



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

**Present:** CClr Phillips(JP)(Chair), CClr Adair (AA), CClr Low thomson, CClr T Stewart, CClr J Perman(JaP), CClr M Wood(Treasurer), CClr J Woodburn, CClr Murdoch(IM), Calum Corral (CC) (Largs & Millport Weekly News), Ewan Grant (EG)(NAC), PS Fisher, K Mcintosh

**Apologies:** Louise Riddex, Todd Ferguson, Alan Hill, Tom Marshall, Linda Smith, Frank Alexander, Katie Clark, Kenny Gibson , Robbie Stevenson, Euan Grant

Item	Business
1	<b>Welcome</b> –Chair welcomed all members
2	<b>Apologies</b> – As noted above.
3	<p><b>Police Report</b>          See report at end for stats and summary          Discussion took place around the police report including the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MW - Assaults seem to be on increase. Donald assaults are related to youth disorder aspect that is ongoing. Aware of and working with school and parents to intervene. A few are also happening when police dealing with other issues.</li> <li>• There has been an uptick in vehicle theft, but this is a UK wide issue, Fords and Ford Fiestas in particular.</li> <li>• MW – Asked about Hate Crime law and whether everything will be investigated. DF gave an explanation around what would be investigated and they would consider how much offence had been taken, the degree of malice, whether there was history etc...</li> <li>• Member of public asked about the number of reports on Hate Crime incidents but very low numbers of people actually charged. DF not seeing huge amount of Hate Crimes on his radar. There was a discussion on this.</li> <li>• MW – Asked about parking and issues with cars not parking on the pavements. IM has raised issue of exemption on two streets in Largs and will follow up with council.</li> <li>• JW asked if the Police will now spend more time investigating Hate Crime incidents before other incidents where there is no witness, such as break-ins, vandalism. DF advised that they do not as yet have a directive NOT to deal with low level crime, although pilots have taken place and they would always investigate these as resources permit.</li> <li>• JW asked why the issue around Youth disorder is not on the police report, that this type of information helps contextualise the raw statistics. DF says there is a balance to be had.</li> <li>• JW asked if Detection rate can be shown and trends in this and DF will look at this.</li> <li>• CC asked about vandalism and which toilets (Gallowgate).</li> <li>• Thomas asked about the vehicle theft from the car park. DF explained it’s quite a simple operation, in this case, the other vehicles used was a stolen car from Glasgow.</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Malcolm McPhail, CEO KA Leisure</b>          MM introduced himself and talked about the work that has been going on. Started as lifeguard at Auchenharvie and worked for Cunningham District as sports development officer. Has worked at bigger leisure trust in Manchester and David Lloyds operations manager. He believes that the offering from KA in NOC is truly world class, working with public, North Ayrshire, Sports Scotland and police. The operational side of the business is not at the standard it needs to be, however there has been a major restructure to become best in class in UK and this is the standard MM is aiming for.</p>

