**LARGO AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 16TH OF AUGUST 2021 AT 7.00 PM WITH PARTICIPANTS ONLINE VIA ZOOM**

Those present were: - Chairman Peter Aitken, Mr Allan, Mrs Green, Mrs Aitken, Mr Fox, Mrs Young and Mr Barker.

Apologies were received from Mrs Stewart, Mrs Brown, Mr Clark and Mrs Low.

Mr Aitken declared an interest for the Largo Road Trial.

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

Thanks to Mr Drew Morrison for facilitating our Zoom meetings.

With no corrections last months minutes were moved for approval by Mr Allan and seconded by Mr Barker.

**Matters Arising**

- Following enquiries about the possibility of face-to-face meetings starting up again as Corona Virus restrictions are eased. We were informed that The Community Council advisors are awaiting guidance.

- The Corona Virus Response Team held a meeting at Monturpie Farm, which Mr Aitken attended. At the meeting the volunteer Befrienders Steering Group was thanked for their work.

- The Acting Group ‘Inspire’ organised an activity day for children in August, during the school holidays. 32 children attended the Durham Hall where the theme was Robinson Crusoe, Pirates and mermaids. Everyone had a good time.

**Selkirk Park**

Mr Fox has been looking into the position with the area of land around and including the SuDS pond with a view to possibly planting trees or similar. Mr Fox has written to Largo Estate who own the field north and east of the development to find out who owns the land round the pond and included the map of the development which appears to suggest the SuDS area extends across to the Serpentine at the west. The Crichtons have said they would get in touch soon. There are questions over the maintenance of the SuDS pond and whether a safety fence should have been erected as part of the planning conditions (this may now be a planning enforcement issue) Mr Barker will write and ask Lundin Homes for clarification.

If there is a possibility for tree planting The Woodland Trust supply trees to communities for such projects.

**Selkirk Grove**

There is still a lot of frustration from the residents regarding the state of the field north of Castaway Lane, the management Plan for adoption of the roads, footpaths and verges for maintenance. Lundin Homes have now cut the grass around the transformer. Mr Spence of Lundin Homes has made a commitment to get the fuse panel decommissioned but no action so far.

**Traffic Lights Trial**

A new Traffic Consultant has been appointed and they are not in favour of the trial. An article was placed in the community newsletter Largo Links, inviting comments, however there were only three responses, two against the lights and one for. This discussion needs to be left till the next meeting to collect more responses, especially from those most affected.

**New Gilston Playground**

Fife Council had removed the swings due to their dangerous state in June but following enquiries Fife Council have agreed to reinstate the swings. A grant to improve the playground can be applied for from The Fife Environment Trust although the community would have to raise some of the money themselves. The fundraising would have to be done through a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) and the New Gilston Village Hall Group has this already.

The village was delighted with the help we were able to give and, as mentioned at past meetings, it would be an advantage for New Gilston and Woodside, for future issues, if they were to have a representative on the Largo Area Community Council.

**Lundin Links Hotel**

Mr Aitken invited Mr Punler to attend the Community Council meeting to hear the community’s concerns but did not attend. No action was taken after the alarm went off. Mr Aitken has written to Fife Council outlining all the ongoing issues and requested enforcement. Mr Punler was contacted by Fife Council but no action was taken by him and no information has been forthcoming

Mr Aitken was requested to advise Mr Punler that unless a satisfactory response to our reasonable requests for information is received within 7 days this would be reported to the Press who will no doubt ask for a response.

**WRVS**

We received an email from WRVS asking that we promote their appeal for volunteers to help with Community Transport. This will be passed to the Corona Virus Response Team.

**Crusoe Hotel Extending Hours**

The Crusoe Hotel have applied to extend their licensing hours from 11am Mon-Sat and 12.30pm on a Sun and looking to open at 10am 7 days a week and off sales to open at 10am instead of 12.30pm on a Sunday.

There was no objection.

**Planning**

Land south of farmhouse Teuchats Farm Greenside - proposed new dwelling house – Mr Aitken submitted the following representations –

- Normally new houses on agricultural land are only built where there is an existing building (or a derelict building) and there appears to be no existing building (or derelict building) in this case.

- If the house is for an agricultural worker normally this is made a planning condition enforceable against the land i.e., the house cannot be sold to a third party who is not an agricultural worker.

- Traffic (and road safety) may be an issue as the existing access is only an access to fields (and there appears to be a corresponding track on the other side of the road)

Lower Largo, East End of The Temple - Erection of replacement garage and store with studio over – As requested the right of way will be preserved along with access to the beach.

**Leven Reconnected – Levenmouth Rail Project**

Mr Aitken will attend the next Task Group meeting and raise the following points: -

 - Extend the transport provision to Largo.

 - Improve the paths to Elie along the old railway

 - Improve the provision for bikes on the trains

**Beach Designation Project – Facilitation Meeting**

The meeting took place at The Aurrie Café at the beginning of August, chaired by Louise Robb with the aim of collecting opinions and ideas to work towards producing a cost benefit analysis. The meeting was well attended by local groups as well as representatives from Scottish Water, Fife Council and The Fife Coast and Countryside Trust. A report from the meeting will make up the Cost Benefit Analysis and will be submitted to Michael Matheson MSP and Mairi McAllan The Scottish Environment Secretary.

Scottish Water are spending £2-400,000 to carry out a study and are willing to engage with the community.

Grateful thanks go to Louise Robb for Chairing the meeting which was a great success and also to Matt for his continued hard work in pushing forward this campaign.

**Treasurers Report**

The transition has been completed to Metro Bank with the account standing at £5,852.05

Thanks to Stan Green at Growforth for donating plants for the village floral displays.

**Hedges on Road to Upper Largo**

The hedge is once more overgrown and causing a dangerous obstruction for pedestrians using the path. Mr Aitken will contact the landowners to ask for the hedge to be cut. There was a suggestion that the gardener who works for Largo Estates could act as a liaison person between the community and the Crichtons.

There is also an issue with the surface of the pavement on this stretch of road although Fife Council feel it is not a problem, but they have agreed to weed kill the path in the next few weeks.

**Largo Arts Week**

This was a great success due to all the hard work by the organisers and the artists and the great weather. There were issues around parking for the huge number of visitors to the villages and it was felt that steps need to be taken to resolve the problem of drivers going the wrong way along the Main Street in Lower Largo before next year.

**AOCB**

Temple Car Park – As part of the improvements due to be carried out at the car park it was suggested that an outdoor shower and lockers be installed at the toilets for swimmers and possibly lockers for canoes to prevent theft. This might come under the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund and Robbie Blyth of The Fife Coast and Countryside Trust should be contacted. Mr Aitken will also contact Dave Paterson, Area Services Manager

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 7.00 PM ON THE 20TH OF SEPTEMBER 2021 IF POSSIBLE IN THE LIBRARY LUNDIN LINKS**