



Largs Community Council  
Approved Minutes of Ordinary meeting  
Thursday, 15 May 2025 at 7pm

**Present:** CCLlr Phillips(JP)(Chair), CCLlr Smith (LS)(Secretary), CCLlr Wood (MW) Treasurer, CCLlr Adair (AA), CCLlr Alexander(FA), CCLlr Low Thomson (WLT), CCLlr Macintosh (KM), CCLlr J Perman(JPer), CCLlr Stevenson(RS), CCLlr Stewart(TS), CCLlr Woodburn(JW), Cllr Marshall(TM), Cllr Murdoch(IM), Anne-Marie Hunter(NAC), PS Fisher, Calum Corral (CC) (Largs & Millport Weekly News), Lisa Barr(Viking Festival), 6 members of the public

**Apologies:** Louise Riddex (NAC), Ewan Grant (NAC), Lesley McCormack(KA Leisure)

Item	Business
1	<b>Welcome</b> –Chair welcomed all members and members of the public. He reminded everyone that the minutes are recorded for minute purposes only.
2	<b>Apologies</b> – As noted above.
3	<p><b>Police Report</b> Report previously circulated. Discussion took place around the police report including the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concern raised about an alleged assault at the taxi rank a couple of weeks ago which is not mentioned in the report. Also two dog attacks that have not been reported in the police report, despite police attendance. PS Fisher stated that not all incidents translate into crime reports due to insufficient evidence. – <b>to be checked</b></li> <li>Concern raised about recurring issues of threatening and abusive behaviour in Lindsay Crescent, George Street, and Linn Avenue. PS Fisher stated that assault and threatening behaviour go hand in hand on and on many occasions they are fuelled by alcohol</li> <li>Email received from member of the public about his concerns about speeding on the A78, particularly from Greenock, and also about police actions. Any speeding reports would be included in police report and none have been reported in the last month. There have been ongoing discussions with the Road Safety Camera partnership about increasing motorbike speed enforcement. Safety concerns also about stopping speeding vehicles. Fixed speed cameras would help both north and south traffic but this is the responsibility of Transport Scotland.</li> <li>Jet skis – concerns raised about their speed. Policing situation is not clear cut, difficult to be in a fixed spot to do this which is difficult. IM provided clarification on the harbour and port authorities involved in policing the River Clyde.</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Action points</b> – Minutes and action points from previous meeting reviewed. JW sent a letter to NAC about school crossing in Largs. JW reported that the council has acknowledged the flawed assessment of the Glenacre crossing and reversed their decision leading to a positive outcome for Largs. However disappointing for other areas that</p>

	<p>any discussion about reversing the decision for the areas which have lost their crossing patrols was not supported.</p> <p>LR will advise details of any Action groups in other areas which have been formed as a result of the cuts to school crossings - ongoing</p> <p>Helter Skelter online application was discussed and noted that the Community Council has no oversight over the disbursement of funds. The letter to Helter Skelter trustees remains unanswered. LCC finds it disappointing that this is the case and that our offer to be involved has not merited any response.</p> <p>Action point – CC will submit a Freedom of Information request to obtain the number of North Ayrshire Council employees who live in England and thereby benefit from the tax system – CC is still awaiting a response – ongoing</p> <p>Dave Ennis to be invited to next LCC meeting to talk about the Observatory Trust</p>
5	<p><b>Viking Festival</b> - Lisa Barr provided an update on this year's festival which is celebrating its 45th anniversary and there will be changes to the logo and festival events as follows -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the construction of a long ship at the Maritime Museum in Irvine and the return of the festival fire event to Largs Thistle football grounds. Magnus will be outwith the village this year. Volunteers required for all aspects of the long ship.</li> <li>the recovery of a tug of war trophy for a competition and the involvement of local businesses in the festival by way of a programme which will be free of charge to the public. Agreed that LCC should take an advert out in the programme to be paid for from the Admin account.</li> <li>discussed the need for more school involvement in the festival. Schools can contact the committee to discuss potential involvement.</li> <li>the challenges of coordinating with ScotRail. Their priority appears to be the Ayr line. More buses may be required.</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Local Place Plan and Gondola Ventures–</b></p> <p>FA discussed the Largs Local Place Plan, including the potential for an aerial gondola system to attract investment and boost the economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FA advised of an upcoming visit next week from Gondola Ventures to assess Largs' potential for the gondola system. LCC is hosting this visit. All North Coast Councillors have been invited to attend. Emphasised that this project is at a very early stage. Contact for Friends of Clyde Muirshiel required – AP – AMH will check</li> <li>AF raised concerns about the cost and lack of documentation by NAC regarding the repair and cost of Aubrey Park's public toilets. Suggestion made to use the existing working toilet as a multi sex toilet meantime.</li> <li>IM advised on the challenges of maintaining public toilets and the potential for increased income from the car park. The charge to the fair during Viking festival week has been increased - currently £6000. Motor bikes will get a parking ticket if not displaying a ticket. JW again called for LCC to be involved in the disbursement of funds from the car park as he considers there is currently no transparency regarding it. TM advised of the review of Community Councils due to take place but as it stands at present the only areas CCs are required to be consulted on are licensing and planning. Concerns were expressed about the relationship between Councillors and Community Councillors. TM asked that the Councillors be placed at item 3 of the agenda to encourage attendance of Councillors. Discussion took place about the school crossing decisions with IM stating that the Councillors were not presented with the report on which the decision to reduce the number was</li> </ul>