	<p>Strategy – the strategy is quite unusual, having to move on from COVID strategy and adopting a more Agile approach to improvements. They are looking at all the gap problems and how they can work to improve this and work to the bigger vision. Appreciative enquiry is about the dream, design, develop and deploying solutions and using the skills of the team work towards that.</p> <p>The culture within the organisation is undergoing a transformation – Know the way, show the way, go the way.</p> <p>What we should see locally is hearing about Place Delivery and Development, and this is about handing back autonomy to the community and allowing more decisions on what they want to have on in the local area, and Michael is the business development manager in charge of this.</p> <p>Working through Health and Wellbeing Alliance and the CPP and putting together a programme delivery to involve sport, art, drama and into work of work (all pillars in CPP). Will be developing a taskforce and working with other police teams (specifically in Garnock Valley) to try focus on sustained youth behaviour issues and how they can be part of solutions for this.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p><b>JP</b> - discussed that there is no café within Vikingar and this seems like a huge missed opportunity. MM advised that The Portal and Auchendarvie are getting cafes. Longer terms, aim is to create an entertainment venue in Vikingar. Aim is to be an entertainment venue and Community Hub for local people, and acknowledges there is so much potential for the site.</p> <p><b>JP</b> – Could we hold Childrens Cinema events in the Valhalladrome on Saturdays. Michael advised that public tours at 1030 until 1430 are in Vikingar Museum and a cinema couldn't be held in that time, but outside would be possible.</p> <p><b>JW</b> asked about the sustainability and security of the Vikingar Centre and ensure that we can work to ensure the centre never comes under any risk of cuts, which are prevalent all over the place.</p> <p><b>CC</b> – Asked about how much is paid in consultant fees, and if there is value for money from this, due to scrutiny of this to council. MM will check this as he was aware of this but didn't realise it wasn't responded to. Turnover £7.5m, and fees on consultants around £55k, and previous year around £76k, and previous year (2021) was around £70k. Against overall turnover, this is a very small amount. Consultants have been very helpful to shaping strategy and in early days of his tenure provided value for money.</p> <p><b>CC</b> – asked about proposed Fanzone in Vikingar. Will bring in a AV equipment and seeking a temporary license, aimed at Families, providing food and refreshments and hosting up to 200people – this is for Eurofootball.</p> <p><b>DF</b> – What is the shortfall in the offering that needs improved? Customer service can be poor and inconsistent and looking to improve that using various means. Have tried to keep price rises as low as possible to support dealing with cost of living crisis.</p> <p><b>JW</b> – If you had budget for new facilities – bigger gym, a new 'gym for those who don't like the gym' and build a purpose built open space for youth for multiple activities, whether arts, drama, as well as supporting young mothers, Looked After Children and those in the community who are in need of support.</p>
5	<p><b>Minutes of meeting on 21 March 2024</b> Approved – CClr Adair , 2<sup>nd</sup> CClr Woods.</p>
6	<p><b>Action Points including Local Place plan, Community notice board and cinema update</b></p>
7	<p><b>Co-option of new member – Proposed by Wendy Low Thomson, Seconded by Margaret Woods</b></p>
8	<p><b>Largs Public Toilets – no update from elected members, IM advised not aware of any paper being submitted to council for this.</b></p>
9	<p><b>Access to Food, Litter Campaign, Community Garden, Memory Walk – JP gave verbal update from report.</b></p>
10	<p><b>Secretary's report and Social Media –</b> Discussed Successful cinema show</p>
11	<p><b>Treasurer Report –</b></p>

	<p><b>Admin</b> - £532.11  <b>Project</b> - £4341.55  <b>Larder Account</b> – has been transferred however is now being used for cinema £859.67p, however have not had any invoices for expenses yet for the latest showing.  Proposed : CClr Adair Seconded: CClr Low Thomson</p>
12	<p><b>Sub- committee Reports</b>  <b>Environment</b> – as above  <b>Hunterston PARC</b> – Report submitted by J Woodburn and verbal update.  <b>Licensing</b> – no update  <b>Planning</b> –  <b>Transportation</b> –Agreed to carry forward action to discuss how to approach TS/NetworkRail/Scotrail etc on improvements to Largs line.</p>
13	<p><b>North Ayrshire Report –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prom works will be complete by contractor in next 2-3 weeks. Then resurfacing will be undertaken soon after.</li> <li>• Decriminalised Parking now in operation and fines being issued.</li> <li>• Regarding ferry issues, message is that Cumbrae is still open for business.</li> <li>• Cycle path proposal – 4 councillors still opposed due to impact on narrowing prom.  Extensive discussion on this matter and the CC indicated that they were unanimously opposed to this on various grounds, specifically that it would narrow the prom, but past experience has also shown that these shared spaces do not work well. Furthermore the Largs CC indicated during consultation to the Place Framework, run by Austin-Smith Lord in 2022, that a shared cycle space on the prom was NOT desirable. The CC discussed how else this money could be used and suggested that the money could be used on Cumbrae to create a cycleway between the slipway and Millport, or to fund the ‘gap’ between Skelmorlie and Largs where there is no safe passage between Meigle and Skelmorlie Castle road etc.  Proposed: Cclr Woodburn Seconded Cclr Phillips and backed by all other members.</li> <li>• Discussed actions being taken and strong dismay at closure of RBS in town, IM has had many representations about this.</li> <li>• Pothole blitz underway.</li> <li>• Discussion on options for Largs Seafront car park.</li> <li>• Questions on cuts to Library staff.</li> </ul>
14	<p><b>AOB</b> – none  Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.</p>
15	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b> – 16 May 2024 at the Community Hub.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action point – All CClrs to send their reports to the Secretary prior to the meeting and no later than 16<sup>th</sup> May.</li> </ul>