**LARGO AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 20TH OF SEPTEMBER 2021 AT 7.00 PM AT THE DURHAM HALL LOWER LARGO WITH PARTICIPANTS ALSO ONLINE VIA ZOOM**

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

This month’s meeting was our first face to face meeting since March 2020 due to the Covid Pandemic, Thanks to Mr Drew Morrison for setting up the Zoom facilitating for those who are unable to attend the meeting face to face. We are continuing to use the Community Zoom platform shared between Largo Church, LACRT and Largo Community Council.

Apologies were received from Mrs Stewart, Mrs Low and Councillor Alexander.

Mr Aitken declared an interest for the Largo Road Trial.

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

**Lundin Links Hotel**

Mr Aitken wrote to ask Mr Punler again to secure the building and tidy up the site. He also asked about the time scale for completion of the feasibility study for the surface water drainage scheme and whether this may affect the development going ahead. This was following the article which the Community Council put in the Press.

Mrs Brown also wrote to Matthew Price Fife Council’s Conservation Officer reminding him of the problems with the building e.g. the general dereliction, lack of security and safety work that has had to be carried out by outside parties, Mr Aitken will ask that the building be put on the At Risk Register.

It was decided that David Patterson, Area Services Manager should be contacted to request a meeting with the Enforcement Officer and the Building Control Officer regarding the Lundin Links Hotel pointing out, in particular, security, public safety, dereliction, the C listing, and the historic features of the building which were identified by Historic Scotland after Mrs Brown got in touch with them.

Letter from Wendy Chamberlain MP – A letter from Wendy Chamberlain MP was circulated round the villages stating that little had been done to try to improve the situation with the Lundin Links Hotel and that she was in contact with The Community Council and Fife Council in order to push things forward. Mr Aitken wrote back to Ms Chamberlain outlining the work the Community Council has been doing to improve the situation at the site for many years as well as liaising with Fife Council on the problem. Mr Aitken also stated that there had been no contact with the Community Council from the MP up to this point.

Mr Aitken wrote to Jenny Gilruth MSP summarising the work already carried out to push forward the development at The Lundin Links Hotel and ask that she adds her voice in the hope that the premises can be made secure and that a meeting with all involved parties could be arranged.

Greenfield House

Concerns have been raised in the community over a post on Facebook outlining the transfer of ownership of Greenfield House, Alloa from Kapital Residential back to Clackmannanshire Council due to the building being left to become derelict. This is a similar situation to the Lundin Links Hotel and Mr Aitken brought the community’s fears to the attention of Mr Punler and asked for reassurances that this would not be repeated. As yet there has been no response.

Facebook Criticism

Following a post on Facebook criticizing Fife Council and The Community Council for the disappointing amount of effort put in to push forward the Lundin Links Hotel development Mr Aitken, on behalf of The Community Council wrote to Mr Roberts summarising the work that had been put in to resolve the problem, a extensive list of reasons why the Community Council is crucial to our community which is run by volunteers who give up their precious time Mr Roberts wrote back stating that, although he is disappointed that the hotel is still in such a poor state, he appreciates that it’s not for the lack of trying that the hotel development isn’t moving forward and thanking Mr Aitken and other members for perseverance over a good few years.

**Largo Pier**

A meeting will be held on the 21st of September of the Largo Pier Group. So far progress has been made and the group are edging closer to achieving a similar Article of Understanding with Mr and Mrs Bucknall, the new owners of The Crusoe Hotel, to the previous one. It is in their interest to get this fixed.

Fife Council, Building Control have instructed the owners to shut off the end section of the pier for public safety.

**BT Openreach pole - Drummochy**

BT have erected a pole to service the properties at Drummochy, Lower Largo, however the affected residents feel that the impact is detrimental to the conservation status of the area and pointed out that no proper consultation was carried out prior to the erection of the pole. The residents feel that it would have been more appropriate for the cables to go underground and not spoil the natural beauty of the area.

Having asked for support from The Community Council Mr Aitken wrote to BT and Fife Council’s Enforcement Officer to ask that the pole be inspected and whether planning permission is required, he also wrote to Menstrie Community Council who had come across this problem to ask their advice. Menstrie suggested contacting St Andrews and Mr Aitken will also contact Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline and ask if anyone has managed to have their cables put underground. Mr Aitken also suggested that the residents possibly get legal advice as community councils are unable to give this. This step could result in BT having to apply for Planning Permission.

**Path Finder’s Rally**

Richard Crozier from The East Fife Motor Club sent a report to give an update on the progress of the Rally due to take place in April 2022.

Door- to- door liaison work was carried out for affected residents and farms in the area with the majority having no major objections and are in favour of the proposals. There will be three dedicated areas for spectators and Multi-agency meetings with safety stakeholders are now well established at regular, monthly intervals.

A question was raised about the outcomes of these meetings and what the views of the emergency services are.

Detail of Mr Crozier’s correspondence is included as an appendix.

**LACC Communication with Community**

A question has been raised over access to Community Council information for members of the community, are we being visible enough? and it was suggested that we have a dedicated Facebook page.

Over the last few months it has been difficult to get the minutes onto our web page and this problem needs to be addressed. We are looking for a volunteer for this job, but it was decided to hold off for now on the Facebook suggestion.

**John Ripley VC**

Jill Marshall who has looked after John Ripley’s memorial grave for many years feels she is no longer able to carry on and has ask for a volunteer to take over. It was suggested that Gordon, who looks after the village garden in Upper Largo may like to take on the task. Mrs Young will make enquiries and liaise with Jill Marshall.

