zoom meeting initially with the environment sub committee and elected Councillors to discuss the subject.</p> <p>Action point – Councillor Smith to discuss with Councillor O'Connor and arrange a zoom meeting.</p>
5	<p>Police Report See attached report for stats and summary</p>  <p>Jan 2022 Largs CC - Police Report.docx</p> <p>PS Fisher stated that Covid had played its part over the Christmas period with less people out and about and the number of crimes reports. Councillor Phillips highlighted the poor parking in Gateside Street car park and in particular outwith the designated spaces. PS Fisher advised he would check up about the potential offence. Councillor Dippie asked for updates on Social media posts about an assault in the station, ongoing traffic problems at the new school, parking problems in town and a lot of broken glass in Anderson park. PS Fisher stated that with regard to the assault they are following a line of enquiry, he is aware of the parking problem at the school and the campus policeman does his best to be a presence at the busy entrance. PS Fisher would like to see the school work with parents to discourage parking near the school. Despite having been promised, a traffic management plan has never been drawn up. Councillor Phillips asked if Councillor Murdoch would raise this problem, in conjunction with the police, with NAC and he agreed to do so.</p> <p>Action point – Councillor Murdoch to raise the subject of a traffic management plan with NAC.</p> <p>Councillor Dippie asked if there were any evening police patrols covering Anderson park. The locality partnership police cover this on back shift but PS Fisher accepted that it is an area where there could be more of a presence particularly coming into the summer months.</p> <p>PS Semple, who is taking over from PS Fisher, introduced himself and is looking forward to working with LCC. Councillor Phillips thanked PS Fisher for his work with LCC and wished him well in his new role.</p>
6	<p>Minutes of Meeting of 16 December 2021 Approved – Councillor Wood, 2nd – Councillor Dippie</p>
7	<p>Matters Arising from Minutes and Action Points All action points cleared.</p> <p>Councillor Dippie asked if it would be possible to have a presentation from NAC about the flood plans for Largs. Councillor Murdoch offered to ask the senior flood officer for NAC if he would be available to make a presentation to LCC. Councillor Graine commented on the concerns of the public about the sea levels and that they were asking for more information on the subject.</p> <p>Action point- Councillor Murdoch to check with NAC about the possibility of a presentation being made about the flood plans for Largs</p>
8	<p>Constitution and Standing Orders Constitution and Standing orders dated back to 2012. Councillor Smith sought advice from Melanie Anderson of NAC who made some suggestions about bringing some items up to date. This was done and the revised copies of the Constitution and Standing Orders have been sent to all Community Councillors. Included in the Standing orders is the ability of the Chair or one fourth of the Community Council(3) to call a special meeting if required. This has always been part of the Standing Orders. The revised documents were agreed by all. Councillor Graine asked when suspension of Standing Orders would be applicable. An example would be where a decision has already been made, it should generally not be discussed again within a certain timescale. However if there was new information provided and two thirds considered the decision was wrong, standing orders could be suspended to allow further discussion.</p>
9	<p>Sub group activities Councillor Dippie suggested that it would be useful for the sub group activities to be explained and those in each</p>

	<p>group identified. Cllr Phillips detailed the following –</p> <p>Dementia Friendly Largs and District – Cllr Stevenson, Cllr Smith and Cllr Murdoch</p> <p>EV Charging Points – Cllr Stevenson</p> <p>Environment and Community Garden – Cllr Dippie, Cllr Stevenson, Cllr P Perman, Cllr Phillips</p> <p>Hunterston – vacant at present. Cllr Phillips requested a volunteer for this. Cllr Black volunteered as he has a background in energy and is interested in the safe decommissioning of the station. Cllr Dippie suggested Cllr Grainey be also considered for the position. He has attended the last few meetings as Cllr Wood was unable to attend. He had asked Cllr Wood if Cllr Grainey could take over this position as she had expressed an interest in it and this was agreed by Cllr Wood. He had emailed Cllr Phillips and Cllr Smith about this. Cllr Grainey stated that she had attended the Hunterston stakeholder meetings since 2015, had contributed considerably to the meetings and had grave concerns about the amount of radioactive waste material being stored. She considers that she would be able to ask the right questions at the meeting to find out exactly what was happening with the waste. It was suggested that if there were 2 people wanting to stand for the position, there should be a vote. Cllr Phillips explained that an individual could not decide who was taking office without a collective vote by the Community Council. Cllr Murdoch confirmed only one person could be a part of the meeting to contribute. Louise Riddex suggested that rather than vote in an open arena, it might be preferable to email the chair with their vote. Cllr Phillips requested that all Community Councillors should send their vote regarding their preference for the role of LCC representative at Hunterston by email to the secretary. Cllr Black also gave information about his background, his interest in the decommissioning and that it should be undertaken in a safe and sustainable way. It was agreed that the votes should be sent to the Secretary by 27th January.</p> <p>Action point – all votes for the position of Hunterston representative should be sent to the secretary by 27th January 2022.</p> <p>Cllr Smith advised that it was important to note that anyone appointed to represent LCC on an outside body such as Hunterston needs to be clear that their role is to receive information and any views expressed are the views of the Community Council as a whole rather their own personal opinion. Cllr Smith reminded everyone of the email address – largscommunitycouncilofficial@gmail.com</p> <p>Cllr Dippie suggested that due to the significant work in out of town issues, the Environment group should be split into at least 2 ie out of town including Hunterston Parc, fish farms, Rigghill etc and the in town issues including the Community Garden. Cllr P Perman offered to look after the in town issues and the garden along with Cllr Stevenson and Cllr Dippie will retain the out of town issues. Cllr P Perman was in agreement with a meeting being set up for the litter campaign which will include both in and out of town. Cllr Stevenson advised that he was unable to take on any more eg litter due to other commitments but wishes to retain the Community Garden.</p> <p>Licensing – Cllr Wood</p> <p>Planning – Cllr J Perman</p> <p>Police – Cllr Wood</p> <p>Transportation – Cllr Adair</p> <p>North Coast Locality Partnership – Louise Riddex advised that it is important to have representation from LCC at these meetings. Cllr Phillips will take this on and work with Cllr Stevenson.</p>
10	<p>Secretary's report – Cllr Smith is still waiting for dates for induction training for Community Councillors. NAC have agreed to refund the zoom payments made from October 2020 to date totalling £215.85 and thereafter on a monthly basis the fee will be refunded on application. This will be paid into the admin account.</p>
11	<p>Social Media – Cllr Smith has had a meeting with Denise Fraser, Katie and Skye from the Youth Forum to discuss Social Media and this is being progressed.</p>
12	<p>Treasurer's Report – Admin account at 17/01/22 - £482.37</p> <p>Project account at 1/01/22 –£468.25.</p> <p>Cllr Wood will set up a meeting with Melanie Anderson to discuss how we might increase our Project Account. Cllr Phillips proposed purchasing a new Dictaphone to help with the minutes. Proposed Cllr Adair, 2nd Cllr Dippie</p>

