



Largs Community Council
 Approved Minutes of Ordinary meeting
 Thursday, 16 January 2025 at 7pm

Present: Cllr Phillips(JP)(Chair), Cllr Smith (LS)(Secretary), Cllr Wood (MW) Treasurer, Cllr Adair (AA), Cllr Alexander(FA), Cllr Low Thomson (WLT), Cllr Macintosh (KM), Cllr J Perman(JPer), Cllr Stewart (TS), Cllr Woodburn(JW), Cllr Hill (AH), Cllr Marshall (TM), Cllr Murdoch(IM), PS Fisher, Calum Corral (CC) (Largs & Millport Weekly News), 9 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr Stevenson, Ewan Grant, Kenneth Gibson MSP

| Item | Business |
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| 1 | Welcome –Chair welcomed all members and members of the public to the meeting. |
| 2 | Apologies – As noted above. |
| 3 | <p>Police Report Report previously circulated. Discussion took place around the police report including the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoplifting remains a problem. Some repeat offenders have been caught. PS Fisher assured the meeting that the police take shoplifting seriously. Concern was expressed about the lack of a national campaign about shoplifting. Organised crime information is collated and shared. Most shoplifting is carried out by local people. Some cases are given a warning, some go to court depending on the individual’s history. • Retail worker assault is a concern but not a serious assault. The assault outside the station was a group of people and caught on CCTV • Possible summit about what is going on among the different agencies. PS Fisher will ask. • A member of the public referred to individuals living in her building who have been causing disturbances by their behaviour which resulted in her being terrorised in her home. NAC have been contacted but nothing has happened. TM will speak to the member of the public for more details. • LCC members will be arranging a meeting with NAC Housing to discuss the many issues in Largs about housing • The content of the Police report was discussed and PS Fisher considers that the report issued to LCC covers the relevant information required • Drugs – concerns raised about drugs use in Largs. Police have an awareness of where drugs are available but need sufficient evidence to obtain a warrant . • Police morale in Largs is similar to morale nationally |
| 4 | <p>Action points – JW has emailed Head of Housing for meeting and will probably be a Teams meeting – ongoing School mini bus – awaiting Locality Partnership decision – ongoing Community Champions – celebration week for volunteers in March 2025 - ongoing Helter Skelter – FA is still awaiting a reply to the letter written to the Chair of Helter Skelter requesting a trustee position on the board. – AH will follow up a reply to the letter sent by LCC Largs Railway service – Scott Prentice, Scotrail will attend the meeting in February Pavement parking – legislation about pavement parking is in place. IM stated that the only street in Largs which has been given partial exemption to pavement parking is East Castle Avenue -no other streets in Largs. FA has emailed Kenneth Gibson, MSP to clarify the measurements of the roads to allow safe passage of fire engines where cars are parked on both sides of the road.</p> |

