



Largo Communities Together (LCT) V1

Minutes of LCT (33) Monday 13 December 2021

Board Members Present: Nora Conlin, Stan Green, Irene Kay, Emily Macdonald, Jill Miller, Dougi McMillan, Louise Robb (Chair), James Simpson

In Attendance: Peter Aitken & Matthew Allan (LACCT), Ronnie Graham, Andrew Stenson (LAW), Priya Logan (DO)

Apologies: Jan Kerr, Beau Russell

1. Introductions and Welcome

LR welcomed PA and MA of LACCT to the meeting for discussion of the Local Place Plan (LPP). Priya Logan, newly appointed Development Officer to LCT, was introduced and welcomed also.

2. Minutes of 15 November 2021 and Minutes of AGM 15 November 2021

Minutes of 15 November 2021 proposed DM, seconded SG, JS; Minutes of AGM 15 November 2021 proposed LR, seconded IK.

3. Local Place Plan (LPP)

The LPP was in draft. Those at the meeting were invited to comment by LR. The following points were noted:

- LACCT had not yet had their scheduled meeting so no feedback from them yet. This meeting would take place in January 2022.
- PA (Chair LACC) noted timings re LPP and Local Development Plan. He informed the meeting of housing allocation to the Largo area and that consultation would be required on that development. LACCT would have to prioritise consultation on the housing issue. Possible location noted near Selkirk Grove and Friday Walk. The community feeling would have to be gauged re for or against. Obvious difficulties of public meetings being held in present Covid backdrop. LR pointed up that a consultation session could be assigned to this issue as part of the LCT consultation. There were important considerations, e.g., infrastructure, school numbers.
- Noted that local development planning was usually carried forward within a 6-8 week timescale. To raise awareness of issues would normally be published in Largo Links but the timescales might not dovetail. The magazine would be published in April but copy required to be finalised in March.
- The LPP was a new protocol and should feed into the Local Development Plan. For LPP we required to ascertain our needs and assets. We should not take too long to prepare the LPP. There should be interdependency between plans. There must be coordination with no silos.



- IK outlined the resilience plans which LACRT had agreed to work on at their last meeting. It was intended to move towards a resilience model. A sub group was now convened: IK, PA and a new advisory member to LACRT on resilience planning, Dave Wishart had convened a sub group to take forward this aspect. They wished to draw up a plan during January/February 2022 and then IK would prepare an article for Largo Links. Local risk assessment would have to be carried out and the community informed re the concept of resilience. An example of the need to build resilience in our community was the recent storm when streets and outlying properties were left without electricity at either ends of the area for over 48 hours. Again, presentation and consultation would be required for this issue too. In planning LPP consultation, resilience should also be incorporated into LCT planning framework.
- MA (Vice Chair LACCT) suggested that when considering the aforementioned housing development, think about it as if it were actually going to happen. Gather the points for and against so these are understood by the community.
- A range of groups would have to be consulted re LPP; details noted in the draft planning document previously emailed for reference to ascertain the community's needs and assets. Included as previously stated: housing allocation and resilience as part of the overall picture.
- As an outcome report of the consultation process would have to be prepared and consultation with local bodies demonstrated. Relevant maps would be provided. For and against issues should be explored and resolutions suggested
- Noted that LACC had a statutory role in local development planning processes and had to abide by protocols. However, there would also be space for the housing allocation issue in the LPP
- As noted too, we needed to ensure that we highlighted assets we already had, e.g., Andy's Stores, The Aurrie. We do not want these to become residential properties as they provided important services/public spaces for the community. We must be clear about the benefits to and for the community.
- We needed to ensure the appropriate questions be asked within the consultation process to guide thinking and discussion.
- Noted the housing allocation was not confirmed but appeared to be a likely development. If there were to be a housing development then the necessary infrastructure had to be in place. We had to carefully consider the amenities and facilities we would want and need.
- LCT and LACCT would stay connected on all planning processes.
- **Beach Designation Project:** LR highlighted the work taken forward on the Beach Designation and asked MA to provide a brief overview. He noted that SEPA had lost the original application. A cost benefit analysis had been carried out with significant support from LR and EM. Jenny Gilruth, MSP was very supportive of the project. MA would be sending a report to the Environmental Secretary and a Green MP.



Comments were made re the water quality in the Largo area and where sewage was discharged. Further work required on this issue.

- Following the above brief update, PA and MA were thanked for their contributions and left the meeting.

4. Pier Update

JS provided comment on his previously emailed report.

- The Pier Sub Group and the Crusoe Ltd had signed an MoU - very important agreement re moving forward on the restoration of the Pier. The parties had agreed to work together on a plan to put the Pier into community ownership. This agreement and the RIBA Stage 3 document (see below) would mean moving towards applications for large scale funding.
- Work was ongoing on RIBA Stage 3 documentation – vital for funding applications. David Narro, Consulting Engineers, as well as quantity surveyors, were now joining the Pier Sub Group to accelerate progress on the project.
- Confirmation received of a successful application for grant funding of £15,500 from Crown Estates Scheme.
- Consultants engaged to assist with production of physical and financial case to be included in grant applications.
- Winter repairs had been carried out by Cooks at no charge. Thanks, expressed for this generous gesture. Noted Storm Barra on 7 December demonstrated the fragility of the Pier. Fortunately, there appeared to be no further deterioration of the structure.
- Thanks were expressed for the work taken forward to date by the Pier Group.

5. LACRT Update

IK provided an update on LACRT development:

- Noted above comments on LACRT's resilience development plans. DW had given a comprehensive presentation to LACRT re resilience. Resilience planning was part of Fife and national strategy. Recent storms had highlighted the need for clear communication and a community response to support those requiring help, e.g., access to village halls, snow clearing, hot food provision, reassurance to those more vulnerable and so on. The groundwork was already in place re LACRT, e.g., 0800 helpline number, email addresses, volunteers, befriending service. Dovetailing LPP consultation with LACRT resilience development would be a positive and helpful step.