	<p>based. JW obtained this information through a Freedom of Information request and was able to make a challenge based on this. This proved to be a successful challenge.</p> <p>AMH stated that she considered that there was a good relationship between NAC and LCC due to the amount of good work that we do and we are also an integral part of the Locality Partnership. However if it was felt that this was not the case then perhaps a meeting to address this would help. She also encouraged LCC to fully participate in the review of Community Councils. There is a process to be followed for this and AMH agreed to send details of this to LCC.</p> <p><b>AP – AMH to send the link for the review of the Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils</b></p>
7	<p><b>Mini bus</b> – JW provided an update on the minibus application, noting the resubmission with additional support emails. Will be considered at the Locality Partnership meeting in June.</p>
8	<p><b>I3 site, Irvine</b> – JW raised concerns about the allocation of 1.3 million pounds for a wind turbine at the I3 site in Irvine, without public transparency. There are no papers available. The elected Councillors have not responded to JW's enquiry. JW has now submitted a Freedom of Information request to gather more information about the disposal of the I3 site.</p>
10	<p><b>Access to Food, Litter Campaign, Community Garden, Memory Walk</b> Report previously circulated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great support for VE Day display, hanging baskets on display and received a donation of large plants from a local resident. New for this year is a summer display.</li> <li>• Litter campaign – school sign still to be erected</li> <li>• Access to food – meeting to be arranged</li> <li>• Memory Walk event at Barrfields Stadium on 22/06/25, discussed the challenges of KA Leisure securing funding for health checks and children's activities, signs have been erected at Community Garden and various other places in town</li> </ul>
11	<p><b>Questions from members of the public</b></p> <p>A member of the public who was previously Secretary of the Community Council praised the progress of the Community Council towards transparency and accountability, noting the inclusion of public members. He also reflected on the Community Council's relevance and effectiveness compared to 40 years ago and commended and praised LCC.</p> <p>A new resident of Largs who was previously a Community Councillor in Helensburgh asked about the consultations and the national review of schemes. AMH explained the review of schemes and the involvement of various authorities, including North Ayrshire. Concern was expressed concern about the timing of consultations over the summer holidays. RS suggested that not all Community Councils have the same resources such as a car park fund, which might affect their relevance. AMH acknowledged the differences in resources and the need for tailored approaches for different Community Councils.</p> <p>FA questioned the possibility of transferring car park fund proceeds to the Community Council. AMH explained the need to understand the setup of the locality partnership to answer the question. FA highlighted the significant funds generated by the car park fund and the lack of benefits for the community. AMH suggested asking the Locality Partnership for clarification on the use of funds.</p>
12	<p><b>Secretary's Report and Social Media</b> No update.</p>

	TS has noted increased social media activity particularly around the community garden. He suggested future collaboration with Largs artistic community when there are one off community garden displays.
13	<b>Treasurer's Report –</b> <b>Admin –</b> £463.30 <b>Project -</b> £4744.90 <b>Cinema account -</b> £1100.67 No invoices received yet.      Proposed : FA, 2nd: AA
14	<b>Sub- committee Reports</b> <b>Environment –</b> Already discussed. <b>Hunterston –</b> No update <b>Licensing –</b> no update. <b>Planning –</b> no update <b>Transportation –</b> no update.
15	<b>North Ayrshire Report –</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TS reported on the 2 recent battery fires in Kilwinning which NAC decided to have investigated by SEPA. NAC have agreed to consult relevant bodies to decide on a policy on mobile phone use in schools.</li> <li>• NAC will review their transgender policies following the Supreme Court ruling but are waiting for further guidance and meantime employees are using the toilets of their adopted sex</li> <li>• NAC decision on pupil transport was for no change</li> <li>• Policy on misogyny in schools to be considered</li> <li>• TS's position on re-debating school crossing patrols was questioned. He explained the decision not to re-debate the issue, citing the need to maintain standing orders.</li> <li>• IM reported the council's efforts to create stronger links with Brisbane, Australia, in preparation for the 2032 Olympics and highlighted the importance of ongoing engagement and the potential for mutual benefits. IM shared his personal experiences of facilitating community connections and the need for continued support.</li> <li>• IM also questioned the current status of the Douglas Park tennis courts and the council's decision-making process.</li> <li>• IM provided an update on the M&amp;S site, noting the removal of construction equipment and the potential impact on the project. He expressed concern about the lack of progress and the need for clear communication from the developers. FA criticised the state of the site and called for action to improve its appearance. IM explained the limitations of council involvement due to the site's ownership and the need for cooperation from the developers.</li> </ul>
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AOB –</b> there is one vacancy on Largs Community Council</li> </ul> Chair thanked everyone for their attendance.
17	<b>Date of Next Meeting – 19 June 2025 at Vikingar.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Action point – Reports to be sent to the Secretary prior to the meeting and no later than 15 June 2025</b></li> </ul>