

Minutes

Attendees

Jim Phillips, Jamie Woodburn, Andy Adair, Wendy Low Thomson, Frank Alexander, Thomas Stuart, Ian Murdoch, Tom Marshall, Robbie Stevenson, Ken McIntosh

1 - Welcome

2 - Apologies

James Perman, Linda Smith, Margaret Wood, Louise Riddex, Euan Grant, Todd Ferguson, Lisa Barr

3 - Police Report

Donald Fisher was not present at the meeting to take questions.

JW raised issue from residents who have lived here for some time and who do not feel safe and do not believe there are many police on the beat in this area.

Resident raised that between Middleton Drive and Nelson street, there are drugs deals being done. There is a specific individual goes along regularly and it's very clear that there is an issue. A lot of housing being used by Social Work is being used by other SW councils and people are being moved into these areas. Housing was bought at the top of Nelson Street to place people in. This will be raised with Police and Housing. Outstanding action to discuss with NAC Housing.

4 - Minutes

Proposed – Andy Adair

Seconded – Robbie Stevenson

5 - Actions

Cinema update – next showing 16th August, film tbc with Linda when back.

Community Noticeboard – Frank provided update on production of noticeboards and locations.

Largs Railway service. IM updated that Cclrs Ferguson and Marshall can attend along with IM and will push forward in absence of Cclrs Hill, Collier and K Gibson MSP

6 - Questions from members of the public

1 – Question on Bellmans Close car park – pay and you go station failed when resident was trying to pay and because she couldn't pay, she walked away and came back to find a fine on the car. Resident challenged, and NAC said it's your responsibility to get a ticket and that's that. IM said that if you can't get a ticket, you should not park. IM has not heard of issues with the machines. TM advised that residents should leave a note on the window.

JW will raise this with NAC to understand what recourse is available if machine is broken. Do NAC log broken machines? Given that it's probably and likely that machines DO break, how do NAC monitor this? Susan Mc Fadyen – Head of Roads

2 – Condition of Roads and Pavements in Largs. North Coat got £900k, vs Glengarnock got well over £1m, resident raised it with NAC and was told no issue with Roads and pavements in Largs. JW advised that a proposal was put to NAC to spend Scottish Government grants on a wind turbine rather than £1m additional to roads (albeit across NAC area). It was determined by full council NOT to invest additional money on roads and that this is the situation we are faced with. IM advised the work he has done to try get roads improved. Member of public stated they were utterly fed up with the state of roads and pavements, and why Largs gets short changed.

3 – Resident raised bottom of Waterside Street – people with wheelchairs, zimmers, trying to cross in the M&S area, but the pavement is in atrocious condition. IM advised this is under control of AMEY highways and he had met AMEY and has highlighted but they are not going to improve anything until M&S is completed.

4 – Question on when M&S build will start – IM advised he'll be told when works starts on site.

7 – Local Place Plan update

FA provided an update. Key Points:

- LCC is consulting public through various means, direct to community groups, flyers, local paper publicity.
- Objective is to complete a draft Place Plan no later than November. #If accepted, this will formally be on file and inform future use of land and property and recognised formally when the LDP3 is drawn up.
- Once draft is produced, this will be formally consulted on again.

Question on whether this can include visual aspects. Yes. Resident raised that Christmas Lights don't work. JW advised that Largs Events take on provision of Christmas lights, NAC do not support anything more than a Christmas Tree.

- FA will capture that Largs should be decorated with Christmas Lights and planning should be supportive of this.

8 – Vikingar! Update

No update this month.

9 – Viking Festival

No update this month.

10 – Access to Food

- Report accepted as submitted.
- Litter campaign signs erected around the town
- Community Garden looking great, encourage anyone passing to weed as they go by, many plans in place.

11 – Secretary Report

Social Media is achieving more hits and interest and there are more people coming to meetings.

12 – Treasurer Report

Carried forward

13 – Sub-committee Reports

Licensing – nothing to report.

Hunterston – no meetings in the last period.

Environment –

Transportation – JW voices disappointment at the lack of notice of serious service detriment as a result of The Open. There was no consultation, minimal notice and no communication to public.

K Gibson provided an update from Scotrail on the matter and an apology on the lack of communication, which was missed.

JP proposed we invite Scotrail back after summer to continue to press for timetable improvements in the future.

14 – North Ayrshire Reports

Councillor Tom Marshall

1- Floral Displays . £26k was cut from budget for displays on promise of perennial planting. This was not delivered, IM and TM put a motion to council to use Car Park funds for this but this was opposed. TM believes floral planting should be provided.

2 – Public Toilets – there's to be a consultation on this, the original proposal was to close them, they will remain open this year but council consulted groups, however have not consulted Community Council, but did consult LCDT and Cairney Quays. 5 Councillors have meeting in August to discuss. LCC should write to CEO to express view.

ACTION to invite CEO to LCC to discuss public toilets at future meeting, as well as discuss other pertinent issues that should be agreed before writing, such as floral displays in Largs, weed killing and so on.

Councillor Ian Murdoch

2035 start

- Ian has asked for perennials for 7 years and agrees these are needed and was lead to believe this was to happen.
- Ian agrees the community should help itself but there is a limit.
- Floor defence and seawall is complete in Aubrey but benches and bins were not returned, Ian working to get these returned.
- Has asked for Festoon lighting to be reinstated.
- Grass will be cut, Big Wheel may be back this year.
- Ian reiterated a lot of positives in town.

15 – AOCB

RS – Suggested that the council needs to speed up the process to Adopt a (flower) Bed.

RS – There was a traffic enforcement officer in Nelson St at 2040 in the evening. IM confirmed they work until 2200.

Kenneth Gibson MSP

1 – Speeding on A78/Hollywood area. This is being looked at.

2 – Funding for NAC. SG allowed Councils to double council tax on second homes, but 29/30 local authorities implemented this, including Highland, Perth and Kinross etc, but NAC, Falkirk and Glasgow didn't do this and this means they have c.£3m loss of revenue from this.

3 – B-road improvement through levelling up fund. £23.7m was awarded in 2021 but no money has been forthcoming, however 2 days before General Election, KG and CEO NAC met Michael Gove but government has changed, KG has written to Angela Raynor to ensure that money is not lost. Difficulty was that inflation meant NAC needed to take £5m out of Capital budget and this was not enough. KG has asked UK Govt to provide an inflationary component. This will help redevelop Hunterston and provide local jobs and stimulate the economy.

JP – Question from member of public asking why Elected Members do not respond. TM advised that it's up to each councillor.

JP – Emailed concerned about security of LCC laptop and where it would be stored. This would likely be remain with Secretary. Anne Marie to check if there is insurance cover provided through COUncil policy – will check member services.

