**Largo Communities Together Minutes Board Meeting Monday 24 June 2024 (59)**

**Venue: Largo Library & Community Hub (Library)**

**Board Members Present: A Brown (Zoom), N Conlin, JP Easton, S Green, E Macdonald (Zoom), S Kerr, J Miller,**

**L Robb (Chair)**

**In Attendance: B Diamond (Pier), I Macleod (Pier), P Logan (DO), G Smith (Largo Links)**

**Apologies to date: A Duff, C Duff, J Kerr, J Simpson**

1.Welcome, Introduction, Update (LR)

LR welcomed all present to the meeting, particularly B Diamond and I Macleod to cover the Pier item for JS. Apologies noted as above.

2.Minutes of 24 June 2024 (LR)

Accepted. Proposed by SG and seconded by JM.

3.Pier Group Update (BD, IM, SG, LR)

Noted:

* + A Pier Group meeting chaired by JS was held Tuesday 18 June 2024. Chair and Vice Chair attended.
	+ Fairhurst Engineering has produced stage 2 design, costs and an operational programme.
	+ There are no funds available to progress with the Fairhurst contract. As a result, their contract has been closed and a final invoice will be forthcoming.
	+ The only possible remaining large grant is the £700,000 applied for from Levenmouth Reconnected. To date, no word of this has been received and it would only be granted for full reconstruction of the Pier, costing cost in the region of £1.5 million. Additional costs would also be incurred for further design, legal, risk and contingency aspects bringing the fund required closer to £2 million.
	+ The grant also required that the work and all payments be completed by April 2026. Due to weather conditions, only April – October could be counted on for progressing any reconstruction. As a result of the current funding situation, work cannot now start in April 2025 with the preparation required. It must now be accepted that the restoration work as envisaged will not now take place. Even a truncated Pier would require significant sums which are just not available.
	+ Fairhurst is a very reputable firm and the Pier Group have received maximum co-operation from them – as noted above, drawings, an engineering design and costings are available if funding comes forward at some future date.
	+ LCT cannot take ownership of a project requiring £2 million plus to take forward.
	+ The Crusoe Hotel and the Pier are inextricably linked. Thunder Holdings remain the overall owners of these structures. JS will organise a meeting with G Bucknall of The Crusoe. It was agreed that LR and/or SG would also attend this meeting to discuss further the issues surrounding the Pier.
	+ LR is creating a document arising from the previously noted meeting of the Pier Group. All funding/ grants received to date and how they were allocated to the Pier project would be noted. This would include a timeline and narrative – the story of Largo Pier over the last six years. LR would share the document in due course. It would be used as the basis for a meeting with the community to explain all the work on the project and how the decision had been taken that the reconstruction of the Pier could not be moved forward without significant large grants. This narrative would be placed on the website to be referred to if any questions or challenges were to arise. All funding/grants and subsequent spends on the Pier project could be accounted for.
	+ As previously noted, the plans are there to be picked up at a later stage if this becomes a possibility.
	+ R Muszynski and B Diamond have offered to co-chair the Pier Group. As noted in a previous minute, JS would be retiring from the position in August.
	+ Till the narrative was prepared and posted on our website, and the community meeting organised, the message to anyone posing questions would be – significant challenges had been experienced with major funding required for the Pier project.
	+ JS and the Pier Group have worked tirelessly, putting in significant effort on the project over the past six years. At this moment, the project has gone as far as it could feasibly go. Plans are there to be picked up again if resources were ever to become available at some future point.
	+ LR thanked BD and IM for their input. They then left the meeting.

4. Action Arising from The Previous Meeting

Noted:

* A meeting re funding and next steps has taken place: LR, EM, JS, PL.
* Funding for admin tasks: 24 hours. Support to be given to Largo Links and the Friendship group; six hours to be allocated to bookkeeping. Lynch Books will no longer be required.
* Meeting to be organised with identified individual re provision of admin support.
* License for QuickBooks will be purchased. Each project’s funds will be precisely detailed within their cost centres.
* Forty hours per month for 9 months will be allocated to PL on a self-employed basis. She will support specific projects and subgroups, e.g. Fund Raising, Volunteers, School & Young People, Heritage & Culture, Marketing & Communications, Friends of Largo Bay. (PR to retain her email and tech to enable her to continue with associated activities).
* As noted in previous minutes, LCT has been granted £4.500 from Levenmouth Reconnect to support admin and running costs.
* LR attended the Scottish Land Commision Conference. If Trustees wished to attend relevant events, reimbursement of fees and travel would be available.
* LCT could provide small sums to groups for specific costs, e.g. insurance.
* PL provided a helpful illustration from SG’s info diagram outlining the relationships between LCT/LACC/FC. This illustration was considered by the meeting and comments offered. This would be developed further and posted on the website for reference.
* The Friendship Group has been linked to the Resilience subgroup with a new agreement in place. All aspects re the FVA grant have been covered.

