




Largs Community Council
Approved Minutes of Ordinary meeting
Thursday, 19 January 2023 at 7pm

Present: Cllr Phillips,(Chair), Cllr Smith (Secretary), Cllr Wood (Treasurer), Cllr Adair, Cllr Black, Cllr Knowles, Cllr J Perman, Cllr P Perman, Cllr Stevenson, Cllr Low Thomson, PS Mark Semple, Louise Riddex, North Ayrshire Council, , Calum Corral (Largs & Millport Weekly News), Alistair Gemmell (Strategic Planning manager, NAC), 1 member of the public

Apologies: Cllr Collyer, Cllr Ferguson, Cllr Hill, Cllr Marshall, Cllr Murdoch

Item	Business
1	Welcome –Chair welcomed all members to the meeting and reminded everyone that the meeting is recorded for minute purposes only. Chair introduced Alastair Gemmell from NAC.
2	Apologies – As noted above.
3	Local Development Plan Update – An informative presentation was given by Alastair Gemmell about the new Development Plan Scheme, providing information about what is likely to be involved at each stage and when, how and with whom consultation will take place. An Evidence Report will be prepared based on results of consultation. An overall timetable was given. He also advised that it was an opportunity for LCC to prepare its own Local Place Plan. An invitation regarding this will be published in the next couple of months and the plan will need to be submitted by summer 2024. The launch of the scheme has still to take place.
4	<p>Police Report See attached report for stats and summary</p>  <p>January 2023 Largs CC - Police Report(2)</p> <p>The clamping of cars is the responsibility of DVLA and is related to having no road tax and not the police’s responsibility. PS Semple advised that they were still focussing on road traffic and have a proactive approach to speeding and other driving issues. Parking is monitored in and around the town. The incident relating to shoplifters resulted in them being remanded on the day. There was discussion about the security of cars and where car keys should be left at night safely.</p>
5	Minutes of Meeting of 15 December 2022 Approved with amendment– Cllr Wood, 2 nd – Cllr Stevenson
6	<p>Matters Arising from Minutes and Action Points Amendment - section 8 should read £175 not £75 as stated. Action point ongoing– Cllr Black to email Louise to ask her to arrange a visit from someone from Active Travel Action Point about the Local Gift Card ongoing – Cllr Stevenson</p>
7	<p>Largs Community Council Priorities 2023 We are looking for areas in which the community have an interest and where we can engage and offer support to move them forward in 2023. As a starting point, if we can identify what we think the community may want, we can consult with them and get their views. It would be helpful to have something published in the local paper to ascertain the public’s thoughts about this also. We accept that our own views are not necessarily the views of the majority of people so we require consultation on this. Cllr Low Thomson advised that teachers are trying to teach children that they are the next generation who will be responsible for everything going on in the community and so we need to be able to bridge the age gap. To do this we need somewhere that all ages from the youngest to the elderly can mix together and share skills. There seems to be a problem about different groups working together. Perhaps a community centre might help to</p>

build the community.
 LCC could have its own Place Plan to include what our community needs. Louise intends to start up chitchats which brings local groups together to share information and work together. It was agreed that a community centre could have so many uses and it is really essential that Largs has one.
 More attractions for visitor and locals required. Some suggestions have been discussed in the past but have merit and could be revisited with a view to overcome the obstacles.

Suggestions

- A cinema – could be housed in the Barrfields. Millport currently has a screen machine. Mobile cinema
- Land train running through Largs – Active Travel could be consulted.
- Rickshaw – storage area now identified
- Bowling alley
- Events group - anything planned that LCC could be involved with as the 2 groups don't currently work together - **Cllr Knowles to discuss with Events group**
- Climbing Centre situated in one of the churches with the involvement of a private company. Consider social enterprise.

Yuletide – Christmas shop window competition. Use Harrogate as example

- From Monday 20 November with judging taking place prior to Yuletide Evening where Winners are announced - receiving a framed certificate for each category with overall winner receiving a Trophy - all of which can be displayed within the winning premises
- Category of shops : can be split into 3 in order that 3 winners go forward to Final Selection ie Large retailers / small shops / pubs, restaurants, hotel
- Judging Criteria
- Illumination: how well is window lit up
- Innovation: how new or different is the window display from other shop windows
- Spirit of Christmas: how well does display convey the “Spirit of Christmas”

As this was done pre Covid and was led by Events Committee, LCC could work with them to arrange this again.

Action Point – Cllr Knowles to take this suggestion to the Events Committee for their agreement

- **Community Council/Dementia Friendly Largs and District/Alzheimer’s Scotland Memory Walk**
Weekend of 17-18 September at Largs Prom - sponsored walk to raise awareness in the town of dementia and Alzheimers.
- Heritage Trail – walks around the town explaining the historical sites. Lack of signposts explaining the area.
- Rail Tours – Cllr Black offered to write a letter to the Rail Tour Companies to ask them if they would consider Largs as a destination for rail tours for the day. All agreed to this suggestion.

Action point – Cllr Black to write a letter to Rail Tour Companies as above

- Town Twinning – the minister of Clark Memorial Church was involved in this. It may be worthwhile reviving this as it has huge potential. Cllr Knowles suggested that as it will be the 20th anniversary in 2026, it would give 4 years to plan any event and build it up. Suggested we contact Reverend David Watson for more information.

