**LARGO AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM ON THE 21st OF AUGUST 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL NEW GILSTON**

Those present were: - Chairman Mr Aitken, Mr Allan, Mrs Green, Mr Cargill, Mrs Low, Mr Barker and Mr Diamond.

In attendance were Councillor Clarke, Mr Green and Mr Morrison.

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

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

Mr Aitken declared an interest for the Ukrainian refugee issues as host, and for Premier Stores Lundin Links.

Correction to last month’s minutes – Mrs Low was present at the meeting but not mentioned in the minutes. With this correction last month’s minutes were moved for adoption by Mr Diamond and seconded by Mrs Low.

**Kirkton of Largo Primary School Closure**

The Community Council have not been notified officially of the school closure, however Emily McDonald who is responsible for governance of Largo Communities Together stated that, on the last day of term the school roll was zero as the last six pupils were transferred to Lunin Mill.

The remaining teacher at the school has left to go to another post and the parents understood that it would be best for their children to move to Lundin Mill.

The building was bequeathed to the community for educational purposes and Mr Aitken will write to Fife Council to find out the terms of the bequest. As with Miss Paxton’s bequest at Homelands, it is a long process to deal with a bequest and an application to the Court is required and the plans for the building have to be as near to the bequest as it can be. It is understood that nothing will be done with the building for two years. It is hoped that Fife Council will ensure the building is kept secure and weatherproof during this time.

Ideas for how the building could be used can be discussed at a later date.

**Largo Parish Church**

Largo Parish Church is celebrating it’s 400-year history with a series of events beginning on the 24th of September. A representative from Largo Area Community Council has been invited to attend the service taken by the Moderator of The General Assembly the Right Reverand Sally Foster-Fulton on the 24th. The Chairman and Vice Chairman, Mr Aitken and Mr Allan will be in France for the Twinning ceremony. Mrs Green has offered to represent the Community Council.

**Premier Stores, Lundin Links**

Mr Aitken stepped out of the meeting after declaring an interest and Mr Allan chaired during the discussion. There has been an application to the licencing authority to allow changes to the internal layout of the shop. The shop in Lower Largo has already been granted permission for their changes.

Mr Diamond – Planning Convener advised that there seemed to be no problem with the plans and moved for approval. There was no objection for the rest of the Community Council members.

**Big Picnic**

After a break during COVID The Big Picnic will take place again this year on the 27th of August from 12-4pm on the Common, Lundin Links organised by Largo Communities Together. There will be tables representing several groups in the community, including refugee ladies from Ukraine who will be selling traditional baking and souvenirs to raise money for humanitarian causes in Ukraine. Other groups represented include Largo Communities together, Friends of Largo Bay, The Rotary, Paxton Centre and Largo Parish Church.

**Ukrainian Refugees**

Following on from the plans to try to help with language barriers, it seems that there is a WhatsApp group which may be a possible way to contact any Ukrainian people wanting to improve their English. It is also known now that there is no need for a PVG disclosure certificate for those wishing to help.

**One-way System Lower Largo**

For many years now there has been issues with drivers traveling along the main street the wrong way in the summer. Possibly due partly to it changing from being two-way in the winter months but mainly due to the signage not being visible enough. The street needs to be kept two-way in the winter as frost, ice and snow frequently make Durham Wynd too hazardous to drive up or down. Councillor Clarke has written to Transportation Services to ask that the signage be looked at.

**Twinning**

Six people are confirmed as traveling to France to take part in the Twinning ceremony. Mr Aitken, Mr Allan, two children, their mother and grandmother, one of whom is paying their own way. Councillor Clarke was asked but couldn’t manage.

The Community Council took the decision to go ahead with the twinning and it was expected that representatives would travel to France. It is felt by the Community Council members that it is right to be claiming expenses by way of a Fife Council grant which will be applied for. Community Council funds will pay the expenses of the children and one parent. The total cost is yet unknown.