**Subgroups**

5. Resilience (JPE)

The Big Picnic was a great success. Thanks were noted to all groups and volunteers involved, and to Liz Easton and PL for their organisation and support. The music provided by Open Sea added to the positive ambience of the day. Agreed that LE should be reimbursed for the £20 generator scam.

A second meeting to explore becoming a dementia friendly community has been organised for Thursday 27 June in the Paxton Centre. Shirley Heeps from Alzheimer Scotland will be there to advise on the process. JK and NC will be joining JPE at the meeting.

It was intended to involve local businesses and organisations at a later stage as we moved towards becoming a Dementia Friendly Community (DFC). SG offered to involve The Green Room in any audit process. AB indicated that he wished to attend any DFC related events.

6.Access and Assets (LR)

Noted that AD had emailed land parcel enquiries and a search summary on 23 June.

No response received to date from AD’s enquiry to the Church of Scotland re land with a view to building affordable housing through a Rural Housing burden.

7. Friends of Largo Bay (LR)

Ongoing work would continue through the summer.

8. Culture & Heritage (PL)

Meeting organised with GG to discuss next steps.

Levenmouth Discovery Z card presented to illustrate how the Largo trail could be presented.

Noted that Ronnie Graham is working on a social history narrative on aspects of Largo.

**People/Finance/Governance**

8. Treasury Report (SK)

Contents noted in emailed report of 24 June 2024.

9. Funding Group (JM, EM, LR)

Funding comments noted above under Item 3. An identified member of the community will be joining the group.

10.LCT Strategy (LR)

Strategy Group is in place: LR, SG, EM, JM, AB. Next Board Strategy session 23 September 2024.

**Projects & Support Functions**

11. Marketing & Communications (AB), (GS for Largo Links)

The deadline for submitting articles to Largo Links was noted as 5 August 2024 for publication in September. The theme would be The Railway – Past and Present. It might be possible to include an illustration on the theme by Iain Green, Artist.

Contact to be made with Dave Paterson and Eugene Clarke inviting them to attend an LCT Trustees meeting to foster further our relationship with them. Action SG.

Noted re previously mentioned graphic on relationships between LCT/LACC/FC:

‘Development trusts and community councils have different but complementary roles. Development trusts deliver projects and actions on behalf of the local community, whereas community councils represent the local community.’ Action review graphic prior to sharing in Largo Links and website AB, PL.

12. Community Shop/ Simpson Update (AB, EM)

Feedback from consultation meeting re Simpson Institute passed on but no report back yet.

Action AB check with J Cummings re feedback.

Nothing further to report on community shop possibility. Noted that residents asked about this proposal at the consultation meeting were not overly enthusiastic.

SG reported that any liability re the Lundin Links Hotel site lay with the Scottish Government.

MP and SNP politicians have both written about the site but have had no responses.

13. AOCB & Date of Next Meeting

An issue was raised by B Diamond earlier in the meeting. Trees have been felled in Upper Largo. Fife Council have offered 12 trees. This matter would be referred to the Simpson Committee. Action AB, PL.

LR chaired a public meeting re nursery provision in the Largo area. There was interest in Duns Community Nursery and how this was started/organised. Such projects could come through the Community Land Fund.

Overall, the meeting was proactive and positive. The organising mums would continue work on nursery provision in the local area. Links with LCT would continue. Kingdom FM cntacted on this issue.

Noted previously that LR attended the Scottish Land Commission Conference. There was a focus on the New Land Reform Act: how are we going to take better care of our land, environment, water, fishing and other important environmental features?

LR recommended the DTAS conference to be held in August.

Reported that a new resident of the area expressed an interest in supporting projects. This person has experience of taking projects forward.

St Andrews University Fund is open for bids with a focus on environmental sustainability.

To celebrate PL’s work and commitment to LCT and our community – Drinks and Nibbles at LR’s Saturday 29 July.

**Date of Next Meeting (60): Monday 26 August 2024.**