- LACRT continued to monitor COVID statistics through analysis by Stuart McLaren on a weekly basis. Anxiety over the Omicron strain was increasing. Noted that LACRT volunteers could be mobilised to support the community, if required.
- LACRT had invested in the Upper Largo Phone Box. It was to be renovated and made safe. NC and EM had arranged to meet teachers in K of L PS re the school's involvement in this project.
- Although Kites for Kids had been organised for 30 December 2021, it was decided to cancel this event due to the present Omicron situation.
- Copies of Largo Links were being distributed to some 2100 households. IK had a team of 38 distributors and delivery organisation in place.
- Noted funding allocated to the Men's Shed project would be redirected to resilience planning. EM had checked with DTAS and this had been deemed acceptable. Agreement sought from LCT for shift in funding allocation. Agreed by LCT Board.
- RG suggested that a register of volunteers be compiled. Community groups all had volunteer involvement, e.g., LACRT, LAW, Largo Links. Gathering names into an overall list for resilience was worth considering.
- Agreed that LR, JM and IK would meet re consultation on LPP and resilience.

6. LAW/ Largo Arts, Levenmouth Rail Link Partnership

DM and AS provided an update on developments:

- The Largo Arts weekend 4/5 December had been very successful despite the Saturday weather. There was good support from The Angels, The Aurrie, The Crusoe, The Railway. Next year, hoped for even greater coordination, e.g., switching on Christmas tree lights on the Saturday. There may be future LAW events such as pop ups at Easter.
- Call for artists and makers had gone out for LAW 2022; to be capped at 60 to ensure good management.
- **Levenmouth Rail Project:** DM had attended the scheduled meeting as our representative on this group/committee. The project was significant for the wider Levenmouth area. Infrastructure was being put in place and evidence of ongoing construction such as Leven Station and the Bawbee Bridge. Noted the connectivity of projects, e.g., Cameron and Thornton Yard. Significant grants were and would be made available - smaller grants up to £5000 and large sums of 75% of grant.
- Scot Rail would be meeting in February 2022. A title/name for the project should be considered as the project had significance for the whole of Fife.
- Noted that DM/AS should be our representatives on Levenmouth Tourist Group.
- Noted the grant application process was complicated and required simplification. If we were to be applying for grants, e.g., The Pier, then it would be helpful to have an agreed narrative and business details prepared.



- If smaller sums available for application, we should consider community engagement re LPP and put together costings for hall hire, refreshments etc.
- Noted a theme to consider re the Rail Link Partnership was the marketing of the Levenmouth area.

7. Development Officer Update

JM reported on the recruitment process:

- As previously stated, LCT had been successful in recruiting Priya Logan (PL) to the post. This was a positive development for our organisation and supporting our community.
- Work on a range of projects could be accelerated and developed with DO support.
- JM would be DO line management/coordination on behalf of LCT.
- It was hoped that PL's start date would be 10 January 2022. Following this, PL would speak to members of the Board on an individual basis.
- PL had been involved in many projects previously. She was looking forward to learning further about LCT and the community, and the possibilities arising.
- LCT were also looking forward to working with PL on the way forward.
- LR thanked the recruitment team for their work and reiterated the welcome to PR.

8. Largo House Update

SG reported on progress:

- SG had met with David Crichton (DC) of Largo Estate.
- DC confirmed that income was being generated through the flowers and vegetables.
- Plans would be shared when ready but he was not yet sure of the long-term planning. Buildings needed to be stabilised and the paths defined.
- SG offered our support and noted that there were expectations in the community.
- At present, DC and Largo House were working through their vegetable business.
- Trees were to be removed but there were no details on the house and fabric.
- While no full details were provided, connection had been re-established.
- Noted the renovations to the Church Rooms were nearing completion and ready to be inhabited.
- Web Design: SG had emailed sub group chairs re the website content and all affirmed agreement. It was organised using Word Press. LCT gave their agreement to go live. SG would liaise with Allan Tompkin, Designer re this being actioned. It was agreed to a gift for AT for the fantastic work carried out on the website. Thanks expressed to him.

9. Treasurer's Report

EM provided comments on her previously emailed report.



- Zurich Insurance had donated £100 to LCT for participating in our story 'Supporting our Community during Covid Lockdown'.
- Significant transactions since previous meeting for LCT included - Largo Links advertising income £245.48, printing costs £721.64, Good Moves recruitment advert £ 230.00; Largo Pier - donation from local resident £ 77.34; LACRT £960 quote from Alan Moffat for renovation of Upper Largo Phone Box project (Civic Pride fund). LACRT funding moved from Men's Shed project to Resilience project (community response framework). See above item 5, LACRT report.
- Annual accounts – report agreed at AGM of 15 November 2022.
- An individual being sought for strategic role of Treasurer. Funding of £5000 had been granted by DTAS for an administrator to carry out baseline transactions to free up the Treasurer for strategic responsibilities.

10. Marketing and Communications/Membership/Largo Links

- Further discussion with Jane Denholm re Marketing and Communications role within LCT.
- Largo Links was running well. Marketing links to be established between magazine team and Jane Denholm.

11. AoB and Date of Next Meeting

- With reference to LPP, plan organisation of engagement sessions and procedures for facilitation of these.
- Develop the plan further.
- Carry out Covid risk assessments.

Note date of next meeting on Zoom: Monday 17 January 2022 7.00 - 9.00

Meeting closed with thanks from Chair for contributions and discussions.

