**LARGO AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH OF AUGUST 2019 AT 7.00 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL, NEW GILSTON**

Those present were; Chairman Mr Aitken, Mr Allan, Mrs Stewart, Mrs Brown, Mr Fox, Mrs Green, Mr Clark, Mrs Aitken, Mrs Low, and Mrs Young. In attendance was Councillor Ritchie.

No apologies were received.

Last month’s minutes were moved for approval by Mrs Stewart and seconded by Mr Clark.

Declaration of interest – There were no declarations of interest.

**New Gilston and Woodside**

As there was such a good turn-out of residents Mr Aitken made an appeal for a representative from New Gilston and Woodside to join the Community Council and help protect the interests of their community.

**Treasurer Resignation**

Mr David Peacock has tendered his resignation to the Community Council although he has agreed to carry on helping with The Wombles and our Website. We are sad to lose him and wish to thank him for all his hard work as Treasurer and for his work on the website and the Wombles.

This year’s accounts will be approved at the next meeting.

**New Gilston to Woodside Footpath**

The residents of both villages are appealing for a lit footpath to be created as a safe route for pedestrians to get from one village to the other. The Village Hall Committee has organised a petition, going round 70 households and getting signatures from 122 residents 22 of which are minors. The petition is asking for the footpath and constant speed limit between the villages.

Councillor Ritchie is in support of the suggestion and the residents were advised to ask for a site visit with the Transportation Service to outline their concerns and to make enquiries about grants available. They were also advised to mention a concern over speeding within the village and discuss with Transportation what might be useful to improve the situation.

The residents were also concerned about a possible future planning application for the Law-view site which is adjacent to a conservation area. The plans will have to be looked at when they are submitted.

The directional sign for New Gilston at the east end is missing and should be replaced and it was suggested that a ‘Bad Bend’ sign and lighting would make the drive into the village safer as several accidents have happened here.

A resident was enquiring about the possibility of replacing felled trees, however this is on private land and the landowner is not obliged to replant.

**Largo Arts Week**

A huge effort was made by a considerable amount of the community to organise a very successful arts festival. The Largo Area Community Council did it’s bit by organising a treasure and scavenger hunt on and around the beach which was greatly enjoyed by many families and creating a raft which was sailed by ‘Robinson Crusoe’ and his mate from the harbour to the Temple where it was boarded by a large number of children.

A very big thank you goes to Esther Brown for organising the hunts and Mel Moir who assisted, Donald Low Aka Robinson Crusoe and his mate Matt Allan, with Ian Howie in the safety boat and Donald and Alison Low for donating the treasure and the chest.

It is hoped to hold a similar event next year and it was suggested that a village raft race could be organised.

**Bathing Beach**

Mr Allan has held meetings with Scottish Water and MSP Jenny Gilruth, during which the project was outlined and the reason for seeking designation. Scottish Water has been given instruction to carry-out an audit, but it was stated that this will not happen overnight as the budget is on a 5-year cycle. It is hoped that it is possible to get an advance on the budget to carry-out the audit earlier.

One of the options discussed to resolve the water quality problem was to pipe the sewage to the treatment works at Methil.

Mr Allan suggested that the information collected during the beach count is a valuable resource and should be collated and kept.

**South Feus, Upper Largo**

Mr Aitken visited the residents of 19 South Feus where he discussed the issue of the fenced ground, south of the road. The residents were unhappy with the previous communication with the neighbours but agreed to plant a hedge to replace the wooden fence over time, 2 years.

The neighbours are sorry for any anxiety caused but feel that the reason for the extended ground (parking) was not necessary, due to the offer of parking if needed with the neighbours, also a hedge would be preferable to the wooden fence.

At this point in the meeting a Mr Alan Butters from Lower Largo introduced himself as the new owner of the house and ground in question as is due to move in in the autumn with a willingness to meet with the other residents of South Feus.

**Church Wall Collapse**

Due to the heavy rainfall part of the church wall in Upper Largo collapsed exposing old human remains from the churchyard. The remains have been collected and stored in the church for reinternment at a later date. A survey has been carried out and we have been informed that it may take 3 months to carry out the repairs, meanwhile arrangements have been made for a small vehicle to carryout bin collections in church place.

Fife Council and Largo Parish Church will share the cost of the restoration work.

**Fallen Tree at the Lundin Links Hotel**

During the same storm as took the wall down, a dead tree, in the grounds of The Lundin Links Hotel fell across Emsdorf Street and onto the roof of a parked car, blocking the road. The Council removed the tree and Mr Aitken contacted the owner Mr Punler to inform him of the accident and advise that the remainder of the trees should be checked for safety, especially due to the route being used by school children. Mr Aitken also asked Mr Punler if there was any date for the start of development, but there was no response.

If Mr Punler does not make the site safe and tidy the Planning Enforcement Officer can force action to be taken.

**Lundin Links**

- There are thought to create a small community garden at the side of the Montrave Hall, possibly creating a rockery using stone from the premises across the road, if there is excess. If anyone is interested in helping or willing to donate plants or tools please contact Esther Brown or Donna Stewart via Community Council.

- There have been further traffic incidents which will be discussed further at the next Community Council meeting.

- Keil’s Den – There have been a number of trees in Keil’s Den which are suffering Ash Die Back disease and unfortunately will need to be removed but the Woodlands Trust have intimated that the trees will be replaced by other trees.

- The path from the Mill to Keilburn has not yet been resurfaced – Mrs Stewart will contact the Locality Manager.

- The brick garage at the end of Emsdorf Crescent has become a dangerous building and although it is fenced off, it is causing concern due to its close proximity to the school route. Planning Enforcement should be contacted.

**Upper Largo**

A Heritage event was held in the village on the 10th of August. It included a village history exhibition and barbeque in The Simpson Institute and a Heritage Walk round Upper Largo, with a leaflet outlining the history of many of the buildings in the village. It was a very successful event despite the lack of turn out from the younger members of the community.

- There is concern over the plans to carryout work on mature trees at 44 Main Street. It is hoped that the trees will not be lopped too severely.

**Lower Largo**

It has come to a resident’s notice that the viaduct is in need of work. The down pipes are blocked causing possible water damage to the stonework. Mrs Stewart has contacted Fife Council to find out who is responsible for maintenance of the viaduct.

**Planning**

- There has been an extension to the planning application for St Davids Church which are still pending.

- The shutters at Stuarts the Bakers in Lundin Links have been passed as the casing no longer protrudes into the street.

**AOCB**

- Levenmouth Together Initiative is organising a Food and Drink Festival to be held on the 24th of August at The Shorehead in Leven.

- An initiative to create an art installation near the site of Leven Power Station in the shape of whales will be presented to a near future Community Council meeting.

- Congratulation to all who campaigned to bring the railway to Leven as the announcement was made that this is to come about within the next 5 years. The station will be on the site of the old power station. The volunteer campaigners have worked tirelessly to bring this about, and it is sure to bring many benefits to the area.

Community Speed Watch and speed cushions will be discussed at the next meeting.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE 16TH OF SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7.00PM IN THE LIBRARY, LUNDIN LINKS**