



Largs Community Council
Approved Minutes of Ordinary meeting
Thursday, 18 January 2024 at 7pm

Present: Cllr Phillips(JP)(Chair), Cllr Smith(LS)(Secretary), Cllr Wood (MW)(Treasurer), Cllr Adair (AA), Cllr Alexander (FA), Cllr Black (JB), Cllr Low Thomson (WLT), Cllr J Perman(JaP), Cllr Stevenson (RS), Cllr Hill (AH), Cllr Murdoch(IM), Calum Corral (CC) (Largs & Millport Weekly News), , Ewan Grant (EG)(NAC), Louise Riddex(LR)(NAC) , 1 member of the public

Apologies: Cllr P Perman, Cllr Stewart, Cllr Ferguson, Cllr Marshall, PS Fisher

Item	Business
1	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.
2	Apologies – As noted above.
3	<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"> • Concern was raised about reports of doors being tried in Queens Avenue, Linn Avenue and Alexander Avenue whilst people were at home • Concern also about incident of shoplifting in Largs not being reported to the police because it is considered a waste of time. Do charity shops report shoplifting? <p>Action point - MW to raise these queries with PS Fisher Action point – ongoing – MW to request more detail of the crimes and the numbers for last year in the monthly reports MW has emailed PS Fisher about this</p>
4	<p>Action points –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EG has discussed the options for the use of the money raised from Helter Skelter sale with the Youth Forum and a consultation will firstly take place with Largs Academy and then distributed around the town. A poster is being designed by the Youth Forum. • Douglas Park - there is a current asset transfer application for the tennis courts and another one is being looked at for the growers use. • Another bench has been delivered to Largs Primary School
5	<p>Minutes of meeting on 14 December 2023 Approved – Cllr Wood, 2nd Cllr Low Thomson.</p>
6	<p>Cinema – thanks to PP for her work in organising the cinema. Thanks also to pupils of Largs Academy who have created posters which will be put up at various places around town. Ushers have been trained. Setting up of the cinema takes about an hour before the showing. Insurance has been confirmed. 1st showing is Barbie on 26th January. Sweets and drinks will be available for the machines.</p>
7	<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 -Balance of Participatory Budget to be spent on another planter tub for bulbs and another plaque. Design of garden to be considered to use this year’s grant • Litter – Hopeful of getting teachers to sign up to campaign and wear the badges. Suitable areas for signs still to be identified. Adopt a Spot – ongoing. • Community Notice board – suggested Amey could supply and erect one <p>Action point – FA to contact Amey regarding this</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestion of using gable end of toilets for notice board – AH to take forward • Access to food group - £1000 given to Foodbank. Christmas dinners were a great success. • 2024 Memory Walk to take place on 2/06/24. • Possibility of getting the bicycle storage area at Brooksby sheltered – IM to email AF with NHS area manager’s details
6	Play park funding and costings – Youth Forum carrying out consultation – ongoing actions
7	<p>Secretary’s report and Social Media –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • XLCC Communication event – 24/01/24 – 3 to 5pm at Garrison House, Millport • NAC Council Budget 2024/25 online session -30/01/24, 5.30pm • NA Community and Locality Planning Conference -24/02/24, 9.30 to 2.30pm – Volunteer Rooms, Irvine • Locality Planning Partnership Rep is JP, Chair. Perhaps a deputy can attend if not available. Voting rights was queried. • Dates of 2024 meetings issued. • Current venue for LCC meetings and question of changing to library or elsewhere discussed. A decision about this will be postponed for a few months. A poster with a contact number could be put on the front door for anyone arriving at the meeting after 7pm. NAC provide a number of training opportunities for members of Community Councils and these are forwarded by email. Recruitment leaflets are now in the library. It was agreed that LCC needs to promote itself more to attract new members. A new pop-up banner is being ordered for display at events. Perhaps more representation by LCC at various local events would be helpful. EG has been discussing attendance at a future meeting with the Youth Forum and this will be arranged for a suitable meeting. More engagement with the schools is taking place. • Discussion took place around next month’s meeting when a representative of Scotrail will be present. There was some concern expressed about the potential number of people possibly attending but LCC meetings are open to the public. It was agreed that LCC would not actively promote the meeting.
8	<p>Treasurer’s Report – Admin account - £457.10, Project account - £4949.15, Larder account - £5000. Insurance payment of £112 will be refunded by NAC to the Admin account. Grants are currently available from King Charles 111 Food Project Fund . Proposed – WLT, 2nd FA</p>
9	<p>Sub- committee Reports</p> <p>Environment – Public toilet provision – concern expressed about NAC’s likely approval to put out for consultation the disposal of the public toilets at Aubrey, Mackerston, Broomfields and the Pencil to community groups or to close them altogether. If insufficient groups are in a position to take over the toilets, Largs could be left with only one toilet at the seafront car park. NAC’s decision to put the question of the future of Largs’ toilets is of great concern. Maintenance and cleaning of the toilets are paid for from Largs Car Park Fund.</p> <p>Hunterston – Consultation about Hunterston decommissioning will be emailed to all members. JB has been contacted by developers for nuclear power stations from down south to ask if there would be a forum here to talk about this. Agreed</p> <p>Licensing – no update</p> <p>Planning – No update</p> <p>Transportation – 585 bus on Sundays - there is now an extra 3 hours’ service.</p>
10	<p>North Ayrshire Report –</p> <p>Brisbane Primary School land – question raised as to where the local community benefit is from selling the land to a private developer rather than keeping it and using it ourselves. Discussion took place on this subject including the following -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors referred to the enormous amount of housebuilding in Largs over the last few years, chances of getting more funding for housebuilding in this area is remote and there is still a demand for private houses with a lack of surplus land.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance for the building of houses on the former St Mary's land includes some for refugees. There will possibly be 2 houses for refugees and the remainder allocated in line with NAC housing policy. • Concern was raised about whether the local people would benefit from the sale of the land which should be at the current market value. • The budget is causing grave concerns and savings have to be made, one of which could be the toilets. NAC are carrying out a detailed study of Council buildings. • The larder, now known as Largs Food Hub, is awaiting a fridge delivery and there is now a committee • Flood defence is on schedule
11	<p>AOB –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vikingar is a great asset to the town but is under used and particularly having no café facilities is not helping. It was suggested that the KA Leisure CEO be invited to our next meeting to talk about the plans for the future and for LCC to show our interest – agreed • Action point – To invite the CEO of KA Leisure to a LCC meeting • Concern expressed about the number of businesses closing in the town and the high level of rent and rates • Chit chat - 1/02/24 at the Community Hub – Dementia Friendly Largs and LCC are jointly hosting this. Looking for our members to come along to this • Concern raised about when Decriminalisation of Parking is introduced and there is no backfill for parking <p>Chair thanked everyone for attending.</p>
12	<p>Date of Next Meeting – 15 February 2024 at the Community Hub.</p> <p>Action point – All CCLrs to send their reports to the Secretary prior to the meeting and no later than 12 February 2024</p>

