



Largs Community Council
 Approved Minutes of Ordinary meeting
 Thursday, 15 February 2024 at 7pm

Present: Councillor Phillips(JP)(Chair), Councillor Smith(LS)(Secretary), Councillor Wood (MW)(Treasurer), Councillor Adair (AA), Councillor Alexander (FA), Councillor Low Thomson (WLT), Councillor J Perman(JaP), Councillor Stevenson (RS), Councillor Woodburn (JW), Councillor Ferguson (TF), Councillor Hill (AH), Councillor Marshall (TM), Councillor Murdoch(IM), Calum Corral (CC) (Largs & Millport Weekly News), Ewan Grant (EG)(NAC), Louise Riddex(LR)(NAC) , Anne-Marie Hunter (AH), PS Fisher 3 members of the public

Apologies: Councillor Stewart

Item	Business
1	<p>Welcome –Chair welcomed all members to the meeting and reminded everyone of the Code of Conduct, that the meeting is recorded for minute purposes only, the meeting is required to be finished by 9pm and for everyone to try to keep to the timings on the agenda. Chair also welcomed Scott Prentice, Commercial Director TEMP, Scotrail to the meeting.</p> <p>At the beginning of the meeting, the Chair gave the sad news of the death of Community Councillor Patricia Perman and extended his condolences to her husband James. He stated that Patricia worked tirelessly for the community in a number of roles over the years, we are grateful for her contribution and hard work, and she will be missed very much.</p>
2	<p>Apologies – As noted above.</p>
3	<p>Scott Prentice, Commercial Director Temp, Scotrail</p> <p>JW gave a short introduction advising of the reasons for the invitation to Scotrail to attend our meeting , those being in relation to the changes made to the train service from Largs to Glasgow namely the increased number of stops, longer journeys, changes to the timetable and fewer trains in the morning.</p> <p>Scott gave an update on the Largs – Glasgow train service in relation to Scotrail’s budget and resources which included the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revenue from sale of tickets against costs of running the service, the deficit being met by the taxpayer. • Scotrail has not had enough drivers to run the service as training for a driver takes from 18 months to 2 years due to the complexity of the job. Scotrail has to use the resources it has to best effect to run the rail services in Scotland • Statistics show that many carriages have empty seats • The resources are used to get as many people as possible to travel by train • Passengers currently travelling to Ardrossan to the ferry will be travelling to Troon when it leaves from there. • Not enough people are using the train service but more people use the Ayr route than the Largs one, hence the reason for restructuring the service • Although the timetable is not as good for commuting, more people in total are using the train • The driver training programme is at maximum capacity • The train services to Largs are the same number but are at different times • The train service is still not reliable enough. This is not down to lack of drivers but the consequences of the ongoing problems at Ayr Station and the Station Hotel • Additional services across Scotland have increased the number of passengers but only by a very small number

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a timetable was being drawn up from scratch it would be a half hourly service but the freight terminal at Hunterston, although no longer in use, prevents more passenger trains being run to Largs. Suggested encouraging Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to look at this. <p>Discussion took place about the service including the following points –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • additional train passengers go on to travel to Cumbrae • the reliability of the service • passengers’ personal safety and anti social behaviour on trains • government subsidy is equal across the towns in Ayrshire • the impact of XLCC on the train service • electrification of the line – an engineering feasibility study would be required before a decision could be made about running a half hourly service • increased ticket examiners on trains • all incidents of anti social behaviour should be reported • driver and conductors are responsible for the safety on the train • the number of the carriages on trains at busy times – the depot at Ayr station can’t be accessed and is impacting on the number of compartments available on the trains in use <p>Scott agreed to provide information about the current limitations of the line which would prevent a half hourly service taking place. Kenneth Gibson is willing to assist in taking this forward once the actions required are known. Michael McKinlay handed Scott a petition he had raised about a half hourly service to and from Largs.</p>
4	<p>Police Report See attached report at end for stats and summary Discussion took place around the police report including the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • murder inquiry is ongoing. If anyone has any information about the case, they are requested to pass it on to the police. Additional police from out of town can be seen in Alexander Avenue which allows the local police to continue with their own local business. It was queried why no description of the suspect had been shared by police. PS Fisher will ask why no description of the suspect has been circulated. • Some shops and businesses in Largs may not report incidents of shoplifting to the police. Could they be asked if they have a policy not to report thefts under a certain amount of money – PS Fisher will check the position • The number of incidents appear to have increased since last year-PS Fisher will check the reason for this <p>Action point – PS Fisher – 3 issues mentioned above</p>
5	<p>Action points –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community notice board – FA has priced a suitable board which is weatherproof and can be fixed to a wall at a cost of £638 from a company in Irvine. He suggested that an application be made to the Kelburn Windfarm for funding as this opens next month. This is a better option than paying for the repair of the existing boards. Permission would need to be sought to fix it to a wall. Councillors will raise this with NAC and Amey and an application will be made to the Windfarm. <p>Action point – provide an update on this at next meeting</p>
6	<p>Minutes of meeting on 18 January 2024 Approved – Cllr Wood, 2nd Cllr Woodburn.</p>
7	<p>Cinema – Showing of Barbie took place on 26th January, 150 tickets were sold and after all costs were deducted, there was a profit of £324.92. Feedback was very positive and people are keen for more showings. Agreed to organise another film showing .</p> <p>Action point – to decide on film and organise the next date FA has a contact who can provide a number of Laurel and Hardy films at nominal cost which could be shown. These films would appeal to a wide range of age groups. Action point – FA to investigate this further</p>