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| 5 | Minutes of meeting on 12 December 2024 - Approved – Cllr Adair, 2 nd Cllr Wood |
| 6 | Concerns regarding number of nail bars in Largs – Concern was raised about the number of nail bars opening up in Largs. A full discussion took place about the businesses. The Councillors' view was that the properties do not need a change of use and any retail business can open up in town. |
| 7 | Yuletide evening – Several businesses have suggested that Yuletide evening should be changed to another day. IM stated that the majority of businesses have not asked the Events Committee to change the day. Other options have been considered but there are various factors to be considered. There is not a consensus about the day. The Events Committee will continue to discuss the options. This year's Yuletide evening went ahead despite inclement weather due to the expense already incurred . |
| 6 | Local place Plan – Alistair Gemmell, NAC has advised that the plan will be on the agenda at the Planning Committee on 22/01/25 with a recommendation that the elected members agree to the registration of the plan. It is hoped that the plan will be supported. |
| 7 | Recycling Centre – Largs residents have raised concerns about the number of occasions recently that the recycling centre has been closed. Most recently a notice was posted that the centre would be closed for 4 days with no reason given for closure. FA has made a Freedom of Information request about the number of times the centre has been closed in the past year and the reasons. It appears that the most recent closure was due to staff going on a First Aid course for 3 days. The system is also being changed to an online application to use the facility. An email has been received from NAC offering to deliver a talk on waste and recycling. Agreed to request presentation at March's meeting. Discussion took place about the length of the 1 st aid course, cost of new booking system and budget restraints. Concerns expressed about a possible increase in fly tipping. |
| 8 | Access to Food, Litter Campaign, Community Garden, Memory Walk Report previously circulated. Community garden- Rose garden section – approval given to obtain quotation for chippings and weed barrier. Approved – Cllr Low Thomson, 2 nd Cllr Adair Anti litter sign at school – still to be installed. Very successful Christmas dinner held at Largs Naz Church and Brisbane Evangelical Church. Tea Dance - 2 – 4.30 pm 20/02/25 – joint fundraiser with DFL, Largs Food Hub and Access to Food group at the Masonic hall. £5 per ticket Memory Walk – 22 nd June 2025 FA referred to the Asda Foundation funding for transforming and improving community spaces and encouraged community groups to apply. |
| 9 | Questions from members of the public A member of the public provided a number of stats highlighting the amount paid by people in the North Coast which exceeded anywhere else in North Ayrshire and expressed concern about this. It was pointed out that there had been a number of new buildings, schools etc in the North Coast. The question raised was if the money spent in Largs is comparable with the rest of North Ayrshire. M & S site – any feedback on the site? 2 Community Councillors attended the site and advised the lady to contact her lawyer to find out who owns the land in question. Helter Skelter site – concern was raised about the state of the site. If it is considered dangerous, it should be reported to NAC. Cllr Marshall will write to Council to ask them to check it out. |
| 9 | Secretary's Report and Social Media Participatory Budget – question about the voting system which appears to work in favour of larger groups than smaller ones. The same groups also seem to be successful each year. Would a biannual system be fairer? No feedback is given when an application is unsuccessful. As this is the 1 st year that the Budget has |

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| | <p>been oversubscribed, is there to be a review of the system? Agreed that Louise Riddex should be contacted regarding this.</p> <p>Action point – Secretary to email Louise Riddex as above</p> <p>Largs Food Hub – it has only become apparent that the funding for the hub is coming to an end in October. This was not known when it opened and without help, the viability of the hub is in question. It will have to rely solely on fundraising by volunteers. Cllr Hill stated that the funding was from the Scottish Government but is coming to an end. He suggested contacting Louise Riddex and the Locality Partnership will consider the issue.</p> <p>Action point – Secretary to email Louise Riddex as above.</p> |
| 10 | <p>Treasurer’s Report –</p> <p>Admin – £546.56.</p> <p>Project - £4268.25</p> <p>Cinema account - £735.67. No cinema showing planned but open to suggestions of films we could show which would generate interest.</p> <p>Proposed : TS, 2nd: AA</p> |
| 11 | <p>Sub- committee Reports</p> <p>Environment – as above</p> <p>Hunterston – no update</p> <p>Licensing – no update.</p> <p>Planning – expansion of car park at Sport Scotland</p> <p>Transportation – no update. CC stated there was to be a protest at Largs Railway Station tomorrow morning at 8am about the cuts in hours of the rail service ticket office staff. Largs Station ticket office will be impacted by this cut in hours. Concern was expressed about the cuts in opening hours of the ticket office and the impact this would have on the public.</p> |
| 12 | <p>North Ayrshire Report – nothing to add to the comments already made during the meeting.</p> |
| 13 | <p>AOB – none</p> <p>Chair thanked everyone for their attendance.</p> |
| 14 | <p>Date of Next Meeting – 20 February 2025 at Vikingar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action point – Reports to be sent to the Secretary prior to the meeting and no later than 17 February 2025 |