**LARGO AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 15TH OF FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.00 PM WITH PARTICIPANTS ONLINE VIA ZOOM**

Those present were: Chairman Peter Aitken, Mr Allan, Mrs Green, Mrs Brown, Mrs Young, Mrs Aitken and Mr Clark.

In attendance were Drew Morrison hosting the meeting, Brenda Morrison and Scott Hamilton.

Apologies were received from Mrs Low, Mr Fox and Mrs Stewart.

Last month’s minutes were moved for approval by Mrs Brown and seconded by Mr Allan.

There were no declarations of interest.

This month’s meeting was using the new community Zoom platform shared between Largo Church, LACRT and Largo Community Council.

**Flooding at Bourtree Brae and Crusoe Gardens Lower Largo**

Mr Hamilton attended the meeting with concerns over a recurring flooding problem in the area which is felt to be due to the soakaway in the field next door as there was no problem before the housing development. The property affected has had to be drained on several occasions with emergency services involved. Other properties in the area are also affected. The farmer who uses the field has dug a trench with no success and there are concerns over gas mains in the vicinity.

The property developer Lundin Homes have been contacted but there has been no response.

Mr Aitken has drafted an email to Alan Spence from Lundin Homes suggesting a site meeting with Fife Council as well as a drainage contractor who can suggest a solution.

**Corona Virus**

There have been problems at the vaccination venues such as Randolph Wemyss Hospital due to overbooking which resulted in excessive waiting times those waiting for their vaccinations. It is thought to be a national scheduling problem and it was considered to be important to raise this at the meeting as it may have implications for future similar events.

It is also important to mention that the hospital staff were doing their very best in the circumstances.

Waid Academy’s Parent Council thanked the LACRT and stated that they were very grateful for the financial assistance given to the school.

The Parent Council also sent out an appeal to any other groups who may be able to help.

**Orry Slipway**

A Marine Grant has been awarded for the improvements to the slipway at the Orry in Lower Largo, as well as the steps east of the slipway and the installation of a handrail for the steps. The grant comes from the Crown Estate Commissioners. The work will improve access onto the beach for boats as well as pedestrians. Grateful thanks go to Donald Aitken, Commodore of Largo Bay Sailing Club and in particular to David Patterson, Area Services Manager whose hard work meant the work was able to go ahead.

**Path Finders Rally**

The Woodlands Trust is ok with the Rally going past Keil’s Den. Signage will be put up in advance of the race. It is thought that a section of the wood will be out of bounds to the public on the day of the race for safety reasons. The risk assessment is still a work in progress.

The organisers were pleased with the positive feedback from the LACC. It is important to state that the Community Council is not endorsing the rally but only wishing to ensure the safety of the community during the event.

**Temple Car Park Improvements**

Robbie Blyth of Fife Coast and Countryside Trust; he has acquired funds from “The Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund” and has allocated some for improvements at Temple Car Park that will include the following: Dedicated parking bays for disabled and parent and child; new bins for waste management, including a dedicated burn proof bin for barbeques; bike racks and a charging point for ebikes. Taking out the Rosa Rugosa on the dune section in front of The Cardy Net House – this is an invasive plant that prevents indigenous species from flourishing. Renewing Coastal path signage. Install a fresh Disposable Waste point for motor homes. He hasn’t got a timeline yet, but these improvements are expected to happen this year.

**Levenmouth Connectivity Project - Sustrans Behaviour Change Sessions**

Sustrans are custodians of our National Cycle Route Network and they are involved in creating a series of cycle networks in the Levenmouth area with a view to encouraging more local people to cycle instead of use vehicles. The core aspect of this initiative is to regenerate a 5 km stretch of the River Leven from its source to Windygates and turn it into a recreational area for use by all of the population. They have initiated a study to facilitate this, and the final stage is: These Behaviour Change Group Sessions. LACC were invited to attend these sessions. The Chair attended the first session, and the Vice Chair attended the subsequent sessions. It was not felt to be particularly relevant to our area, but it’s good to keep in touch with the bigger picture and how we as a community may relate to it.

**Treasurers Report**

After a lot of work all the papers have now been submitted to Metro Bank to open a new Account.

Thanks to Drew Morrison for pointing us in the right direction.

**Grit Boxes**

Following the bad snow, the need for more grit around the community was made clear. The boxes that are in place need to be filled regularly and further boxes are needed around the Cupar Road junction and on the Leven Road. Grateful thanks should go to Mrs Brown and Mrs Young who were among those who cleared pavements and to the farmers who cleared roads in the area.

There was a suggestion, if Fife Council are overstretched at these times, that a quantity of grit could be placed at a central point in the villages and members of the community could spread it themselves.

**Lundin Links Hotel**

Having watched an online video of the inside of the hotel it is obvious it has not been cleared of flammable material and other content which may induce people to enter the building, access being no problem for determined individuals.

It is felt that Fife Council should intervene and compel Mr Punler to clear and secure the building to make it less of a fire risk. Mr Aitken will contact Fife Council to this effect.

**Planning**

Fife Local Plan – There is to be a review of the Local Plan at the end of this year and due to the activity by Campion Homes in the Field north of the Durham Development it is felt that a public meeting should be organised to get the community’s view on any potential development, i.e. how many houses will be allowed and where?

Laverock Cottage, Upper Largo – demolition of existing cottage and erection of new build.

If a majority of Community Councillors agree, having examined the plans, representations will be submitted to Development Services Fife Council on the following grounds.

Much larger dwelling house proposed, not in keeping with the surrounding properties or the surrounding environment, also clearly visible to the members of the public using The Milk Path.

8 East Drive, Upper Largo – Single storey extension to the rear – No objection

Penrice Park, Lundin Links – Demolition of conservatory and replace with extension – No objection.

Church Rooms, Upper Largo – Change of use to living accommodation. This is a listed building and therefore any changes will have be to be sympathetic, also it is in such a poor state of repair improvement to the building is very necessary.

**Traffic Calming Scheme, Leven Road**

Consultation on the proposed scheme is still to happen. The scheme is coming to the Area Committee in March.

The Community Council approved the scheme but still need to see the detailed plans and there is concern that the suggested work will be temporary.

**Bifab**

Congratulations to Bifab who have been bought out of administration and 600 jobs will be brought into the area which is very positive for the local economy.

Mr Aitken thanked Mr Drew Morrison for hosting the Zoom meeting once again.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON ZOOM AT 7.00 PM ON THE 15TH OF MARCH 2021**