Police Service of Scotland

Largs Community Report – Dec 2023



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: 14/12/2023 – 14/01/2024

Number of incidents relating to Largs: 197

Collated number of reports of crime: 27

During the period of time from 14th Dec 2023 to 14th Jan 2024 there were 197 incidents reported to the Police for Largs area. Crimes identified can be collated/summarised as below:

Assault

06/01/2024	Queens Av	Assault, possess knife, possess weapon, vandalism	Detected - Custody
13/01/2024	McAulays	Assault.	Enquiry ongoing

Disorder

20/12/2023	Queens Av	Threatening behaviour. Attempt to pervert course of justice	Detected - Undertaking
26/12/2023	Tesco	Breach of the peace.	Detected - Report
06/01/2024	Main Street	Threatening / abusive behaviour.	Detected - Custody
08/01/2024	Tron Place	Threatening / abusive behaviour	Detected - Recorded Police Warning

Theft

18/12/2023	Scotts	Theft reported.	Enquiry ongoing
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Road Traffic Related

22/12/2023	Union Street	Fail to stop and report accident	Detected - Report
01/01/2024	Morrisons	In charge of vehicle whilst over limit.	Detected - Undertaking
03/01/2024	Holehouse Rd	Careless driving, drive over limit, fail to stop.	Detected - Undertaking
07/01/2024	Gallowgate St	Fail to stop after accident.	Enquiry ongoing
09/01/2024	Bute Walk	Fail to stop after accident	Enquiry ongoing