8	<p>Access to food, Litter Campaign, Community Garden and Dementia Friendly Largs See attached update at end of minutes -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Garden – Easter display to be put up 16/17 March – volunteers required • Litter Campaign - approval can be given by the school for signs to be put on the fence within their grounds • Access to Food – funding for Christmas 2024 being considered • Memory Walk – 2 June 2024 -to include North Ayrshire Cancer Care. Preparations starting for this event. • Football memory events taking place on the last Friday of the month at the Cameron Centre
9	<p>Secretary’s report and Social Media –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standing orders to be held over until next month • Largs Food hub will be opening on 27th February, Tuesday 2 -5pm and Friday 10.30 – 12.30. Request made for this to be publicised in the local paper
10	<p>Treasurer’s Report – Admin account - £532.11, Project account - £4949.15, Larder account - £5324.92.</p>
11	<p>Sub- committee Reports Environment – as above Hunterston – email update sent Licensing – no update Planning – no update Transportation – no update</p>
12	<p>North Ayrshire Report –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic and business rates discussed • Budget will be decided next week
13	<p>AOB –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Largs Events this year – repeat of dog show, a food festival and possibly a classic car festival • Mens Shed – Open Day - 2nd March to celebrate 1st anniversary on 4th March – invitation issued to all members <p>Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.</p>
14	<p>Date of Next Meeting – 21 March 2024 at the Community Hub. Action point – All CClrs to send their reports to the Secretary prior to the meeting and no later than 18 March 2024</p>

Your Locality Policing Team

Sgt Donald Fisher

Group Email: AyrshireLPSTNorthCoastandCumbraes@scotland.police.uk

Please ensure all matters are reported to Police via 101 or 999 in an emergency and that all reporting is done so through the appropriate channels to ensure the appropriate and timely response is received.

Please be aware all officers work a variety of shifts so may not always be available at the time of your contact. We will respond upon our return to duty. Officers will only have access to their work emails and work mobiles during whilst they are on duty

Summary Report

Dates:	15/01/2024 – 13/02/2024	Prev Year
Number of incidents relating to Largs:	228	144
Collated reports of crime:	35	45

During the period of time above there were 228 incidents reported to the Police for Largs area from which crimes were collated and summarised as below:

Assault / Violent Crime

22/01 Roundel Assault / Resist arrest / Threats - Detected
02/02 Alexander Av Murder

Theft by shoplifting

27/01 Morrisons Enquiry ongoing
28/01 Morrisons Enquiry ongoing
28/01 Tesco Enquiry ongoing
29/01 Greggs Detected
30/01 Morrisons Enquiry ongoing

Disorder

16/01 Boyd St Threats and abuse - Detected
27/01 Gallowgate St Abusive to retail worker - Enq ongoing
01/02 Aitken St Abusive comments reported > Enquiry found no criminality

Court

20/01 Crawford St Breach of bail - Detected
27/01 Gateside St Breach of court order - Detected
06/01 Gateside St Breach of bail and possess drugs - Detected

Road Traffic

19/01 Main St Fail to report accident - Enq ongoing
22/01 Kelvin St Dangerous driving / vandalism / fail to give information - Detected
23/01 Yacht Haven Drive with controlled drug over specified limit.

