





Largs Community Council  
 Approved Minutes of Ordinary meeting  
 Thursday, 20 April 2023 at 7pm

**Present:** Cllr Phillips(Chair), Cllr Smith (Secretary), Cllr Adair, Cllr Black, Cllr Woods, Cllr J Perman, Cllr P Perman, Cllr Low Thomson, Cllr Hill, Cllr Murdoch, PS Mark Semple, North Ayrshire Council, Calum Corral (Largs & Millport Weekly News), Scotland, 1 member of the public – Thomas Stewart, Pastors Tasha Alison and Steve Fountain, Largs Naz Church

**Apologies:** Cllr Stevenson, Cllr Marshall, Cllr Ferguson, Louise Riddex

Item	Business
1	<p><b>Welcome</b> –Chair welcomed all members, Cllrs and 1 member of the public to the meeting. He reminded everyone of the code of conduct at meetings. Chair welcomed Cllr Wood back following her illness. He also wanted Cllr Stevenson to know that all members of LCC are thinking about him at this time.</p>
2	<p><b>Apologies</b> – As noted above. Chair also drew everyone’s attention to the timings on the agenda.</p>
3	<p><b>Police Report</b>          See attached report for stats and summary</p>  <p>April 2023 Largs CC - Police Report.docx</p> <p>PS Semple advised that it had been a reasonable month. Police had attended the road accident at the top of the Haylie Brae on Saturday. There has been a change in personnel with one officer moving to CID and he will be replaced shortly. Cllr P Perman recounted an experience she had had regarding a bag that she had found on a seat at the prom and the difficulties she had encountered contacting the police as it was the weekend. PS Semple advised that the contact should be to phone 101 and there is a button at Brooksby to enable contact. PS Semple will check that the button is there and working. Cllr Wood advised that she would contact PS Semple prior to the next meeting.</p>
4	<p><b>Food Programme – presentation by Tasha Alison and Steve Fountain</b></p> <p>Tasha thanked LCC’s Access to Food group for funding the Easter Fun day held recently in partnership with Douglas Park which had been very successful with face painting, lots of food, crafts and Easter egg hunt for children 10 and under. 40 families took part and everything was free. Great feedback was received. Tasha gave an update on the work being carried out at Largs Naz Church in relation to their food programme ie on Thursdays - Common Ground which provides soup and meals for adults and families, on Wednesdays Souper Awesome Storytime and 2 different cookery courses for both adults and children. All of these are extremely popular and well attended. In the autumn, it is the intention to hold slow cooker classes. They would very much like to expand their food programme but space is a problem. Cllr Smith advised that a Participatory Budget grant of £900 had been received by Largs CC for the slow cooker programme. There was also discussion about the Holiday Meals Programme for the children this summer. A number of questions were raised about the programme and its availability for all children. Cllrs J and P Perman suggested a welly throwing competition as one of the activities. Cllr Hill advised that it was his understanding that the meals would be for all children but there was still ongoing discussion about this.</p>
5	<p><b>Matters Arising from Minutes and Action Points</b></p> <p><b>Action Points-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Gift Card ongoing – Cllr Stevenson</li> <li>• Cllr P Perman to pursue viability of mobile cinema – no reply from email as yet- ongoing</li> <li>• Louise to follow up the land train</li> <li>• Christmas competition to be organised at Community Garden – sub group – September/October</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Black has emailed Midland Pullman Luxury Services and also another rail company to consider Largs as a destination – Cllr Black has communicated with Hunterston Parc about the redundant sidings - <b>continuing action</b></li> <li>• Town twinning – Callum advised that there is an event in Sharps about this on Thursday, 4/05/23. Calum will email details to Cllr Black. Funding could possibly be through Common Good.</li> <li>• <b>GP Surgery</b> - Cllrs Phillips and Smith to re-engage with GP's surgery, contingency plan required – <b>ongoing</b></li> </ul>
5	<b>Minutes of Meeting of 16 March 2023</b> Approved – Cllr Adair, 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Cllr P Perman
6	<b>Community garden – Coronation display</b> Committee met and agreed a crown would be made for display at the Community Garden. Cllr Black is currently making the crown. He will also clean up the plaque from the Queen's Jubilee. Cllr Smith has purchased bunting for the garden. All will be put up the weekend prior to the coronation. It had been suggested that a bench could possibly be put in the Community garden but having measured up the area, it was decided that there was insufficient room. This will now be offered to the station community garden.
7	<b>Grant Funding – Access to Food and Litter Campaign</b>  Largs Community Council 2023April.doc Cllr Smith drew attention to the 2 Participatory Budget grants awarded - £1000 for in town environment ie £300 for Community Garden and £700 for litter campaign and £900 for Access to Food. Both have now been paid. Grants to be spent within the year and receipts must be provided for all expenditure. Cllrs Stevenson and Black are meeting to determine possible locations for the large metal emoji litter signs. Cllr P Perman will arrange for the remaining litter signs to be handed out to the businesses in town for display. Dementia Friendly Memory Walk – now likely to be held at Barrfields Football Park on Sunday 17/09/23 possibly from 12 to 3pm. DFL would like LCC to be involved in this.
8	<b>Secretary's report and Social Media –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The venue for LCC meetings has now been booked until March 2024 as requested by NAC.</li> <li>• Local Landscapes Presentation at Clark Memorial Church on 27/04/23 from 4 -6pm</li> <li>• Friends of Muirshiel Regional Park – if interested in becoming involved, email them</li> </ul>
9	<b>Treasurer's Report –</b> Admin account - £568.51. Project account - £3726.97, PB grants of £1000 and £900, balance of Access to Food grant is £1516.10 leaving £310.87 as LCC funds. Larder account balance is £6000. Proposed Cllr Wood, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cllr Adair Cllr Hill advised that the question of the larder is to be discussed at the cost of living meeting due to be held on 4/05/23. Largs Academy Head teacher and Largs Thistle have agreed to be part of this group. Cllr Hill advised that a container at the library was being considered to house the larder. NAC are also working on proposals to offer benefit advice.
10	<b>Sub Committee Reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Environment and Community Garden</b> – as above</li> <li>• <b>Hunterston</b> – Cllr Black has emailed the points from the Hunterston Parc meeting and minutes will come out in due course</li> <li>• <b>Licensing</b> – no update.</li> <li>• <b>Planning</b> – RBS is changing its signage. The fencing at the old Pearsons garage has now been removed so hopefully the work on M&amp;S is starting. Cllr Murdoch stated that M&amp; Co own their building and the car park outright.</li> <li>• <b>Transportation</b> – no update.</li> </ul>
11	<b>North Ayrshire Council Report –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Hill advised that he hoped that a number of projects could be developed from the cost of living meeting due to take place on 4 May. This could be a delivery arm of the Locality Partnership which could then apply for funding from other sources other than NAC. Cllr Black referred to informal</li> </ul>

