**LARGO AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 17TH OF APRIL 2023 AT 7.00 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL, NEW GILSTON**

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

Apologies were received from Mrs Aitken 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, and 1 Main Street, Lower Largo.

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

**New Gilston**

Law View Plot, Residential Development – As mentioned in previous minutes, The Community Council have been contacted by a New Gilston resident who also represented the general view of the community with now major concerns over a new development in the village. This includes protected trees which have been felled, domestic waste filling up the village bins and, noise nuisance, dumping of debris in the adjoining woodland, building over the boundary line and a question over relocation of the village sewage pipe. The public path behind the property, which is part of the Core Path Network now feels unsafe by the children who use it.

There appears to be planning infringements which have not been authorised by Fife Council Planning. The Enforcement Officer has been asked to look at the property but there has been no obvious result.

The Community Council will contact The Enforcement Officer and also inform the Largo Area Councillors of the situation and ask for their guidance. The residents have stated that they have had full support from Councillor Corps. The residents were advised by Mr Aitken that they can submit representations against a retrospective planning application.

Footpath between Woodside and New Gilston – The request for a footpath between the villages was brought to the Community Council several years ago and since then funding has not been available, however Largo Communities Together has discussed the issue of safety for pedestrians with residents walking between the villages and also raised at this meeting was the problem of increased speeding traffic on the days of the racing at Crail. Mr Aitken suggested that a rough plan of the path should be drawn up to submit to Fife Council and Mr Aitken will also contact the Lead Traffic Consultant to ask for speed control measures to be put in place.

Community Speed Watch was also suggested and requirements were outlined. Anyone interested in taking part in the training should contact Mr Aitken.

**Nomination Approval**

Approval of the nomination of Mr Brendon Diamond to be a co-opted member of Largo Area Community Council – The nomination was proposed by Mr Cargill and seconded by Mr Allan. All members of The Community Council present, approved of the nomination. Mr Aitken will inform Fife Council of the appointment.

**Approval of Accounts**

Mrs Low Proposed the approval of Largo Area Community Council annual accounts. The proposal was seconded by Mr Allan. The annual accounts were unanimously approved.

**Durham Wynd**

Bell Mouth on the Largo Road A915 into the Durham Wynd field has not yet been removed. As stated in last month’s minutes Fife Council informed us that we were correct and it was a condition of the temporary access that it was to be removed and the verge reinstated by Lundin Homes. Fife Council then went on to say that in light of a request by the Factors of Largo Estate to retain the bell mouth (to help access for farm vehicles) Fife Council were willing to transfer the temporary access permission to them until they gained planning consent, either for a permanent field access or as part of any future development. They also said that Planning Consent would have to be applied for and if they were not willing to apply, then Fife Council would have to enforce the reinstatement from the original agreement. Fife Council also stated that, under the Roads Scotland Act no consultation was required if it was a temporary measure.

Mr Aitken will write and request for any relevant information to be forwarded to The Community Council.

Last month’s formal complaint submitted by Mr Fowler and signed by several residents to LCT (and copied to LACC) asked for modifications to be made to the Local Place Plan map including, inserting the site of the gas main which runs across the field north of Castaway Lane. The complaint has been resolved after a meeting with Largo Communities Together. Mr Fowler stated that the letter of complaint was necessary due to satisfaction not being received following the original complaint. Mr Aitken expressed the hope that (although entitled to submit a formal complaint to LCT) in future any such issue could be resolved by dialogue with the Community Council and LCT.

Information regarding the consultation on possible housing development in the area which was submitted to Fife Council will be forwarded to Fiona Wyllie as requested.

**Lundin Links Hotel**

Cooks vehicles have been seen on site as well as a portable toilet. The empty site may have just been used for convenience. There has been no word of development going ahead.

**Path Under the Viaduct**

The Crichton’s have stated that they do not own the path, nor do Fife Council. Mr Aitken will ask if it is owned by Montrave Estate.

**Ukrainian Refugees**

A school taxi has been organised on a temporary basis for Ukrainian refugees at no cost to Fife Council.

**Durham Wynd Wall**

Kingdom Housing are applying for Planning Permission to repair all the sections of retaining wall needing work.

**Safe Path to Upper Largo**

It was suggested that the issue of the safe path down the side of the A915 from Upper Largo to The Serpentine should be discussed at the Building Our Place Plan, Deeper Dive workshop discussing Moving Around and Our Connected Villages on the 3rd of May.

**Planning**

1 Main Street, Lower Largo, Zubi’s Store – Mr Aitken declared an interest and stood down as chair for this item. The application included changes to the internal layout of the shop and notice of application for the annual premises license. It is understood that the shop would sell alcohol during the same opening hours as previously and there were no objections from the meeting. If members of the public wish to object they can do so online before the 6th of June 2023.

**Erosion at Mill Bridge**

There are large stones dislodged into the Keil Burn west of the Mill Bridge on the Penrice Park side which should be repaired before major work is needed. SEPA has repaired the wall previously, but they don’t own the land. The Penrice Park Residents Association will be contacted, and it is hoped that the ownership will be ascertained.

**Largo Communities Together**

A reception was held at The Crusoe Hotel to raise awareness of the situation with Largo Pier. Local Councillors, representatives from local businesses, Community Council and local community, the Chair of the local tourist group and the owner of Crusoe Hotel, Mr Bucknall accepted invitations. It is hoped that more members of the community will become advocates for the pier restoration.

Part of Largo Communities Together’s original brief was to work with Largo Estate and there is still concern over the fabric of the House itself. The Horticultural Manager Kathy Beckett is doing a good job in the walled garden.

A new group has been set up as part of LCT, Largo Assets. This is Chaired by Mr Andy Duff, owner of The Aurrie and looks at any community assets e.g. who owns the pockets of land in the area and where are all the car parking areas. In general what do the villages have in the way of assets?

**THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 7.00PM ON THE 15TH OF MAY IN THE DURHAM HALL, LOWER LARGO**