Action point – Any further suggestions of what would be of benefit to the community to be emailed to Secretary

8 Access to Food and Grant Funding –
 Stage 1 Oct - Dec'22
 Established Sat morning Takeaway Homebake : providing cooking classes for adults & children with food made “Takeaway” for that days meal (free of charge)
 Thursday Common Ground 2.00 - 6.00pm suggested adult donation £2.00 with Kids free Afternoon soup and hot drink with dinner buffet 4.30 - 5.30pm

	<p>Circa 30 kids & 20 adults attending with school teacher assisting with homework & lessons Christmas Dinner was provided to 60 with further 50 meals on New Year's Day Phase 2 Jan - End March Maintain above projects with Sat event changing to alternative Sat for Adults only. Thursday Common Ground continuing weekly Introduction of Souper Awesome Storytime starting every Wed from 8 Feb 5.00- 6.30pm Story, activity with homebaking (cookies etc) with Soup & Roll's CCllr Stevenson proposed that the cost to maintain and expand above would be £800.00 which would be funded from the Access to Food group. All agreed to this.</p>
9	<p>Litter and Flytipping Campaign – Phase 1 : revisit in March shops not displaying litter sign and ask if they will display Phase 2: picture of large metal Emoji signs at park gates, school campus, litter areas etc - provide to NAC (Louise) to establish approval required and process – require some volunteers to help with this. Emoji badges for Largs High School pupils circa 1,500 to last 2 years (leaving & joining) Submit joint funding application for metal signs and badges – Community Investment Fund is a minimum of £5000. Consider how best to build a case for this funding. Perhaps in conjunction with Dementia Friendly Memory Walk, Welcome to Largs signs.</p>
10	<p>Sub Committee Reports Updated Membership of groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment – Chair for out of town required • In town and Community Garden– CCllr Stevenson . CCllr P Perman is willing to remain part of this group • Hunterston Parc Liaison and Hunterston Stakeholders Group – CCllr Black who is also willing to keep a watch and brief on environment but no formal role • Licensing – CCllr Wood • Planning – CCllr J Perman • Transportation – CCllr Adair and CCllr Knowles • Police – CCllr Wood <p>• Community Garden Update</p> <p>Dates and times for diaries Easter Mon 10 April : set up Sat 1 April / take down Sat 15 April : 11.00am Summer Bedding Plants : Date to be agreed Halloween Tues 31 Oct : set up Sat 21 Oct / take down Sat 4 Nov : 11.00am Christmas Mon 25 Dec : set up Sat 9 Dec / take down Tues 2 Jan – we require a bigger tree for next Christmas and we will have sleigh , Santa and reindeer in addition to the snowman. Perhaps also consider a better tree and lights for the town. Potential Event : King Charles III Coronation 6 May (same as Jubilee Event) –how best to commemorate the occasion and to what extent - to be discussed in more detail Louise suggested that we could consider applying to the Locality PB for up to £1000 when organising events for items such as plants and materials required. There are at least 4 events planned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning – No update but CCllr J Perman referred to a possible application for a Solar plant in Cumbrae. An EIA scoping request has been made. • Transportation – the extent of potholes in the roads remains a big concern. There was also concern raised about the impact of heavy rainfall causing flooding on roads and cutting off access to Largs.
11	<p>Treasurer's Report – Admin account - £568.51 . Project account - £2705.87, balance of Access to Food grant is £2395 leaving £310.87 as LCC funds. New account opened for larder, balance £6000. Proposed CCllr Thomson, 2nd CCllr Adair</p>
12	<p>Secretary's report and Social Media –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Ayrshire Funding Fayre, Friday 3 March 10am – 12.30pm at Saltcoats Town Hall. CCllrs J and P Perman, Stevenson and Thomson will attend this event • Budget Engagement Session on 25th January at 6pm – change of venue to Largs Primary School

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Ayrshire Community and Locality Planning Conference 2023 on 28th January at Saltcoats Town Hall – Cllr Low Thomson attending
13	<p>A.O.C.B –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Phillips expressed his concern about the problems being incurred by the local community with the GP’s surgery. Cllrs Phillips and Smith previously attended a meeting at the surgery but problems remain. Cllr Phillips would like members to come up with suggestions for a contingency plan to take to GP’s surgery. He is quite willing to meet up again and engage with them in relation to what LCC can do to help support them. There was a discussion around the issues eg problems with communications, difficulty with getting appointments, staff are still required to routinely test for Covid which is now not the case in other businesses (this is a national directive), e-consult not working <p>Action point – all to consider way forward and email suggestions to Secretary</p> <p>Cllr Black suggested taking the problem of GP’s phone system to a network of Scottish Community Councils to share the problems and take to the Health Minister.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A discussion took place about the continuing absence of the elected Councillors at LCC meetings and it was agreed that we would follow up on our email to arrange a meeting. <p>Action point - Secretary to follow up email</p> <p>Cllr Phillips thanked everyone for attending the meeting.</p>
14	<p>Date of Next Meeting –16 February 2023 at the Community Hub.</p> <p>Action point – All Cllrs to send in their reports prior to the meeting and no later than 13 February 2023</p>