

**LARGO AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 15TH OF JANUARY
2018 AT 7.15 IN THE DURHAM HALL LOWER LARGO**

Those present were; Chairman Mr Aitken, Mrs Fyfe, Mr Wood, Mr Stacey, Mrs Green, Mr Millar, Mrs Aitken, Mr Clark, Mr Green and Councillor Ritchie.
In attendance was Mr Hall.

Due to The Chairman Mr Aitken being delayed, the meeting was opened by Vice Chairman Mrs Fyfe who welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2018.

Apologies were received by Mr Patterson, Mrs Young, Councillor Suttie and Councillor Davidson.

Last month's minutes were proposed for adoption by Mr Clark and seconded by Mrs Fyfe.

Largo House Development

Nothing has changed since the last report and although it is hoped that some form of community access to the area round Largo House will be made possible, any work on the project will have a longer time scale attached.

Telecom Mast

At the last Community Council meeting it was decided to lodge a complaint with the Ombudsman due to the mishandling of the planning application for a phone mast at the telephone exchange in Lundin Links. Meanwhile Galliford Try have withdrawn their planning application so it was agreed by the Community Council that it was no longer necessary for Mr Wood to go ahead with the complaint.

The Scottish Government have changed the law, which now states that if the mast is below a certain size the company erecting the mast have only to give prior notification that the mast is going up, planning permission is not required.

The residents of Penrice Park wish to get clarification of Fife Council's planning procedure for phone masts and The Community Council have agreed to continue to pursue this issue.

As there is a shortfall in the broadband service in this area the community should prepare for further applications for phone masts.

Largo Pier

A subcommittee has been set up for some time and the intention is to find some way forward for the repair of the pier. The owner, Mr Dykes has intimated that he would agree to pass the pier on to community ownership with certain conditions. One being that the carpark remains in the ownership of the Crusoe Hotel. The pier must be owned by a public body in order to attract the funding needed to carry out the necessary repairs.

If agreement can be reached the Community Council has to have a clear view of how to fund repair and sustainability (possible income from users) medium to long term, e.g. public liability insurance.

There has been discussion with the Scottish Land Fund who may be able to help with surveys and plans which in turn may enable us to get funding bids.

A proposal for the next step is to enter into 'heads of agreement' to give the hotel owners some comfort and keep them informed.

Mr Wood has sought examples of similar situations and stated that the timescale for the project could not be quicker than 9 – 18 months.

Co-option

A proposition was made that Largo Area Community Council Co-opt Mr Geoff Hill. This was agreed, and Mr Hill was duly co-opted.

Mr Aitken took over chairing the meeting.

Lundin Mill Bridge

The bridge at the Mill is still closed which is one of the main safe routes to the primary school.

The Community Council has worked hard to come up with a solution having been given a quote from Fife Council for a replacement bridge which was well outside their budget. Fife Council have agreed to make sure the bridge is safe even though the ownership is unclear.

Mr Aitken asked Sergeant Chris Wright of the Royal Engineers to give us some advice and following an inspection Sergeant Wright concluded that the bridge was basically sound but needed remedial work on the piers at either end, new flooring and new handrails. This work would have a budget of approx. £25,000 which is considerably less than the original estimate and makes the bridge repairs affordable.

Thanks, must go to Mr Aitken and Sergeant Wright for focusing minds and finding a solution.

Lundin Links Hotel

Councillor Davidson and Mr Aitken have been pressing Mr Punler – the owner of the hotel – to attend a meeting to find out the time scale for the development, although previous meetings have been cancelled. Mr Punler has stated that the work will go ahead this year and it is still hoped to arrange a meeting to get more detail. The Community Council have continued to request that the developer tidy up the site.

Planning

The Dumbarrie Links golf course development has been lodged with the Planning Service and the Community Council as well as individual representations can now be submitted to Fife Council.

At the public meeting held by the Community Council in October 2017 the concerns included, increased traffic, the entrance off the A 915, any changes to the coastal path and the effect on wild life and loss of natural habitat. At this meeting it was also mentioned as a concern, the loss of farm land for the tenant farmer.

In reply to these concerns ITP Energise, along with environmental consultants and engineers stated that; the traffic increase would not be in excess of 30 vehicles per day through the villages, a junction would be created at a site with good visibility, the coastal path (the majority of which is on the beach) will not be affected with access rights remaining along the old railway and included on the course will be areas created to increase biodiversity. The meeting was assured that there will be no residential buildings and that 25-30 local jobs will be created.

With these assurances the Community Council felt that there were no grounds for objection with regard to community interest. Individual objections can be made however.

Core Paths

- Following a complaint about the Milk Walk path from The Pans, east of The Temple to Buckthorns Farm being blocked with a barrier and a farm vehicle, the Community Council has passed the information to the Coastal and Countryside Officer for action.
- Another concern which was brought to the attention of the Community Council was the removal of sand off the beach by a farmer. Scottish Natural Heritage stated that the farmer at Buckthorns' has had a dispensation to take sand from the beach for agricultural purposes'
- There has been an issue with the turning area at the south entrance to the Serpentine off the old railway becoming slippery when it is icy. This will be passed to Scottish Water and The Woodland Trust.

Roads and Lighting

- Mrs Josie Fernie, a lady who was responsible for cleaning the Largo toilet for many years was killed in a road accident near Anstruther. The Largo Area Community Council would like to pay tribute to Mrs Fernie for her hard work in this community and send condolences to her family.

- There has been a complaint about the campervan which is routinely parked on the St Andrews Road just after the entrance to Wood's Houses. However, the vehicle is parked legally, and the police have stated that it slows down the traffic.
 - Several members of the community, who attended the meeting are concerned over the speed of the traffic entering Upper Largo on the St Andrews Road, especially as there are a significant number of children who cross this road on their way to school. Some parents feel that it is too dangerous and do not allow their children to walk to school for this reason.
- It was suggested that a Gateway into the village, here and on the coast road should be created. This will be taken up with Councillor Davidson.
- It is felt that there are too many stretches of yellow lines in the area and a reduction may help to some extent with the problem of parking. Fife Council have already agreed to the removal of sections of yellow lines on the Drummochy hill. This should be investigated.
 - A local resident is still concerned over the speed of traffic in the dip north of the Lundin Links Hotel and suggested that speed bumps should be installed, however it was pointed out that the feeling in the community is that this approach would not be popular, and the police should be contacted for advice.
 - There is to be a Community Engagement Meeting held at Arden House on the 1st of February 6.30-7.30. There will also be a Drop-in session at the Sainsbury's Café from 10-12. Dates still to be arranged.

AOCB

The community is still affected by quad bikes and trail bikes on the beach. The advice is that, if you see this happening report it to the police.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE 19TH OF FEBRUARY 2018 AT 7.00PM IN THE LIBRARY, LUNDIN LINKS