

Action Note

Meeting:	North Coast Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	5 March 2024 via Microsoft Teams
Present/ In Attendance:	Councillor Alan Hill (Chair) Councillor Eleanor Collier Councillor Tom Marshall Councillor Ian Murdoch John Lamb, West Kilbride Community Council (Vice-Chair) Carol Campbell, Community Representative (Co-opted) Rhonda Leith, Lead Officer, NAC Deirdre Oakley, Project Officer, NAC Louise Riddex, Locality Officer, NAC Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands), NAC Tony Gilhooly, Active Schools Co-ordinator, NAC Rita Holmes, Fairlie Community Council Jim Phillips, Largs Community Council Lizzy Barbour, Community Representative (Co-opted) Michael Thomson, General Manager, Vikingar Lynne Cathcart, Head Teacher, Skelmorlie Primary School , NAC Stephanie Fisher, Head Teacher, St. Mary's Primary School, NAC Lesley Dunlop, Community & Locality Planning Assistant, NAC
Also in Attendance:	Claire Fitzsimmons, Senior Manager, NAC (Item 3) Graham Ross, Architect Consultant, Austin-Smith:Lord (Item 3) Nancy McQueen, Organic Growers (Item 4) Sharon Murdoch, Largs Scottish Women's Institute (Item 5) Susan Shepherd, Largs Scottish Women's Institute (Item 5) Gill Faragher, Largs Scottish Women's Institute (Item 5)
Apologies:	Russell McCutcheon, Senior Lead Officer, NAC Councillor Todd Ferguson Pamela Miller, NHS Barbara Conner, TACT

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p>Welcome and Apologies</p> <p>As the Chair was delayed L Riddex extended a welcome to those present and invited introductions. Apologies for absence were then recorded.</p> <p>Councillor Murdoch declared an interest in Item 5 due to his involvement with the Men's Shed who are linked into the application.</p> <p>In the absence of the Chair, J Lamb Vice Chair assumed the role as Chair.</p>	
2.	<p>Action Note</p> <p>The action note from the meeting held on 5 December 2023 was approved as a correct record and the implementation of decisions confirmed.</p>	

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	<p>The Locality Officer provided a brief update and highlighted the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simson Avenue – a meeting was held yesterday (4 March) and as a result the group are planning to rethink and change the playpark to a natural activity play area as information was received that other areas had difficulty in obtaining insurance. • West Kilbride Community Initiative 25 Anniversary – an event is being planned to be held on 28 May 2024. • Coastal Path – C Fitzsimmons informed the Partnership that if the project overruns past the end of March funding has been promised for the next financial year, however there is an internal back up if this should not come to fruition. R Holmes enquired about the path to Hunterston. C Fitzsimmons informed that the plan is to have a full path from Ardrossan to Inverclyde. <p>Noted.</p>	
3.	<p>Place Framework</p> <p>The Partnership received a copy of the draft Place Framework for Largs, which identified priority issues and brought together and co-ordinated place-based actions and initiatives to improve the quality of life in the coastal town of Largs.</p> <p>C Fitzsimmons highlighted that Place Framework is part of the North Ayrshire Council Regeneration Delivery Plan. Place Frameworks will be live documents updated according to current needs. Pilots are being carried out in Largs, Saltcoats and Kilwinning. The Regeneration team would like the Partnership to review them prior to publishing on the North Ayrshire Council website to ensure that they meet the current priorities in the area. Place Framework will also be used to inform the Place Plans.</p> <p>G Ross highlighted areas of interest in the report which was distributed with the agenda and advised that there are Action Plans available to support the Place Framework. These will give a reminder of the key issues in late 2022/23 when they were first created and give the Partnership the opportunity to refresh for 2024/25 priorities.</p> <p>Questions were asked and answered in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C Campbell highlighted that there seemed to be no reference to accessibility in the report regarding people who are blind/visually impaired. G Ross advised that in the getting around section there is an accessibility audit which highlights that it is vital to have open spaces that are inclusive and barrier free and accessible. • Largs is the only way to access Cumbrae and the area to access is very congested – work on parking in the area would be useful. G Ross agreed. <p>The Partnership noted (i) the draft Place Framework for Largs and (ii) that any feedback on the draft could be submitted to the Senior Manager, Regeneration.</p>	

