

# Isle of Arran Community Council

Meeting held on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 08

## **Those present** were:

Campbell Laing (CL) Chair, Alison Prince (AP) Secretary, Harry Davidson (HDn) Treasurer, Cllr Margie Currie (MC), Scott McMurray (SMc), Gillean Langley (GL), Neil Arthur (NA), John Inglis (JI), Ian Small (IS), Howard Driver (HD), Brenda Stewart (BS), Jenny Meade (JM), Willie Kelso (WK), Richard McMaster (RMc). Alec Ulivi (AU) of Strathclyde Police also attended.

**Minutes of the last meeting** were approved, with one amendment from MC, who said the sum offered by NAC for improvements to the Brodick-Corrie road also included roadwork on the rest of the island.

**Officers of ACC** remain in place, with CL as Chair, AP Secretary, HD Treasurer. CL also is the ACC representative for Health, HD for Planning, JI for Housing and GL for the Ferry Committee. A vacancy on the local transport group will be filled by IS.

## **Matters arising**

- MC reported the String road to be 'structurally sound'. Its resurfacing had been interrupted by heavy rain that clogged the machine and finished by hand. HDn asked MC to 'keep the pressure up', and this was assured. NA asked when white lining would be replaced, and MC said this was in hand. There is to be a meeting in November to discuss structural road improvements.
- BS asked about the biomass plant proposal on the Heights, and was assured that the project is still ongoing.

## **Correspondence**

- Airtricity had given notice of a plan for wind turbines on Carradale, which would be visible from the west coast of Arran. MC said the Ardrossan wind farm produced £25,000pa for the community, with first call to Ardrossan itself. Should there be surplus funds, these would be made available to North Ayrshire and Arran.
- JI had received a letter about the inadequacy of the cable connecting potential power producers on Arran to the national grid. This meant that the big producers had priority, with a 'queue' of others blocked behind them for access. JI had written to Katy Clark about this. MC said the main cable inadequacy was on Kintyre.
- Up to 3 delegates are invited to attend the Planning Aid seminar in Ardrossan on the Local Development Plan. GL volunteered to attend.
- HD had an e-mail from Kenneth Gibson MSP saying that money was going to become available for the purchase of land for affordable homes. MC said the Second Homes Fund would also make money available.

## **Police**

- AP raised a concern about children riding unlit bikes in the road in Whiting Bay.
- JM pointed out the difficulty of turning right onto the hill from Lamlash towards Brodick because of fast traffic coming up. AU said both these matters would be looked at. AU left the meeting after this discussion.

## **Constitution amendment**

- Following the proposal to appoint a non-member of ACC to take the minutes, CL had clarified with NAC that a change of constitution to allow this would be acceptable. CL's proposed changes to the existing wording were read and agreed. IS said an EGM would be necessary to ratify the changes, as the AGM September date had passed. It was agreed that the coming November meeting

would be an EGM. MC pointed out that ACVS can supply a minute-taker as part of their remit. CL will follow this up.

### **Planning**

- HD reported that he and CL had met with MC on planning issues, and on 10<sup>th</sup> October had met at the Distillery with Katy Clark, Kenneth Gibson and Margaret Ferrier of NAC (MF) to discuss the new local plan. MF was looking for public engagement in the consultation process, and said NAC sought 'land release' without specific allocation. On industrial premises provision, she said residential areas must be protected, while still serving business development. CL agreed with HD that it had been a very worthwhile meeting.
- It was felt that ACC should put in a document listing its own proposals for consideration in the local plan. NA said this should be done by the end of January, to give time for the planners to consider it. This was agreed.
- CL said a public meeting should be called when the ACC proposals had been drawn up, so as to allow for wide consultation. This was also agreed.
- Approval had been granted for the housing applications in the Corrie quarry and Bungalow Road in Lamlash, also for a portable building for use as a Youth Centre behind Brodick library.
- Detailed plans were approved for a Shiskine development, where the HI addition of new houses had been amended to place them facing the track rather than being set in a linear arrangement along the road. NA reported local concern that the HI provision might lead to endless expansion, on the basis that an established nucleus might have further houses added to it.
- Revised Breadalbane plans were scrutinised. It was agreed that the reduction in house numbers and a lower profile of roof heights had improved the plan. Subject to acceptable sewage provision, the proposal was agreed.
- Tom Tracey, whose plans for Shore House in Brodick were refused by NAC in August, had written to ask for support from ACC, on the broad question of being in favour of tourist provision. The rejected plans were looked at again, but it was agreed that the rejection was on the grounds of over-development and incongruous style, and had nothing to do with support for tourism.
- Bob Haddow had written about his proposed filling station and housing development at Glen Cloy. It was agreed that the new filling station is needed, to relieve the congested situation at the Pier, but Margaret Ferrier had made it clear at her meeting with CL and HD that it was unacceptable to combine residential accommodation and a filling station in the same block. She had pointed out that the shops shown on the plan would need front servicing, and there would be poor circumstances for residents, with noise and over-development, and held that in general, the plans did not at present provide acceptable standards. JI stressed that the filling station application should be supported, together with a re-drawn plan that met the NAC requirements, and this was agreed.

### **AOCB**

- JM said residents in Hillside, Lamlash wanted more street lights, as the centre stretch of the road was very dark. CL said 8 unwanted street lights from Pirnmill were available.
- AP said Whiting Bay residents were concerned about damage being done to the new path to the Giants Graves by mountain bikes. She will pursue this with the Forestry and the Bike Club.
- HDn said neighbour notification had been inadequate in the case of a reconstructed house in Brodick, the new form of which was causing grave concern to nearby residents. NA advised HD to write to James Miller, head of planning.

The next meeting, which will be an EGM to ratify the constitution change, will be on Tuesday November 25<sup>th</sup> 08, at 7.30 pm in the NAC offices, Lamlash.