






Largs Community Council  
 Approved Minutes  
 Thursday, 16 June 2022, 7pm

**Present:** Councillor Phillips (Chair), Councillor Smith (Secretary), Councillor Wood (Treasurer), Councillor Adair, Councillor Black, Councillor Dippie, Councillor Knowles, Councillor J Perman, Councillor P Perman, Councillor Stevenson, Councillor Thomson, Councillor Hill, Councillor Marshall, Councillor Murdoch, Denise Fraser, North Ayrshire Council, Calum Corral (Largs & Millport Weekly News), PS Mark Semple (Police Scotland), 1 member of the public, Helen Miller, North Ayrshire Council

**Apologies:** Councillor Ferguson, Louise Riddex

Item	Business
1	<p><b>Welcome</b> –Chair welcomed all members and advised of the recording of the meeting for minute purposes only. He welcomed the visitors to the meeting.</p>
2	<p><b>Apologies</b> – As noted above.</p>
3	<p><b>Litter and Flytipping Campaign - Helen Miller, Streetscene, North Ayrshire Council</b></p> <p>Helen Miller provided an update on litter and was interested to know if there was an appetite for a litter campaign. Councillor Wood expressed her concern about dog fouling and requested some dog bins. It is NAC policy to have general use waste bins. The policy for using single use plastic is to use up existing stock. Councillor Black asked if it was possible to have a refresh of posters etc to subconsciously enforce the use of bins. Helen Miller showed the poster currently in use. Councillor Phillips asked if the posters could also be displayed in shop windows. Councillor Stevenson showed a couple of examples of posters with emojis on them which he felt would be good for the campaign. Various views were expressed about the posters, their content and colour and the litter campaign. Councillor Murdoch stated that the larger bins and the introduction of a twilight shift to empty the bins had made a huge difference. There was also discussion about the need to change human behaviour about litter and educate and engage with children in school. Councillor Black advised Helen that Largs CC would like a reinvigorated litter campaign ie where could the posters be displayed, how many and when this could happen. Helen agreed to discuss this with her team and come back to the next meeting with their views. Councillors Black, Stevenson and Phillips volunteered to be involved in taking this forward. Denise Fraser stated that there were 2 ambassadors in the Youth Forum who are keen to be part of the campaign.</p> <p><b>Action point – Follow up the litter campaign at the next meeting</b></p>
4	<p><b>Police Report</b></p> <p>See attached report for stats and summary</p>  <p>June 2022 Largs CC      - Police Report(1).docx</p> <p>Councillors Wood and Adair had a meeting with PS Semple on 15 June to discuss issues. PS Semple has visited Largs Campus for discussions and the young people who had gone to the football pitch at Inverclyde Sports Centre have been spoken to. It was not their intention to cause criminal damage but just to play football. Some of the pupils had approached their Guidance teacher to discuss the fact that there is nowhere for them to play football in Largs as all the pitches are closed. PS Semple has a meeting on 17 June with the pupils to discuss this with them. The Secretary of Largs Thistle has advised that the use of Barrfields has to be supervised and PS Semple is going to see how this could be facilitated. It was agreed that there is little for children aged 10 – 16 to do in Largs. Councillor Black asked if there were any brown sites which could be used as a simple football pitch. Councillor Murdoch advised that there are existing grass areas which could be used. PS Semple stated that the preferred option is Largs Thistle ground and he will be speaking to the pupils about taking responsibility for the use of the pitch. There was discussion about various places which could</p>

