**LARGO AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM ON THE 15TH OF MAY IN THE DURHAM HALL, LOWER LARGO**

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

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

Addition to last month’s minute – The bell mouth on the A915 into the Durham Wynd field has not yet been removed.

With this addition last month’s minutes were moved for adoption by Mr Barker and seconded by Mr Cargill.

Mr Aitken declared an interest for Ukrainian refugee issues as host, and Mr Barker declared an interest as a resident of Castaway Lane for the Durham Wynd field.

**New Gilston**

There was a request from the New Gilston residents to reduce speeding by installing more buildouts at the east end of the village. Mr Aitken contacted Fife Council passing on the request. Fife Council stated that they proposed speed monitoring to gather evidence of speeding through the village. Also mentioned was the speeding between Woodside and New Gilston. Mr Aitken wrote to Fife Council requesting an inspection. There has not been a response to this email.

Mr Aitken also wrote to the Enforcement Officer outlining all the concerns in the village over development of the property Schiehallion. There were questions over the Planning Conditions and the development site. Mr Diamond also looked into Planning Approval and there didn’t seem to be any issues but it is not known whether the owners complied with the various conditions put on the development.

The requested path between Woodside and New Gilston was discussed at a Largo Place Plan meeting and if it is to be included as part of the Local Plan it may be some time before it is actioned as the Local Plan has not yet been consulted on. The Core Path at the moment runs along the main road.

**Refugees – Help with English Language**

As per the March minute there is still an idea to help those refugees who are struggling to learn English and are therefore feeling more isolated and also having problems with communication with schools. Mr Aitken will contact Fife Voluntary Action about the possibility of funding the PVG application for Fiona Wyllie who is TEFL trained (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) who has volunteered to help. Fiona has offered to pay the cost of the application if necessary. Mr Aitken will also write to the Resettlement Team to let them know that this may be on offer and see if they are able to consult the refugees who may benefit from this support.

A Eurovision event was held in The Aurrie Café on the 13th of May to raise funds for the Ukrainian Refugees.

**Press Article re Local House Prices**

Mr Aitken was contacted by The Times Newspaper looking for Community Council observations on the recent BBC Scotland story about local house prices. A property expert in England stated that house prices in the Largo Area would be reduced due to the report in the press of the beach being a designated nudists beach. Mr Aitken explained about the beach designation being purely on the water quality and that the press should seek the opinion of a local estate agent if they are looking to report house prices in this area.

**Community Council Elections**

The Community Council elections are due to take place in October 2023 with the inaugural meeting being held on the 16th of October. Nomination papers for Community Council members will be available nearer the time. Mr Aitken appealed for any members thinking about retiring to wait until after the elections as our Community Council requires a minimum number of members to carry on.

**Temporary Access Road Entrance**

The bell mouth on Largo Road has had no Planning Application lodged for it to remain and the Community Council wish to have enforcement action taken to remove the entrance and reinstate the verge which was one of the original Planning conditions of the housing development. Vehicles are using the bell mouth to park and rubbish is building up. If it was for agricultural reasons there should be a gate put in place, but the wish is for it to be removed. Mr Aitken will write stating the Community Council’s disappointment in the lack of action and lack of the requested report for this meeting.

SEPA have also been asked about their response from Largo Estate about the rubbish left in the field.

**Largo Place Plan**

The Largo Place Plan group have been organising ‘Deep Dive’ in person workshops aimed at getting more detail from the community on the subjects that have raised the most interest when we were doing the initial surveys. The first two workshops were on Resilience, Resources and Wellbeing and Traffic Parking and Transport. The third workshop is on Housing and shared facilities. This will be held in the Library, Lundin Links on the 25th of May. The 4th workshop is on Heritage and Legacy on the 6th of June and the last one is Conservation and Recreation on the 21st of June at 6.00pm in The Durham Hall. Anyone who is interested please come along.

After June the report will be compiled and put on the Largo Communities Together website.

**Twinning**

Representatives from France will be coming to Largo on the 28th of May. They include The President and Vice President of the Twinning Committee and their wives and families. Mr Aitken will host a buffet meal to welcome them. On the 23rd of September Mr Aitken and Mr Allan will travel to France for the Twinning Ceremony. Mr Aitken has contacted the schools and so far, the primary schools are interested in getting involved with email pen pals. Mr Aitken hopes the secondary schools in the area will get involved as well.

**Safe Path from Upper Largo to The Serpentine**

This was raised at the last consultation LCT meeting and now we just have to wait and see what happens.

**Changing Places**

The cost of refurbishing the public toilets in The Temple Car Park is estimated at £100,000 if access for disabled people is needed however a modular building would be more like £50,000. Councillor Clarke stated that there is a general desire to fund this project and although it may be approved, it would not be in place this year.

The community would have to give some thought to how the Changing Places unit would be managed and also to the running costs. There have been discussions with The Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, who should be very proud of the existing toilets. Maybe the newly formed Assets Group could look at exemplars.

**Speed Watch Training** – if anyone is interested please contact Mr Aitken

**Durham Wynd Wall**

There is concern that the lack of communication between the responsible bodies is leading to nothing being done. Fife Council have stated that the wall is linked to the integrity of the road so, although it has been stabilised it will need major work done on the whole wall. Councillor Clark will try to contact David Patterson the Area Services Manager.

**Drain Lid Damage**

Damage to the ground round a drain lid on the pavement at the top of the Orry, Lower Largo is causing concern due to the size of the hole. Mrs Green will contact Scottish Water.

**Bathing Water Designation**

There is further investigation work being carried out next to The Temple Car Park although the original sewage leak has been fixed. Scottish Water will get back to us when the work is finished.

**Durham Field Woodland**

Nothing to report as there has been no response from Largo Estate.

**Fife Council Report**

Levenmouth Local Tourist Association is reformed and is now active and any local businesses should be listed as they will be publicised.

The temporary road bridge replacing The Bawbee Bridge is in place and it is hoped that the first train will run in April 2024 with the first trains being diesel, then battery then fully electric. There will be a considerable amount of public engagement when decisions need to be made over the look of access paths. The Levenmouth Area Committee fund, Reconnected Fund and Recovery Fund still have money for appropriate projects.

There has been a reshuffle of Primary School Headships and the final decision in the Largo Area was for the joint Head Teacher post of Kirkton and Lundin Mill to remain as it is.

**Path to Lundin Mill Primary**

Mr Aitken wrote to Nicholas Gilmour to ask if Montrave Estate owns the path at Burn Brae Terrace. Andrew Forgan, a civil engineer on the Pier Group will be asked what is necessary to improve the path.

Largo Communities Together LCT

* The Issues with the pier is the main focus currently and how the whole package can be developed.
* The Largo House group has been abandoned as, despite considerable effort, they were unable to make any progress.
* The Assets group was formed, and is looking at a number of local areas,

1. Reengaging with Largo Estate about specifics
2. The Temple toilets
3. Lundin Links Hotel site – Lack of cooperation with the Liquidators. Mr Aitken wrote asking to have the site resecured as the fence has been damaged. As Statutory Consultees the Community Council should get an opportunity to comment on any new plans.
4. A land audit of the villages – any obvious little pockets of land e.g. at the top of the Serpentine next to the road. These are very difficult to identify. Long term, to produce a big scale map of these areas.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 9.05 NEXT MEETING, 19TH OF JUNE AT 7.00PM IN THE STABLES UPPER LARGO**