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4.	<p>CIF Promotion/Update</p> <p>The Partnership received an update from Nancy McQueen from Organic Growers highlighting the impact CIF Funding has made for their project.</p> <p>N McQueen highlighted that the group maintains 2 small picnic areas, a pick your own area, a sand pit. They are responsible for looking after raised beds in Pier Road, Victoria Fountain, Main Road and Fairlie Station.</p> <p>For future plans there is a possibility of planting fruit trees and soft fruits for the public and extending the area at the football pitch to include a barbeque area. Future funding may be available from Fairlie Community Trust and the Scottish Government Climate Action Fund to assist with a home growing project to encourage people to grow their own produce.</p> <p>Next year the group will be starting a beeline project extending to the south of the village with boxes of pollenating plants to create a bee corridor.</p> <p>Questions were asked and answered in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R Holmes noted that the project sounds really good and enquired who owns the land. N McQueen advised that it is North Ayrshire Council and they will liaise with Streetscene. • C Fitzsimmons advised that the Shared Prosperity fund is currently open for bids which covers a broad range of interventions. Please see information in link https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/your-community/funding/ukspf.aspx <p>Before leaving the meeting N McQueen enquired about the lack of electronic bus signage in Fairlie. C Fitzsimmons advised that her Team are working alongside SPT to resolve this issue across Ayrshire and the North Coast is included.</p> <p>The Chair joined the meeting at this point taking over from the Vice Chair.</p>	
5.	<p>Community Investment Fund – Full Application</p> <p>The Partnership received a report from the Locality Officer with details of one Community Investment Fund Application:</p> <p>Largs Scottish Women’s Institute – Full Application</p> <p>Largs SWI have applied for funding support in the amount of £15,393 to facilitate speakers at their monthly meetings, set up a woodworking club and a sewing club. S Murdoch and S Shepherd shared a short presentation with the Partnership which included a breakdown detailing the use of the funds if successful.</p> <p>The applicants left the meeting at this point to allow the Partnership to discuss the application.</p>	

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	The Partnership agreed that the proposal proceed to the North Ayrshire Council's Cabinet for approval.	Rhonda Leith
6.	<p>Formation of Cumbrae Subgroup</p> <p>The Partnership were asked to consider the report outlining the formation of a subgroup for Cumbrae.</p> <p>The Sub Group would deal with Cumbrae issues and report back to the Locality Partnership.</p> <p>Questions were asked and answered in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> R Holmes enquired if there would be any conflict with issues that concern the mainland such as the ferries. The Chair responded that there will be no issues as the group will be a subgroup which would deal with Cumbrae issues such as tourism and health and report back to the Locality Partnership. Issues concerning ferries could go to both meetings. <p>The Partnership agreed to approve the proposal.</p>	R Leith
7.	<p>Street Naming</p> <p>The Partnership were asked to consider two Street naming reports in respect of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site of former St Mary's Primary School, Largs - one name required. <p>R Leith informed of the four suggested street names. S Fisher enquired if there was any way that the pupils of St. Mary's Primary School could vote on the name? The Chair agreed that this could be a lovely idea. S Fisher asked if the information could be forwarded, and the vote would take place on Friday.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site north of Summerlea Road and west of Snowdon Terrace, West Kilbride – seven names required. <p>J Lamb enquired if the report with the suggested names could be taken to the West Kilbride Community Council meeting for their opinion to be taken into consideration. This was agreed. J Lamb will forward the results following the meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Collier asked if as the site is on the Geese Fields could this be memorialised somehow.</p>	<p>L Dunlop</p> <p>J Lamb</p> <p>L Dunlop/SNN Team</p>
8.	<p>LDP3 Update/Place Plans</p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal update from Alistair Gemmell, Strategic Planning Manager.</p>	

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	<p>A Gemmell highlighted the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Place Plans are a community-led plan setting out proposals for the development and use of land. • Once submitted to and then registered by the planning authority, Local Place Plans are to be taken into account in the preparation of the relevant Local Development Plan. • They must be prepared by a Community Body. • They must be a proposal as to the development or use of land or buildings. • They must fulfil the legal requirements. • The deadline for submission is 30 June 2024 but this can be flexible. <p>R Holmes thanked A Gemmell for the information and advised she would be in touch.</p> <p>The Chair thanked A Gemmell for his update.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Locality Plan Progress</p> <p>The Partnership received an update from the Locality Officer highlighting:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the report included was an update of work undertaken by the Locality Officer's team and updates from other teams will be added in as they are received. • The Locality Officer will send the form to other Partners for completion. <p>Cllr Collier thanked the Locality Officer for their update however advised that Citrus Energy no longer provide advice to non-business customers they give advice under Lemonade. L Riddex thanked Cllr Collier for the information and advised that she will update the plan.</p> <p>The Chair thanked L Riddex for her update.</p>	<p>L Riddex</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Youth and Education Overview</p> <p>The Partnership received a verbal updated from Lynne Cathcart, Head Teacher, Skelmorlie Primary School and Stephanie Fisher, Head Teacher, St. Mary's Primary School highlighting the following:-</p> <p>St Mary's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBC Bitesize attended at St. Mary's to make a short film entitled Doon the Watter with Primary 7 children highlighting the best bits of Largs. • St. Mary's won a noise pollution art competition with the school receiving a prize of £500 and the children who participated receiving £25 each. • Burns speaking competition - one of St Mary's pupils was the overall winner. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheds were lost in the recent storms and a parent has donated a new shed. <p>Skelmorlie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fruit trees have been planted on behalf of Skelmorlie Environmental Trust – apple, pear, cherry and plum The school recently held a Scottish concert which included dancing, poetry and singing. Community gardens will be launched on 27 March. <p>All Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All primary schools are involved in enhanced transition at Largs Academy over a four week period. There is a whole day event next week involving a scavenger hunt. Activities led by Active Schools are having a great impact. The athletics competition is very popular with Arran, Cumbrae, Fairlie and St. Mary's participating. Largs Academy ski trip was very successful. Cumbrae recently had an HMIE inspection. Douglas Park Nursery also had an HMIE inspection with the result of very good. Cumbrae will be working with a local artist to help the children create art for an exhibition at the Garrison over Easter. <p>The Chair enquired if there is anything the schools would like to raise and highlighted that CIF funding is always available for local projects. Any application would have to come via the Parent Councils.</p> <p>The Chair thanked L Cathcart and S Fisher for their update.</p>	
11.	<p>Police Scotland and Scottish Fire and Rescue - Wellbeing and Partnerships</p> <p>As no one was in attendance from Police Scotland or Scottish Fire and Rescue no update was received.</p>	
12.	<p>KA Leisure/Public Health Update</p> <p>P Millar submitted her apologies for tonight's meeting but has provided a report which will be shared with the Partnership.</p> <p>The Partnership received an update from Michael Thomson.</p> <p>M Thomson passed on apologies from L Barrie who was unable to attend due to a change in circumstances. He gave the following update on her behalf:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Wellbeing Alliance met at the Townhouse today showing videos and brochures regarding activities which could be shared at the next Locality Partnership meetings. <p>Vikingar</p>	L Dunlop