	<p>be used including the tennis courts at Douglas Park. The tennis club have previously advised that they wanted to come back to use the courts but have not done so as yet. Cllr Marshall stated that there had been a number of groups interested in using the tennis court but no decision had been reached. He considered that it would be September before anything was discussed. It was not possible to bring this forward as the Council are going into recess now so it would be September. Cllr Murdoch advised that the Councillors had not yet met since the election, no date had been set and nothing would be resolved until the elected Councillors have a meeting together. Cllr Black requested that the elected Councillors advise why the tennis club have a veto on using the tennis grounds and could it be used as an interim measure. Cllr Marshall advised that all 5 Councillors would have a meeting at some point when the tennis courts would be discussed.</p> <p>PS Semple advised that Largs Thistle football pitch is of a high standard and it is where the children wish to play football. Cllr Murdoch stated that the children need the option of both supervised and unsupervised football. There was a full discussion about the tennis courts and their potential use. It was suggested that the resolution of the use of the tennis courts be an action point for the next meeting but Cllr Marshall again stated that the Council was going into recess so there would be no decision until end of August. Money has been made available to Irvine Tennis Club for its renovation. It was agreed that all options would be explored.</p> <p>PS Semple stated that a suspect had been identified for the theft of the motor bike at the weekend. There is no risk to the community around motor bikes being stolen. Due to the departure of PC Dominic Murphy, a new police officer is starting in Largs on 20/06/22. The town centre officers continue to address the parking issues in town.</p> <p>Cllr Marshall asked that speeding in Brisbane Glen Avenue be addressed. Electric scooters are being used on the prom and as this is illegal, he would like the police to speak to the people using them.</p> <p>PS Semple asked if there was anything else needing clarified about events over the last month. Cllr Stevenson explained that he and PS Semple had had an exchange of emails about the Jubilee event about some issues but it had been a great Community Council event. PS Semple stated that he had no concerns about the event having followed up on some issues but no further action was required.</p>
5	<p><b>Minutes of Meeting of 19 May 2022</b> Approved – Cllr Adair, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Cllr P Perman</p>
6	<p><b>Matters Arising from Minutes and Action Points</b> Cllr Dippie has been omitted inadvertently from list of attendees – to be included. Cllr Black asked if there was any update on trees in Brisbane Glen. Cllr Murdoch advised that he had asked for a survey of all the trees and as far as he was aware there were no issues. Cllr Black asked Cllr Murdoch if there was confirmation of this in writing and could he have sight of it. Cllr Murdoch to follow this up. In relation to the action point for Cllr Murdoch to obtain details of income and expenditure from car park for the last 5 years, he stated he had been advised by NAC that a Freedom of Information request should be made for the required information. <b>Action point – a Freedom of Information request to be made for details of income and expenditure from the car park for the last 5 years.</b> Cllr J Perman advised that he had circulated details of the car park income and expenditure for the years 2020 and 2021 and from 1<sup>st</sup> July, the details for 2022 would be available from NAC. Agreed that Largs CC will wait for receipt of the information from the FOI to raise any questions. Cllr Thomson asked about the sum of £7312 per year from Haylie House going into the Common Good Fund and why it was so little from a very viable business. Cllr Marshall as a trustee of Haylie House advised that, on transfer to NAC many years ago, the decision was made that as most of the residents are local and it is a charity, they should pay a nominal rent but be responsible for all repairs and maintenance.</p>
7	<p><b>Community Garden -Queen's Platinum Jubilee</b> Cllr Stevenson thanked everyone who took part in the Jubilee event at the Community Garden which was very successful. Special thanks to Jamie and Craig for their cake and also the one provided to Haylie House, to NAC for grant funding, Morrisons for providing the sandwiches and the local paper.</p>
8	<p><b>Community Centre –</b> Cllr Thomson stated that the town lacked a Community Centre and asked the elected</p>