Theft / Housebreaking

19/01 Gogo St Wheelie bin theft
25/01 Tron Place Housebreaking reported > Enquiry found no criminality
25/01 Middleton Dr Theft reported - ongoing enquiry
03/02 Royal Av Wheelie bin theft
06/02 Jewson Theft reported - ongoing enquiry

Drug Related

18/01 Seamore St Possess controlled substance - Recorded warning given
(other drug related offences listed in other sections)

Misc / Other

19/01 John St Vandalism to window - ongoing enquiry
22/01 Nelson St Attempted fraud - ongoing enquiry
24/01 Main St Sell nicotine vape to under 18 - Detected
24/01 Jura Way Vandalism to car tyre - ongoing enquiry
30/01 Jura Way Vandalism to car tyre - ongoing enquiry
30/01 Gogo St Vandalism to vehicle tyre - Ongoing enquiry
30/01 Middleton Dr Vandalism to vehicle mirror - ongoing enquiry.
05/02 Lade St Vandalism to door reported
06/02 Kelburn Ct Online bank fraud attempt reported - Enq ongoing
10/02 Aitken St Report of person possess knife - Enq ongoing

Matters Arising from Last Meeting Minutes

Previous year figures

Previous year figures added.

Regarding doors being tried:

It's fair to say we are of course aware of incidents which get formally reported to us through the normal channels and we will carry out the relevant and proportionate enquiry into those reports. Reports of suspect persons trying door handles would absolutely fall into this category, and I will always encourage that where persons are seen acting suspiciously like trying door handles, then that is something that should get reported to the Police.

I'd also like to re-assure the community that we don't limit ourselves to just those formally reported incidents. We do also become aware of incidents that aren't formally reported, like social media posts and our general engagement with the public which I think is very important to maintain. Such incidents also will be given their due attention and are considered both in their individual circumstance and also against the broader picture and wider timeframes.

Drawing upon such diverse sources of information is what we use to influence our lines of enquiries and to guide pro-active work with measures such as directed patrols of an area where incidents have occurred. As such it is to the advantage of the community and the Police for us to be made aware of incidents when they occur, and why I encourage reporting information and occurrences to the Police. We can and do act on what we know about, it's harder to act on what we don't know about.

Having a house broken into is not common and taking a moment of time to ensure routines such as ensuring doors are locked at night, items are not easily visible through looking in, doorbell cameras etc go a long way to help maintaining the security of your home, and giving peace of mind.

More advice and information around protecting your house and security can be found on the Police Scotland website.

(actually here>>: <https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/your-home/your-house/>
)

Shopliftings not being Reported

As mentioned above: We can and do act on what we know about, it's harder to act on what we don't know about.

Largs Community Council

In Town Environment and other activities

Community Garden

Easter Display - Date (Sat 16 or Sun 17 March) + Garden tidy
Locality Participatory Budget (LPB) : £300 for community garden - Spent £227.82 with **£62.18 balance to be spent** on replacement **Plaque** and additional half barrel planter
LPB : **£1,000 Awarded for garden enhancements** poss Events Signboard
Design of Garden to be considered including lighting for events

Litter Campaign

Phase 1 : signs within shops complete - **consider update spring 2024**
Phase 2 : large metal Emoji signs at park gates, school campus, litter areas etc - approach Schools for approval where fencing is within Campus Grounds
Await NAC feedback on having signs at School Campus and Local Parks
Review "Adopt a Spot" (doc from MSP Kenny Gibson)
Locality Participatory Budget for metal signs and badges - LCC £700 with separate award of £1,000 to Youth Forum
Note : Youth Forum acquired over 1,000 Emoji Badges with LPC Funding
Over 600 Pupils now have Emoji Litter Badge -signed up to not dropping litter and picking up litter within school campus - approach being made to Teachers to also wear litter badges
RS to discuss **"Spring Litter Pick" around school campus** with Principal

Access to Food - next meeting Monday 26 Feb

Note: LCC holding £5,000 from NAC on behalf of Largs Food Hub
Works to Library complete: Volunteers being recruited for launch Early 2024

On Going Events

Friday Evening's : Takeaway Homebake : with BB Group & Others
Thursday Common Ground : buffet 4.30 - 5.30pm

New Projects

Cost to maintain and expand above being £800.00 approved by LCC
LPB awarded £900 to Further Extend support for Largs Naz and other Access to Food activities (£450 paid : balance in Jan'24)
Largs Naz - LPB £1,000 for "Slow Cooker" classes / poss Air Fryer Classes
Stakis Foundation Donation of £950 covered Full Cost of Christmas Dinner Events - **Letter of thanks & photos being sent to Stakis Foundation with request for finding of this year's Christmas Dinner Events**
Stakis Foundation also donated £1,000 to expand current ATF activities
Engaging with Woman's Institute for preparation of food to make microwave dinners for Food Hub & Food Bank

Engaging with Primary School to provide morning snack

MEMORY WALK 2024

**Joint Largs Community Council / Dementia Friendly Largs and District /
Alzheimer's Scotland / North Ayrshire Cancer Care**

Sunday 2 June 2024 at Barrfields Pavilion : Expanding to include