Shoplifting

15/12/2023	Tesco	Theft by shoplifting.	Enquiry ongoing
19/12/2023	Largs Computers	Theft by shoplifting.	Detected - Report
19/12/2023	Greggs	Theft by shoplifting (x3).	Enquiry ongoing
21/12/2023	Tesco	Theft by shoplifting.	Detected - Report

Vandalism

25/12/2023	St Colms Gdns	Vandalism reported	Enquiry ongoing
28/12/2023	Harper Cr	Vandalism to vehicle	Enquiry ongoing
02/01/2024	Gogo St	Vandalism to vehicle	Enquiry ongoing
06/01/2024	St Mary's Primary	Vandalism to school property.	Enquiry ongoing

Other

22/12/2023	Waterside St	Attempted Fraud	Enquiry ongoing
01/01/2024	Aitken St	Fail to comply with bail conditions.	Detected - Custody
04/01/2024	Kelvin St	Fail to comply with bail conditions	Detected - Custody
09/01/2024	Bellesdale Av	Attempted Fraud	Enquiry ongoing

Drugs

No offences detected in report timeframe.

Matters Arising from Last Meeting

Drugs/controlled substances, clarity within police report of whether or not there is a drug problem in Largs.

North Ayrshire, and Largs is a safe place to live. Relative to other areas in North Ayrshire, Largs appears to have a lower number of drug related issues. Police Scotland are committed to intelligence led enforcement aimed at disrupting the supply of illegal drugs, as well as closely working with public health and partners to tackle harm caused by substance misuse. Police officers now routinely carry Naloxone sprays, engage with local alcohol and drug partnerships, sign post supportive pathways and campus officers promote wellbeing and risks associated with substance use.

Can future reports include what national and local campaigns are being focussed on.

The Joint Strategy for Policing 2023 outlines the national direction for Policing in Scotland, the strategic outcomes, and their impact on communities. (Available via Police Scotland Website)

The North Ayrshire Local Policing Plan extends on this at the local level with close engagement with the Community Planning Partnership (Also available Police Scotland website)

This Local Police Plan is also complementary to the Safer North Ayrshire Strategy and delivers against the following priorities:

- Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour
- People feel safe and vulnerable people are protected
- Improving road safety

For Largs at the local level, officers holistically engage relevant campaigns (Is That Me, Hate Crime etc.) and partnership pathways / approaches to match the individual circumstance in a manner that works towards the above priorities.

Extra patrols around town particularly over Christmas providing a visible presence.

This was done.

Advice and support being given to shops and businesses during Christmas period

Done on an ongoing basis through routine patrols and engagement with shops.

Do local businesses contact each other to alert any shoplifting etc. taking place in town? Is an app used?

From the shops spoken with, there does not appear to be a single organised communication channel similar to town-centre radios as used in Saltcoats and Irvine.

Largs Community Council

In Town Environment and other activities

Community Garden

Christmas Display : **Great Success** : Easter Next - Scary Bunny with friends !!
Locality Participatory Budget (LPB) : £300 for community garden - Spent £227.82 with **£62.18 balance to be spent** on replacement Queens Jubilee 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 - NAC to advise approvals required and process
Await NAC feedback on having signs at School Campus and Local Parks
Review "Adopt a Spot" (doc from MSP Kenny Gibson)
Emoji badges for Largs High School pupils & discount card for multiple time purchases at local shops ie 4th buy gets 10-20% discount
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 and have signed up to not dropping litter and picking up litter within school campus
RS to discuss "**Spring Litter Pick**" around school campus with Principal

Access to Food

Note: LCC holding £6,000 from NAC on behalf of Largs Food Hub : £5,000 for Hub & £1,000 for ATF Group to support additional projects
£1,000 given to Largs Food Bank to buy produce/cover costs over winter period
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 : free 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

Christmas Dinner : Largs Naz (at St John's) & Brisbane Evangelical Churches financial support to cover Full Costs (inc supply of fresh fruit & veg) **GREAT SUCCESS !!**

Stakis Foundation Donation of £950 to cover Full Cost for Both Christmas Events along with £1,000 to maintain /expand current activities (650 Largs Naz/ £300 BEC) **Letter of thanks & photos being sent to Stakis Foundation**

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

Joint Largs Community Council / Dementia Friendly Largs and District / Alzheimer's Scotland Memory Walk

Sunday 2 June 2024 at Barrfields Pavilion : Expanding to include North Ayrshire Cancer Care