	<p>Councillors if they had any plans for a viable place for a Community Centre. The money from the sale of Helter Skelter is held in trust for the children of Largs and could be used for any project to open a Community Centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Hill confirmed that there is a community hub within the Flatt Road Sheltered Housing but it is not a drop in centre for youngsters. It will be available for community use.</li> <li>• Cllr Murdoch questioned how a community centre would be financed and manned long term. He suggested getting a constituted group together, apply for funding and draw up a viable business plan for a centre and he would back it.</li> <li>• Cllr Hill stated that there was a possibility of available buildings with the church closures but it depends on what the church plans to do with the buildings. It would have to be an existing building which could be renovated and transformed and also be sustainable. Cllr Hill would be supportive of the project.</li> <li>• Cllr Marshall considered that the community should be surveyed to find out what support there would be for a community centre. A group would need to get together to see how you would fundraise to cover the capital costs of renovation etc. He would support the project if it was viable.</li> </ul>
9	<p><b>Grant Funding</b> – Cllr Stevenson has applied for a grant from the Co-op Community Fund for Access to Food and Largs CC is now on the Co-op’s Community Group. The grant will not be decided until October/November. Cllr Stevenson asked Andrew Stakis for a grant for Access to Food which he agreed to and has matched the Co-op’s grant ie £3,000. We now need to approach the organisations who are dealing with and accessing food and discuss how we can help. Cllr Stevenson suggested setting up a committee to manage this project – volunteers Cllrs P Perman, Thomson, Phillips, Smith and himself. Cllr Stevenson will set an initial meeting.</p> <p><b>Action Point – Cllr Stevenson to arrange a meeting with volunteers to take this forward</b></p>
10	Secretary’s report and Social Media – no update
11	<p><b>Treasurer’s Report</b> – Admin account - £289.79  Project account - £3,335.87 which includes the grant of £3000 from Stakis.  Proposed – Cllr Adair, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Cllr P Perman</p>
12	<p><b>Sub Committee Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Environment - out of town</b> – see attached report for detailed information    Out of Town  Environmental Report  Cllr Murdoch expressed his thanks to Cllr Dippie for his participation in the site visits.</li> <li>• <b>Hunterston</b> –    Hunterston  updateJune.docx  Cllr Black stated that it would be important to keep on top of decommissioning to ensure the standards don’t drop. No SEPA report about actions taken with EDF.</li> <li>• <b>Licensing</b> –No update</li> <li>• <b>Planning</b> – Public Consultation about sea wall at Aubery taking place, no planning permission has yet been applied for, work will take about 4-6 months during which time the prom will be shut. Work is expected to start next year.  Takeaway at the station has been approved.  Bluestone shop at Lovat Street has closed and there is a planning application in for a change of use to class 1 shop to include dog crèche. Garden will be fenced off to provide outside space for the dogs and there will be some off street parking. There are some complaints about the fence and the dogs barking. All agreed to support the application.  There was discussion about the action required to support an application and the use of the 3</li> </ul>

	<p>options available. It was agreed that CCLr J Perman would write to NAC Planning to clarify the process.</p> <p><b>Action point – CCLr J Perman to write to NAC Planning for clarification of the options available.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transportation</b> – discussions ongoing</li> </ul>
13	<p><b>North Ayrshire Report –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Marshall advised that the planning application for M &amp; S had been approved but with lots of conditions attached which need to be worked through. This is likely to take until next year.</li> <li>• Cllr Hill stated that he was keen to work with Community Councils on their projects. They can run projects, apply for money and use their own bank accounts.</li> <li>• Car park infrastructure has not worked correctly since its installation, new improved cameras have arrived but the casings that house them have not so they can't be installed. There have also been problems with the cleanliness of the toilets. Cllr Murdoch has had a meeting with 2 senior officers to address the issues and hopefully in the next couple of weeks the car park should be operating correctly.</li> </ul>
14	<p><b>A.O.C.B. –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member of the public commented on the fact that Largs CC was a very strong group of people.</li> <li>• CCLr Dippie asked if all Community Councillors could be copied into responses by members in any official emails- agreed.</li> <li>• Agreed to update contact list again.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action point – all new members to send their contact details to secretary ie address and telephone number</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calum asked about access to GPs and any issues regarding this. It was generally agreed that there were problems around contact with GPs. CCLr Phillips requested that the elected Councillors take this forward.</li> </ul> <p>CCLr Phillips thanked everyone for attending the meeting.</p>
15	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting –21 July 2022 at Clark Memorial Church.</b></p> <p><b>Action point – All CCLrs to send in their reports prior to the meeting and no later than 18 July 2022</b></p>