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refurbishment recently completed on the Viking Attraction Museum including upgraded audio/visual of the Viking tour. The relaunch date is planned for 6 April. • Easter programme in place with events run by Just Dive including mermaid and scuba sessions. It is hoped that future monthly sessions can be organised and that perhaps some could be free of charge. • In conjunction with Largs Community Council a cinema night was organised for a Friday evening which was a great success. Dates have been arranged for the remainder of the year. • Vikingar are offering a safe zone for the Euro 2024 matches in their theatre. <p>L Barbour suggested sharing promotional information with the Partnership. L Barbour asked if activities have been considered for people with additional support needs. M Thomson informed that ASN swimming lessons are taking place currently with two different lessons which he hopes to develop further. L Barbour is happy to connect to see if she can offer any support. L Dunlop to share L Barbour’s email address.</p> <p>S Fisher enquired if there could be a quiet session arranged for the inflatable that Vikingar have as it is very popular with the children however it is reported as being very busy which prevents them from attending. M Thomson will discuss this with his management team.</p> <p>The Chair thanked M Thomson for his update.</p>	<p>L Dunlop</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p>Locality Priorities Officer Update</p> <p>The Partnership received an update report from D Oakley.</p> <p>Key points were highlighted in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CWAS Largs chapter has been established and being utilised. • Largs Food Hub opened on 27 February and week 1 had 22 members sign up. Really good feedback has been received and the logo has been agreed with the volunteers. The opening times are every Tuesday 2.30pm – 5.30 pm and Friday 10.30am – 12.30pm. • The Millport Larder logo has been agreed and it will be known as the Millport Community Shop. The fridge freezer and shelving has been ordered. • D Oakley is working with L Riddex to organise CIF workshops to encourage more applications. 	
<p>14.</p>	<p>Locality Officer Update</p> <p>The Partnership received a report from the Locality Officer. L Riddex highlighted the new format for updates that will be used going forward.</p>	

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	<p>The same template will be used for all Localities. Additional information will be included as it is developed further.</p> <p>L Riddex attended the Men's Shed one year anniversary event on Saturday which was excellent. L Riddex thanked everyone for their hard work.</p> <p>Cllr Murdoch agreed that the event was a success and thanked L Riddex for all her work and support.</p>	
15.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>NAC 2024/25 Budget update:</p> <p>The budget was agreed last Wednesday with the Council Tax Freeze being agreed, no charge for Brown Bins and extra funding for Roads.</p> <p>D Oakley left the meeting at this point.</p> <p>The Chair raised that the funding for the Locality Priorities Officer post which was previously agreed via CIF is due to come to an end. The Chair invited L Riddex to outline the post details. L Riddex informed that the post is for 21 hours per week. Seventy percent of the work in the evaluation that was shared earlier in the meeting was undertaken by D Oakley. She has made a huge difference in things happening towards the locality priorities and supporting individuals.</p> <p>A discussion ensued where the Partnership agreed that the post was invaluable. The question of cost to the CIF fund was raised and L Riddex informed that the previous application was for £41,871 for 18 months in 2022 but this may increase with wage rises that have occurred since that time.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed that this post should continue.</p>	L Riddex
12.	<p>Future Meetings</p> <p>The Partnership was invited to note that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday 18 June 2024 venue to be confirmed.</p>	Lesley Dunlop

Meeting ended at 8.05 p.m.