



Largs Community Council
Approved Minutes of Ordinary meeting
Thursday, 20 February 2025 at 7pm

Present: Councillor Phillips(JP)(Chair), Councillor Smith (LS)(Secretary), Councillor Wood (MW) Treasurer, Councillor Adair (AA), Councillor Alexander(FA), Councillor Macintosh (KM), Councillor J Perman(JPer), Councillor Woodburn(JW), Councillor Marshall (TM), Councillor Murdoch(IM), Louise Riddex (NAC), Ewan Grant (NAC), PS Fisher, Calum Corral (CC) (Largs & Millport Weekly News), 12 members of the public

Apologies: Councillor Low Thomson, Councillor Stevenson, Councillor Stewart, Kenneth Gibson MSP

Item	Business
1	Welcome –Chair welcomed all members, members of the public and Scott Prentice to the meeting.
2	Apologies – As noted above.
3	<p>Scotrail – Scott Prentice , Strategy and Planning Director</p> <p>Scott gave an update on Scotrail service and responded to questions including the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been an increase in rail travel by people to and from Largs. This has not been as much as expected owing to a reduced service during the pay dispute last year. He apologised for the service at this time. • Largs sees as many people coming to Largs as get the train from Largs to go to other places. This is not usual. As well as commuter trains into Glasgow, the services to get to Largs both for work and leisure and travel to Cumbrae are just as important. • Safety concerns – specially trained members of staff who work with the police and Local Authorities are now travelling on the trains – Travel Safe teams. • On Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, every train from 7pm should have 2 ticket examiners on them to enable them to be more visible on the trains • Recruited another 70 examiners on the trains • Anti social statistics are starting to drop but will take time. • Timetable – aware passengers want faster journey times from Largs to Glasgow. Still being reviewed to check services are working as they should but the ferry situation is impacting on this. • Ticket office opening hours – the changes will be to the office opening not the hours of the staff. There will still be the same number of staff but their duties will change to enable them to spend more time on the platform, be visible to give help to the public, sell tickets etc • The timetable is evolving and Scotrail will continue to look at the service provided. The number of carriages on trains will be checked • Mobile tickets are giving increased information about passengers travelling • No proposed plans to change the timetable in 2025 • Difficulties experienced by families getting best value tickets • Suggested elected members should continue to push SPT for rail changes • Development at Hunterston may be opportunity to improve the line etc
4	<p>Action points –</p> <p>JW has emailed Head of Housing for meeting and will take place on 25/02/25</p> <p>Community Champions – celebration week for volunteers in March 2025 - ongoing</p> <p>Helter Skelter – scaffolding has been examined and made safe.</p>

	<p>FA is still awaiting a reply to the letter written to the Chair of Helter Skelter requesting a trustee position on the board. – AH agreed to follow this up – no update. FA advised that the accounts have not yet been submitted yet to the Scottish Charities website for this year. LR is working with the trustees and young people and is due to meet with them next week to construct an application form which will allow grant applications be made for the benefit of young people. LR will feed back to FA</p> <p>Action point – LR to provide update on application process</p> <p>School mini bus – question asked by NAC if LCC would accept ownership of the asset. Clarification sought on the definition of owner and keeper and what is involved. – to be clarified by NAC – LR – ongoing</p> <p>Recycling - still awaiting response from NAC about attending the next LCC meeting – ongoing</p> <p>Participatory Budget – the process and issues involved were discussed. LR advised that the process was being evaluated but her recommendation was that groups should encourage people to vote for them. She will take on board the fact that unsuccessful groups are not told of the number of votes they receive.</p> <p>Largs Food Hub – concerns were raised about future funding of the hub when the funding from NAC ceases in October. The Hub already carries out fundraising and requests donations but a lot is expected of volunteers. The ongoing viability of the Hub is a concern especially as it has only been in existence for 1 year. LR stated that there was a larger network meeting on 10/03/25 when finances would be discussed.</p>
5	<p>Minutes of meeting on 16 January 2025 - Approved – CCllr Adair, 2nd CCllr Wood</p>
6	<p>Local place Plan – the Place Plan was approved by NAC last month. There has been a tentative approach by a company in relation to the gondola plan from Douglas Park. This would involve significant cost.</p>
7	<p>Access to Food, Litter Campaign, Community Garden, Memory Walk</p> <p>Report previously circulated.</p> <p>Rose garden upgrade ongoing</p> <p>Litter Campaign – Largs Academy’s newsletter has highlighted the problem of pupils dropping litter. They would like to display additional litter posters throughout the school which LCC would supply costing approximately £90 – agreed.</p> <p>Access to Food – Tea dance held today. Very successful and enjoyed by everyone who attended.</p> <p>TM requested details of the Access to Food money and the expenditure. RS to provide this information.</p> <p>Memory Walk – 22/06/25</p>
8	<p>Questions from members of the public</p> <p>A member of the public whose house is next to M & S site complained that the work on site is causing damage to her building and NAC are unable to tell her who owns the land. This has been an ongoing problem. Construction work is due to start within the next few weeks. JW will take this forward.</p> <p>Concern expressed about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the play park which was due to be built at the new houses not yet built. IM advised that it is planned to build a play park but will confirm. Possible loss of lollipop lady at the school – one of the proposals for budget – will be decided at Council meeting on 26/02/25 – TM will advise. 1 hour parking in town – could this be increased to 2 hours. Parents taking children to the toddler groups find this too limited. Blue badge procedure discussed. TM considers 1 hour works well as you can park for longer elsewhere in town.
9	<p>Secretary’s Report and Social Media</p> <p>Cinema showing of film ‘Wicked’ proposed for 14/03/25. Discussed whether Friday night is the best night, difficult to agree a night to suit everyone. 100 people are required to break even. Reminded of need for ushers.</p>
10	<p>Treasurer’s Report – Admin – £389.26 Project - £5240.25 Cinema account - £735.67. Proposed : AA, 2nd: KM</p>
11	<p>Sub- committee Reports Environment – as above</p>

	<p>Hunterston – next meeting of Hunterston Stakeholder Group is 6/03/25. KM is taking over Hunterston Parc.</p> <p>Licensing – no update.</p> <p>Planning – M & S planning - additional parking was amended and it has been agreed that there will now be bollards and wheel stops next to building.</p> <p>Flats at Bowen Craig – amended to 20 from 16 but will be smaller – TM advised that the flats will be 4 storeys instead of 3 and a number of objections have been raised. No representations made to LCC, no objections by LCC.</p> <p>Transportation – no update.</p>
12	<p>North Ayrshire Report –</p> <p>IM commended NAC Services for clear up after the storm.</p> <p>A number of pavements are possibly going to be resurfaced.</p> <p>NAC Budget meeting is on 26/02/25</p> <p>TM – Advised that the NAC Council Tax proposal is to increase by 7%</p> <p>Toilets – to remain open all summer, Aubrey is to be reinstated in some way but Mackerston will close.</p> <p>2nd homes – Council Tax will be charged at 100%</p> <p>Marina car park – will be charges there</p>
13	<p>AOB – none</p> <p>Chair thanked everyone for their attendance.</p>
14	<p>Date of Next Meeting – 20 March 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 March 2025