

Largs CC - Minutes 18th May 2023

Welcome

Jim welcomed everyone.

Apologies

Eleanor Collier, Todd Ferguson , Alan Hill, Louise Riddex, Robbie Stevenson and Linda Smith

Condolences were noted to Alan Hill on the death of his father.

Police report

Significant concern is raised around the massive rise in break-ins, which does appear to point to two individuals however police were not present to take questions. MW will discuss with Mark when he is available.

Presentation from David at PMI - Property Management (non housing).

There had been a discussion about a community centre. MW commented that is a much needed facility and would benefit a lot of people. The problem we have is that the estate has been rationalised and trying to maximise what is already in existence. Vacant or derelict buildings have been offloaded. There are very few venues in the area. The proposal is for Community Hubs, however in Largs the Hub we are in is very basic - simply a lounge area

KA Leisure (Community Campus), Largs Library (Food Larder) are options.

JB outlined asked what work has been done by the council to look at options for a proper community centre in Largs.

Through knowledge, no options are available. Brisbane Centre is now under CAT. There is no council owned properties available. There are options for non council properties

Largs - would not commit to a new build because funds are not available. Would assist where required if there was a possibility. Helter Skelter has been sold for a restaurant.

Is there a list of vacant land that could be used? Land sits within Street Scene department and it is very difficult to identify any land.

JB - is it possible to identify what is set aside for Community use in other towns that Largs does not have, which would be a like for like? David says he'll try and look at this.

Frank Alexander made the point that Largs absolutely deserves to have a community hub to keep pace with other areas, the latest being the Ardrossan campus being planned with a community hub discussed St Johns Church which may or may not be coming up for disposal.

JB asked David if he could go away and look at what properties, council or commercial may be options for future community centres, as well as any possible land that could be available. Ian and Tom made various points around funding, locations etc.

Minute of last meeting

Action on engaging Church of Scotland was followed up with Linda. Answer was underwhelming and we are unclear on how to proceed. JB advised that Wendy/Jamie and Patricia met to discuss options for a possible development Trust and this will be followed up.

Proposed - Wendy Low-Thomson
Seconded - Andrew Adair

Matters arising

N/A

Community Garden update

Robbie has purchased plants and barrels for the garden to make some of the plants easier to tend.

Grant Funding - access to Food and Litter Campaign

Treasurers Report

Balances as reported by Margaret
£700 is the Litter Campaign Balance.
Access to Food is £900
Community Garden £122 spent, £178 still in fund
LCC Project balance is £310.87
Stakis Access to Food is £1416.10

Project account balance - £3504.97
Admin account balance - £528.60
Larder £6000

Sub Committee Reports

Environment - N/A
Hunterston - HSSG in June
Licensing - N/A
Planning - no non domestics
Transportation - Nothing. JB raised issue of the Scotrail timetable changes which meant the main commuter service to Largs is worse for people who need to commute to Glasgow. Kenneth Gibson, Jamie Greene and Tom Marshall all responded, albeit none were able to effect any change in this decision.

North Ayrshire Council Report. Councillor Marshall

- Gateside St car park to be closed for a short period (Sunday 21st) for relining. DPE is set to be November.

- Mackerston Putting Green - trying to get this open again, there was a plan for the Big Wheel to come to Vanduara and there is no space. Offered to put it at Mackerston, but this was declined by the operator as they felt it was not optimal. Looking for operator for putting green.
- Seawall works due to start probably June now due to Tender issues which were delayed and had a knock-on impact.

Councillor Murdoch

- Ian highlighted that the Wee Paper report was inaccurate as the Putting Green was NOT for sale. Callum Coral accepted this mistake and that it was rectified online as soon as noticed.
- Car Park - 13 spaces lost to the contractors compound, Ian asked for this to be moved to the Beach but this was rejected on HS&E grounds. Ian highlighted that it was used for Weatherspoons but rejected. The number has now been reduced and the loss is only 3 spaces.
- Ian highlighted the issues with the Car Park and the fact that equipment is out of warranty.

AOCB

Promenade Benches

Calum - was at Common ground event at Nazarene however this was marred by dumping and apparent fly tipping around a skip that is at McConnechys. McConnechy's/Halford want nothing to do with it. North Ayrshire Council were not interested. **ACTION** Councillor Marshall seeking to support, however fly tipping is responsibility of the land owner where the land is tipped, and this means it is hard to enforce action to resolve.

JB - These are flimsy and unlikely to last more than a year or two. I've already observed one is broken - again, no notification or apparent justification for replacement.

JB - Note that Sumitomo Electric Industries intend to build a cable manufacturing facility in Nigg as part of the new Freeport. Concerned at lack of progress on XLCC - this area desperately needs new business to support the local economy.

Frank - armed Forces Day 24th June would be a possibility. Jamie indicated support for this but asked Frank if he had any appropriate artefacts he could help with to make a display easier.

Proposal to Co-opt Thomas Stewart as a member of the CC. This was supported. Margaret Wood proposed, Andrew Adair Second. Email address thomasstewart69@yahoo.co.uk

Callum - raised issue of Largs dental Care now refusing NHS Service and insisting that patients now subscribe to a private model.