**LARGO AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 16TH OF JANUARY 2023 AT 7.00 PM IN THE LIBRARY, LUNDIN LINKS**

Those present were: - Chairman Mr Aitken, Mr Allan, Mrs Green, Mr Cargill, Mr Fox and Mr Barker. In attendance were Councillor Clarke and Mr Diamond.

Apologies were received from Mrs Aitken, Mrs Low, Mr Green and Councillor Alexander.

Last month’s minutes were moved for adoption by Mr Barker and seconded by Mr Cargill.

Mr Aitken declared an interest as a resident of Largo Road, Lundin Links, and for Ukrainian refugee issues as host.

Thank you to Drew Morrison for his continued help in setting up the Zoom facility for the meeting.

**LACRT**

This group are still inexistence and acting as a resilience and emergency planning group. The group may however have to become the responsibility of Largo Area Community Council.

**Crescent Road Bus Stop**

Due to the Stagecoach bus route being rerouted on the east to west journey along Crescent Road the bus stop and shelter are obsolete and there was a proposal to relocate the bus stop and shelter to Crescent Road, near the roundabout. Mr Aitken copied the proposed plans to the Crescent Road residents to get their opinion and possibly arrange a site meeting.

When the bus route was changed there was a campaign by the residents to have the original route reinstated. There were concerns over the excessive speed of the buses. The buses however continue along Crescent Road.

There are now further concerns over the location on the proposed new bus stop just beyond the mini roundabout. Buses already stop there to let school children off and this causes congestion and is dangerous for the children who cross on the roundabout. Several residents park at the beginning of Crescent Road where the proposed bus stop is sited and blue badge drivers would have to walk some distance to and from their homes, also parents drop their children off as this is a safe route to the primary school.

The general consensus was that, if there it is absolutely necessary for there to be a bus stop on Crescent Road it should be further along away from the roundabout. There was a suggestion that a request stop might be sufficient.

Stagecoach are looking for suggestions and Councillor Clarke has taken onboard all the suggestions. A site meeting will be arranged soon and Fife Council Transportation, Wendy Chamberlin MP and Jenny Gilruth MSP will all be informed.

**Safe Route from Upper Largo to Lower Largo**

There has been a request from Kirkton of Largo Primary School for the route from the school to the Serpentine to be made safer. The suggestion put forward was to create a rough path in the field leading from South Feus to the top of The Serpentine. This would result in the school children being away from the fast traffic coming down the hill. Mr Clark the owner of the field will be contacted. A stockproof fence would be required.

**Councillor’s Report**

Last year there was a proposal put forward for Fife primary school heads to be amalgamated so that, e.g. all the East Neuk primary school would be led by one head teacher. There was a backlash from parents to this proposal and it was put on hold. A new consultation is about to be put out for one head teacher to be in charge of three schools. If this happens it is hoped that there would be a deputy head in each school. More information will follow.

Durham Wynd Wall – The retaining wall is safe at present and Kingdom Housing, who have responsibility for the wall have subcontracted Messes Forth to carry out the work. The question of the future of the wall and a timescale for the work to be completed has been passed to David Patterson Area Services Manager.

Councillor Eugene Clarke is looking into how Fife Council communicates with the public and the possible ways this could be improved. Steps forward could be slow.

**Toilet for Disabled**

There is a proposal to instal a modular ‘Changing Places’ toilet for disabled people in The Temple car park. It will be sited next to the existing toilet block and the plans are online. The finance for the project still needs to be sorted out with grant funding being sought. The Fife Coast and Countryside Trust are working with Jan Kerr to push this forward. The hope is to include in the plans an outdoor shower for sea bathers and generally spruce up the whole Temple car park area.

**Local Place Plan**

A successful meeting was held on the 4th of December in the Durham Hall. Local groups and clubs were invited to represent themselves to the community and tell us what support they needed if any and introduce new ideas. A review meeting is organised for the 6th of February for all those involved in the Local Place Plan. Next steps will also be discussed.

**Warm Banks/Warm Spaces**

These places have been set up to help those people who might be struggling to heat their homes as well as a welcoming place for those on their own, providing warm soup and company. They are being run until March 2023. In the Largo Area the alternating venues are The Simpson Institute Upper Largo on Tuesdays and The Library, Lundin Links on Wednesday, both from 11.00am till 1.00pm.