	<p>discussions with Cllr Hill and Cllr Low Thomson about the lack of a community centre and the possibility of setting up a Development Trust. There was a discussion about the future of the church buildings in Largs which seems to be unclear at present and the possibility of inviting the right person to discuss this at our next meeting or contacting the Church of Scotland Legal Department. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Legal Department of the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh to ask for clarity about the buildings' future, to register the fact that there is community interest in the future use of the buildings and to note that we would want to be involved in anything in the future so no opportunities are missed. In the meantime local groups could work together to plan for the future.</p> <p><b>Action point – to write to the Church of Scotland as per above</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Murdoch advised that work has started on M &amp; S building</li> <li>• Flood defence on the prom is due to start on 15/05/23</li> <li>• Decriminalisation of parking has been delayed again to November</li> <li>• Work on the pier will not finish until 8/05/23</li> <li>• Ongoing problems with Cumbrae ferry</li> </ul>
12	<p><b>AOB –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member of the public, Thomas Stewart introduced himself. He is new to the town and is trying to set up a community music project in which anyone who can play a musical instrument can join as long as they are also willing to teach others. He wants to make it as inclusive as possible so that anyone can turn up whether or not they have an instrument and join in. He is looking for suitable premises. Cllr Murdoch suggested the use of the Mens Shed although this would only be for Mens Shed members. Cllr Hill also expressed his interest in the project. Douglas Park Pavilion and Largs Academy were also suggested as possible venues</li> <li>• Cllr Low Thomson advised she has had a meeting with NAC about the vacant plot of land behind Holehouse Road, Lindsay Crescent and Royal Avenue which is going to be a possible area for development of a community project. This was agreed to compensate for the decision to give the tennis club 4 courts instead of the original 3 which had been the original decision .</li> <li>• Calum asked about the seafront car park and its problems. Cllr Murdoch continues to raise the problems on an ongoing basis.</li> <li>• Cllr P Perman stated that the car park at Bellmans Close had only raised £8000 and asked Cllr Murdoch how much was expected. He stated a lot more than that but this would not be addressed until decriminalisation of parking takes effect.</li> <li>• Cllr Phillips advised that there are 3 vacancies on LCC and invited Thomas Stewart to consider joining.</li> <li>• Cllr advised that Cllr John Knowles has now resigned from LCC and he thanked him for all his work on the Council.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Phillips thanked everyone for attending the meeting.</p>
13	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting – 18 May 2023 at the Community Hub.</b></p> <p><b>Action point – All Cllrs to send in their reports prior to the meeting and no later than 15 May 2023</b></p>