It is hoped that a video record will be made of the ceremony. The French officials will be asked if this is possible.

It was decided that the gifts from the community would include a picture painted of a local scene by Bill Hoggan, a local artist who didn’t wish to receive payment, however it was decided to pay a token price of £100. Also a lockdown book £35 and a dual translation of Robinson Crusoe. Mr Green also volunteered to donate a DVD copy of the series Robinson Crusoe.

Several French books have been placed in the Library in Lundin Links as suggested by the French Twinning Committee.

Mrs Green will find out if the primary school will be able to provide tartan sashes for the children for the ceremony.

**Community Council Elections**

The Community Council election forms have to be in before the 31st of August with the inaugural meeting on the 18th of September. Mr Aitken said again to members that if they wished to stand down from the Community Council, please to wait until after the election.

**Temporary Access Road A915**

A letter from Fife Council Transportation Services stated the no action was to be taken to remove the access. Their reasons were that it is a safer location for access into the field and that it is currently used by agricultural vehicles. The old access on the corner of Durham Wynd is overgrown but has not been removed. The team have been unable to locate a copy of the original permission permit for the access to be built which is most unsatisfactory. The Fife Council employee who received the letters asking that the debris be cleared and the old entrance be reinstated has left her job.

Campion Homes have been carrying out work in the field between the A915 and Castaway Lane with cooperation from the landowner and they have informed the Community Council that they will be lodging a planning proposal with Fife Council, meanwhile trucks and lorries have been parking in the access and leaving rubbish. SEPA were contacted regarding the debris from the building works but there has been no correspondence recently. Mr Aitken will chase this up.

Efforts will be made to continue with the original plan to close the access and reinstate the verge. Meanwhile Stan Green will scrub cut the verge at the corner which is dangerous for exiting vehicles and attempt to clear the field entrance. A copy of the permit to allow agricultural vehicles to use the temporary access will be requested.

**LCT Report**

The draft Local Place Plan (LPP) will be at the Big Picnic, and we've got our main themes lined up. Housing, culture/community, environment and recreation, active travel and accessibility pathways etc, roads and infrastructure - housing, includes alternative sites to the field, in Upper Largo, and other locations to address the need for affordable housing and advise an extension of the local landscape area. We're also looking into road calming measures in Upper Largo and increasing the number of pedestrian crossings. The environment is a big priority too, with plans for improving the bay, upgrading the sewage system, and providing more protection for our greenspaces. We're also interested in enhancing the pathways around Massney Braes, Lundin Mill and the woodland across from Lundin Hotel. There's a request about protecting all public buildings and spaces. We are developing an Active Travel Plan. We're partnering closely with the school and Fife Council to develop the walking paths too. The Community Action Plan has biodiversity monitoring, circular economy, what's on, community asset mapping, peoples story projects and heritage trails.

**Treasurers Report**

After paying for Twinning costs we will still be £5000 in the black.

Woodland report – There has been no communication with Largo Estate regarding the tree planting which is disappointing as there would have been no cost involved to the estate and the land round the SuDs area is not suitable for production or building.

**Planning Report**

There are no major planning issues and the response from Planning regarding the concerns of the New Gilston residents was that, following a site visit, the development is within tolerable levels. If the residents are still wanting to take this further it was suggested that they seek guidance from a lawyer.

**Fife Council Report**

* Fife Council Transportation intend to put yellow lines on a section of Aithernie Drive, Upper Largo, to allow vehicles to pass on the corner.
* The bus shelter is now in place at the top of Drummochy on Crecent Road.
* The Transport Minister is invited on the 25th of August to instal the last clip on the new Levenmouth Rail Link to complete the track work connecting Leven with the mainline.

**AOCB**

There is a dangerous tree branch needing to be removed on the road from Teasses Toll to Ceres. Mr Aitken will write to Ceres Community Council and Councillor Clarke will report to Fife Council.

**THE NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE 18TH OF SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7.00PM IN THE DURHAM HALL, LOWER LARGO**