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Sub Committee Reports

- **Dementia Friendly Largs and District**



LCC Dementia
Report20.01.docx

Cllr Stevenson thanked Christine and Davy for the presentation tonight, also Cllr Hill for his help in getting the bank account opened and Denise Fraser for her help with the charity registration. Cllr Stevenson now wishes to provide a report to LCC at 6 monthly intervals and AGM.

- **Electric Vehicle Charging Points**



EV Charge
Points20.01.docx

Cllr Hill confirmed that NAC have been asked to bring more detailed proposals for the EV charging points at the next meeting in March.

- **Environment and Community Garden**



Environment
Report20.01.docx

- Beach clean – Saturday 5/02/22
- Hunterston Parc – Mainstream had hoped to develop a wind farm off Islay but have missed out on the contract and are looking at their options whether they go ahead with anything at Hunterston.
- Hawkshill – Cllr Murdoch advised that there is to be a traffic restriction at Bellesdale Avenue on 2/02/22. This is to allow delivery of the new bridge to the site.
- **Community garden**



Community
Garden20.01.docx

Cllr Stevenson, whilst working at the garden, has been thanked by members of the public for the display.

- **Hunterston** – see section 9
- **Licensing** – No update
- **Planning** – No update
- **Transportation** – No update

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North Ayrshire Council Report

- Bins at Tinto – the matter has been resolved and the bins will no longer be out in the street unless for emptying. The brown bins for the 1st time were unable to be emptied due to absences and breakdowns
- Installation work at the car park has now been completed and the cost was £20,000 less than expected but there has been a loss of income while the work was going on.
- Improvement work on the sea front toilets has now gone to tender and will have to wait to see how much this will be
- A public meeting about the new fusion plant at Ardeer is taking place on 26/01/22. Cllr Murdoch encouraged everyone to attend the meeting if possible.

Cllr Adair asked if we could be told the proposed estimate for the refurbishment of the toilets at the next meeting. Cllr Murdoch advised that we will need to wait until the tendering exercise is complete. The tenders will be confidential. Cllr Hill stated that it was worth remembering that the car park is owned by the Council with the money ring fenced to be spent in Largs. The issues around the car park are the Council's but devolved to the elected Members of the North Coast. Cllr Adair was unhappy that the money from the car

	<p>park was being used to refurbish toilets which are the property of NAC. Cllr J Perman stated that the auditors of the Council had confirmed that the car park funds are ring fenced to the Common Good Fund. Cllr Hill disagreed with this. Cllr P Perman advised that she would send confirmation of this to Cllr Hill. There was some disagreement about the subject of the car park and the Common Good Fund among those present.</p>
15	<p>A.O.C.B. – Cllr Smith advised that Frank Alexander, member of the public, had asked if LCC were going to do anything regarding the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Beacon lighting ceremony on 2nd June. Agreed to hold this over until the next meeting. Action point – To add this item to next month’s agenda. Cllr Phillips thanked everyone for attending the meeting and apologised for the length of the meeting.</p>
16	<p>Date of Next Meeting – 17 February 2022 Action point – All Cllrs to send in their reports prior to the meeting and no later than 14 February 2022</p>