**Burnbrae Terrace Path**

Mr Aitken contacted Fife Council to establish ownership, then got in touch with Mr Crichton who is the landowner and responsible for the path. There has been no response.

**Hall Rentals**

The following venues have been booked for our Community Council meetings,

February – Library, Lundin Links

March – The Stables, Upper Largo

April – New Gilston Village Hall

**Ukrainian Refugees**

* Some of the adult refugees still do not have their 28-day free bus pass.
* It is possible to get an additional refuse bin from Fife Council if you are hosting refugees.
* The refugees are able to register with a GP, however getting a dentist is problematic unless you are under 18.
* Bikes have been donated for the refugees to get easier access to surrounding areas.
* Some refugees are finding speaking and understanding English a struggle and it has been suggested that conversational opportunities are made locally. TEFL are funning classes at The Methil Community Learning Centre and at The Centre in Leven.
* East Fife Community Club could possibly be get involved as playing football does not need a lot of communication as is very sociable.

**Traffic Lights**

The roadworks by Scottish Power Networks on Largo Road are to continue till March, however, this will be carried out in short sessions and is hoped to be better managed and also manned during peak times.

**Lundin Links Hotel**

Mr Aitken has been attempting to find any information regarding the development of the site however there has been no response, nor any cooperation from the Liquidator.

**Water Pressure Shortage**

Jenny Gilruth MSP has been asked by Mr Aitken to hold a Teams Meeting with the Community Council, Scottish Water and the Fire Service in the hope of getting an answer to the question of the water shortage in the area to prevent a recurrence of the problem when the Lundin Links Hotel burnt down.

**Speed Monitoring**

In order to carryout speed monitoring any participants are required to fill in level 2 PVG disclosure forms and this process is still on going.

**Path Woodside to New Gilston** – Still pending.

**Twinning** – At the French end the bureaucracy and red tape are holding things up.

**Bathing Water**

There has been a high level of monitoring carried out by Scottish Water over the last few months, testing at three river and stream outfalls in Lower Largo, The Temple Burn, The Keil Burn and The Strathairly Burn. The worst culprit for pollution was The Temple Burn with sewage levels being high. The high levels do not always correspond to high rainfall.

Scottish Water need to come up with a solution and there have been two suggestions, 1 – Extend the outfall pipe, which still involves putting sewage into the Forth. 2 – Build a bigger tank, this would require larger lorries negotiating the narrow Largo roads and also pollution. Mr Allan has suggested a third suggestion, to pump the sewage, using renewable energy, to the Methil treatment plant, however it is felt the community needs to get together to come up with a proposal.

The next meeting will be in early February.

**Durham Woodland**

As yet there has been no further communication with The Crichtons, who own the field. Mr Fox has spoken with Priya Logan the Development Officer for Largo Communities Together to discuss the possibility of creating a path along in the field between Durham Wynd and The Serpentine to create a safer route to Upper Largo and to pass on the Woodland Trust plans for a new wood which we are hoping to be able to create next to The Serpentine. Grants are available from the government and also a small grant has been offered from LACC.

**Treasurer’s Report**

There has been no floral grant applied for this year or last as the few tubs still filled by the Community Council were donated flowers and the majority of the community displays are carried out by a separate community group that use sponsored planting.

The cost for the defibrillator cabinets has come off the account.

The account now stands at £5600.

**Resignation**

Clare Young has handed in her resignation from The Community Council. Mr Aitken asked that she reconsider at least until after the elections in October, however she declined. The Largo Area Community Council wish to thank Clare for her contribution over the years. Mr Aitken will also write and thank Clare.

**Pier Group Report**

The group are still meeting regularly and are focusing on grant applications. The most recent application submitted was for the Levenmouth Reconnected Fund. Applications still to be completed are Historic Environment Scotland and the National Lottery.

On the 13th of January the local Camera Club hosted an evening with Keith Partridge with spectacular photos and film by the award-winning cameraman. All proceeds from the evening went to the Pier fund.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 7.00PM ON THE 20TH OF FEBRUARY 2023 IN THE LIBRARY, LUNDIN LINKS**