Mr Aitken will contact Thompsons Engraver in Leven and get an estimate for cleaning up the headstone.

**Car Parking**

Station Car Park - Over the year the car park has been getting very busy and is often full and it has been suggested that it should be inspected with a view to extending the capacity. There are areas of grass which could be used or possibly the large area to the east of the carpark. This is very necessary for residents and tourists as parking spaces on the Main Street in Lower Largo are few and far between.

David Patterson, Area Services Manager will be asked about the possibility.

Temple Car Park – The electric car charging points have been installed at the car park. It has been pointed out that users of the car park and other pedestrians are struggling to see along the venal in front of Cardy House due to lack of light and it has been suggested that a light be installed, and David Patterson will be approached to look into the possibility.

**Selkirk Grove**

The street lighting has been finished off, but the road has not yet been adopted and the temporary access road is still in place. The power has been switched off to the box in the field so that is no longer a danger but there is now a blocked drain on the road. Neil Young is our new point of contact with Lundin Homes.

The SuDS area has still to be adopted by Scottish Water and they have informed us that the barrier to the pond is in the form of a bund although there is very little water at the moment.

Contact has been made with Largo Estate and they gave a very positive reaction to the suggestion of planting trees around the SuDS area linking to the Serpentine. Jill Aitken of The Woodland Trust is an essential contact and would help with trees, also Mrs Green would be a contact for the local Primary schools who would love to get involved.

It was suggested that a proportion of the trees be in the form of an orchard.

**Traffic Lights Survey**

Mr Aitken declared an interest as resident on Largo Road Lundin Links.

Fife Council’s new Lead Traffic Consultant Leslie Craig has now stated, through Eva Martinez, that “we remain contrary to this trial” and although Councillor Davidson is also against the trial Councillor Ritchie and Councillor Alexander are in favour of supporting the affected residents.

Mr Aitken will write to Councillor Ritchie and Councillor Alexander to get further views on the subject.

**Community Council Membership**

Mr Aitken has attempted to make contact with Mrs Moir to find out if she would like to stay on as a Community Council member without success. Mr Clark will continue trying to make contact. If Mrs Moir no longer wishes to be a member, then this leaves a space for a representative from New Gilston to come on The Community Council as a co-opted member.

**Community Rail Link**

Mr Aitken attended the bi-monthly meeting of the above group, and the Leven Reconnected Grant Fund is now open with the grant application and criteria are on their website. Mr Aitken raised the idea of a Robinson Crusoe Museum in Largo again with one issue being its location. It was suggested that there could be a grant application covering the Pier and the museum. Someone with experience of drafting such a grant application is also required.

**Planning**

Erection of dwelling – 2 Woodlands Road Lundin Links – No Community interest.

**Scottish Water – Beach Designation Project**

The Cost Benefit Analysis has been completed by Louise Robb and Emily MacDonald.

**Treasurers Report**

Our finances are doing well, and the Fife Council grant has been received.

**Largo Communities Together**

Mr Green will regularly report on LCT’s activities to The Community Council. LCT include affiliated groups including, LACRT, The Largo House Group, Pier Group, and others. It is intended to carry out a scoping exercise to find out what the community wants between now and Christmas.

**Afghan Refugees**

Mr Aitken wrote to Councillor Alexander to ask if there was anything the community could be doing to help the Afghan Refugees that are arriving in Fife this month. The volunteer/donation effort is being organised by Fife Voluntary Action.  They have a website that will provide the collection points if anyone wished to help with goods or money donations.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE 18TH OF OCTOBER 2021 AT 7.15 IN THE SIMPSON INSTITUTE UPPER LARGO, SUBJECT TO COVID19 RESTRICTIONS INCLUDING SOCIAL DISTANCING, MASKS, CONTACT TRACING AND HAND SANITISING.**

**Appendix – Correspondence from Richard Crozier**

* 1. Further to easing of COVID-19 restrictions, door-to-door resident liaison work was undertaken during late July / early August, as per log previously provided.
  2. Of 24 residences directly affected by proposed road closures, and a surrounding ~35 within near range but retaining access, a majority have shown no major objections and are in favour of proposals. Numerous positive comments were received on the starting up of a new event for Fife, particularly under the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.
  3. The organisers are working with the relevant landowners (Swains, Gilmores / Low-Mitchells) on development of dedicated spectator areas at New Gilston/Woodside and Balcormo, with welfare provisions/amenities, to provide a safe and enjoyable day's viewing experience for all attendees. Police Scotland Fife Division and Fife Council Environmental Health are engaged in the development of these areas.
  4. Multi-agency meetings with safety stakeholders are now well established at regular (<monthly) intervals. A multi-agency 'recce' was undertaken during July, with partners from Police Scotland, FC Network Management / Traffic Management / Network Condition and Contraflow Ltd. Discussions off the back of this with Network Condition are underway re: specific repairs required prior to next April, inc. between Thomsford and Wester Pratis.
  5. A "[Jemba](https://jemba.se/) survey" was undertaken on 02-Sep, providing useful and insightful data on calculated/anticipated participating vehicle performance along all sections of the course, aiding in confirmation of mitigation & management arrangements - extract attached.
  6. Development of location-specific / "Largo-specific" risk assessment, known as "setup diagrams", has recently commenced (usually these are developed in the ~3 months leading to event, but we are aiming to deliver these earlier) - example from a similar event attached.