

Isle of Arran Community Council

MINUTES

of meeting held at the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, April 26th 2011

Those present:

John Inglis, Chair, Harry Davidson, Treasurer, Alison Prince, Secretary, Charles Currie, Jim Henderson, Willie Kelso, Brenda Stewart, Steph Hill, Liz Evans, William Calderwood, Ian Small, Cllr Margie Currie. Also present were Sgt Bob Mackay, Jim Nichols, John Baraclough (Item 11/4/2/1) and Jennifer Lyon of the Arran Banner, plus four members of the public.

Apologies

Nil

11/4/1 Minutes of last meeting March 29th 2011:

'Attendance' – 4 members of the public had been present at the March meeting
With this amendment, the minutes were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

Proposed Harry Davidson Seconded Brenda Stewart

11/4/2 Matters arising

- 11/4/2/1 Website – William Calderwood and John Baraclough gave a demonstration of the features of the new website. This could be accessed through <http://www.arrancommunitycouncil.org.uk>.
The Data Protection aspects were explained. The CC were very impressed by the demonstration, and thanks were recorded for the work done by Bill and John.
It was AGREED that the Website would go live on 1st May 2011. The remaining information from members should be sent to William Calderwood for inclusion on the site.
- 11/4/2/2 Pirnmill Footbridge – It was reported that a traffic and pedestrian survey had been completed, and figures were now being compiled. 1100 pedestrians had used the bridge during the week of the survey. The residents were still of the view that a separate footbridge, or a wider road bridge were required.
- 11/4/2/3 Anna Gilbert of the Scottish Government has confirmed that a further £8754 would be made available, to cover the balance of the ASA Project cost. Acceptance must be made by the end of the month.
There is no indication that the SG will be repeating the CC funding schemes.
- 11/4/2/4 Association of Scottish Community Councils
Cllr Currie had passed a list of all CC's in North Ayrshire to Alison Prince and Brenda Stewart.
- 11/4/2/5 Cllr Currie advised that the proposed Island discount had still to be approved by the EU.
- 11/4/2/6 Triathlon – John Inglis had notified that the CC had accepted the Triathlon. Brenda Stewart advised that the potholes in Lamlash were being filled today. Cllr Currie believed that this was normal maintenance work.
- 11/4/2/6 The Lookout Lamlash
It was noted that plans have been passed with conditions.
- 11/4/2/7 Pedestrian crossings Brodick
Cllr Currie will speak to Crawford Forsyth (NAC). It was confirmed that NAC Roads Dept have still to look at the situation.
- 11/4/2/8 Hustings
The Chair requested that attendees may wish to raise the following concerns: RET, Roads and Concessionary Fares.

11/4/3 Housing

No issues were discussed. See item re Local Development Plan later.

11/4/4 Roads

No issues were discussed.

11/4/5 Police matters:

Sgt Mackay had no major issues to raise. He reported that Easter had been busy. A Road Safety initiative held last weekend had been found educational by a number of motorists.

Steph Hill enquired re speeding in Lochranza. Sgt Mackay advised that he had made checks in Lochranza, but speeds were not found to be excessive. Similar checks had been undertaken in Corrie, and would continue around the villages. Most of the motorists found to be speeding were local to Arran.

Sgt Mackay spoke of work being undertaken at Brodick Pier to improve pedestrian access. This work should be completed by end of May 2011.

Harry Davidson expressed concern over the removal of canes from 420 newly planted trees in Brodick.

It was also reported that the 20mph lights at Brodick School had not been in operation for 6 months.

11/4/6 Correspondence

- **11/4/6/1 Letter from Secretary of Irvine Community Council**
A meeting of Nth Ayrshire Community Councils will be held on 18th May at 7pm in the Volunteer Rooms, Irvine. The meeting is primarily to discuss the handling of correspondence by NAC Planning Dept. It was AGREED that Alison Prince will attend on behalf of Arran CC.
- **11/4/6/2 From Kenneth Gibson MSP** Advising that a test facility is underway at Hunterston, initially to test 3 types of wind turbines.
- **11/4/6/3 SPT** Advising that the request for an additional bus service between Brodick and Corrie has been turned down. Cllr Currie advised that both Cladach and Merkland had been declared not suitable for turning buses. Richard McMaster advised that only 3 people had used the late bus to the Southend.

11/4/7 Wind Turbines

It was expected that further planning applications may be submitted for the South end of Arran. The concern was that, whilst the CC supportive of the need for renewable sources, there was also the need to ensure wind farms were not detrimental to the area.

Cllr Currie spoke of the possible detrimental effect to tourism, given that this is our main industry. There was debate to be had to ensure the countryside is not 'peppered' with wind farms.

The representatives present from Kilmory spoke regarding their concerns about locations close to their homes, with associated noise, flicker and disturbance to wildlife. There was a lack of clarity in the planning application regarding the size of turbines etc.

Other issues discussed included visual intrusion, benefit (financial) to the local community. John Inglis suggested a moratorium in the interim, until detailed clarification on the total proposals was known. It was AGREED that John would phone John Michell (NAC Planning Department) to request a delay in NAC taking a decision until clarification is received relating to the concerns. This request would be confirmed by e-mail.

The issue will be raised on the CC Agenda in May.

11/4/8 Local Development Plan

A response had been received from NAC Planning to the submission made by Arran CC in relation to the new Local Development Plan.

The following issues raised in the response were noted and discussed:

Developer Contributions

An Arran specific policy had been adopted.

'Landbanking'

The CC would again make the point that this practice should not continue. Cllr Currie believed that, whilst the main allocations were in the 3 main villages, there would be more flexibility outside the these villages.

Lack of Affordable Housing

It was felt that, in some cases, market rent may be affordable. Consideration should be given to different rent models.

Market Road – Brodick

It appears in the new LDP that there has not been acceptance to the principle that new small businesses could be located elsewhere on Arran.

Sustainability and Renewables

A new grid connection should be operational in 2 weeks time.

Waste

The CC should consider how a commercially sustainable waste plant could be put in place.

Roads

A declaration of intent should be sought from NAC. Currently there is no plan to replace the road network, in either the short or long term. A long term plan is needed.

Communities

It was felt that NAC should have an Executive member with specific responsibility for Arran.

Cllr Currie spoke of the 4 (Ward) Councillors, all of whom are responsible for Arran. Charles Currie, however, expressed the view that NAC were not generally prepared to listen.

Harry Davidson was disappointed that NAC Officers had not attended the CC tonight.

It was AGREED that Alison Prince, William Calderwood and John Inglis would meet and prepare an appropriate response.

The LDP will be released on 29th April, and ACC will receive a hard copy for review. There is a period of 8 weeks to raise objections.

11/4/9 AOCB

- **11/4/9/1 Digital switchover**
Brenda Stewart reported arrangements for information and advice days relating to Digital Switchover during May. These are being organised by Arran CVS in association with Arran Visual Arts.
- **11/4/9/2 Arran Hospice**
Brenda Stewart reported a recent meeting she had attended in relation to the arran Hospice charity. It was noted that £11000 is required for this project, which is located at Arran War Memorial Hospital.
- **11/4/9/3 Community Councillor – Whiting Bay**
It was reported that a Community Councillor is required for Whiting Bay, following the recent resignation of Ian McCallum
- **11/4/9/4 RMT Meeting – Brodick**
A small turnout was reported in respect of the recent meeting held in Brodick. Cllr Currie noted that the meeting was held at the same time as the Ferry Committee were meeting.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 31st May 2011.

A Closed Meeting afterwards discussed Planning Applications