

# Isle of Arran Community Council

## MINUTES

### of meeting held at the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, May 31st 2011

#### Those present:

John Inglis, Chair, Harry Davidson, Treasurer, Alison Prince, Secretary, Jim Henderson, Willie Kelso, Brenda Stewart, Steph Hill, Liz Evans, William Calderwood

Also present were Sgt Bob Mackay, Jim Nichols - Arran CVS and Howard Driver - Arran Banner, 2 representatives from the Scottish Salmon Company, 2 representatives from Trust Housing plus eight members of the public.

#### Apologies

Cllr Margie Currie, Charles Currie, Richard McMaster, Brodie Pearcey, Gus Macleod

#### 11/5/1 Minutes of last meeting April 26th 2011:

Proposed Brenda Stewart Seconded Steph Hill

#### 11/5/2 Matters arising

- 11/5/2/1 Wind Turbines - John Inglis had contacted John Michell, NAC Planning. It was noted that planning permission had been refused in respect of the Kilmory proposal.  
William Calderwood stated that other landowners were now interested, following a recent event held by the wind turbine company. The company was open to approaches from landowners, which could lead to further studies.  
Willie Kelso queried whether the CC had a policy towards wind farms. In reply, John Inglis observed that the CC had objected to the guidelines being drawn up without consultation with the CC. NAC has refused the initial application.  
The company who had submitted the planning application had arranged a follow up meeting in Kilmory, and a discussion took place confirming that the resident's views had not changed as a result of the meeting. Three residents were in attendance at the CC meeting and gave their views. The CC agreed to ensure the response to the LDP covered the issue of potential wind turbine locations. The residents emphasised they were not against the wind farms in general, but wished to ensure the rules were applied consistently.
- 11/5/2/2 Website - William Calderwood reported that the website had received over 600 hits of which it was estimated that circa 400 were recent. A New events section has now been added.
- 11/5/2/3 Harry Davidson reported that the additional funding had now been received from the Scottish Government in respect of the Ormidale Astroturf. Contractors would be starting work next week.  
It was felt that a small ceremony should take place to mark the handing over of the cheque.
- 11/5/2/4 Alison Prince announced her intention to stand down as Community Councillor for Whiting Bay in the autumn.
- 11/5/2/5 Alison Prince had attended a meeting of North Ayrshire CC's held in Irvine. The main issue discussed was NAC's insistence on the mainland that CC's travel to Cunninghame House to see planning applications. Alison felt that something was wrong with the relations between CC's and NAC.
- 11/5/2/6 Pirnmill traffic figures were now available on the CC website.
- 11/5/2/7 A copy of the draft response had been circulated to all CC members for comment and no major amendments were requested. It was agreed that the

CC's views would be transferred to the appropriate NAC forms and these will be circulated for final submission before the 24th June.

### **11/5/3 Housing**

The CC received a presentation from Joanna Voisey of Trust Housing Association concerning a proposal by Trust to build 56 houses on the Benlister (South) site in Lamlash.

Currently the Trust waiting list on Arran stands at around 240 applicants.

The Scottish Government had introduced a new housing fund – The Innovation and Investment Fund. This would be released through a competitive bidding process. At the present time the proposal is only at outline stage.

As a result of this change in the way funding is allocated there was the need to be both creative in the design, and in the density of the housing proposed.

Trust had only a short time to prepare and revise their funding submission, the deadline being 31st May.

The project will depend on funding being approved before Trust move to the next step of submitting initial planning papers. There would be a public presentation of the proposal prior to any formal submission.

The Chair thanked Joanna for her presentation. As the development was over 50 properties, it would be subject to the consultation process.

(A report of the presentation is available on the ACC website.)

### **11/5/4 Allocation of Building Land – Brodick.**

A letter had been received from a resident in Brodick relating to problems with gaining planning consent for a house, which was already within the designated planning area. The site was felt to have issues due to gradient and access. The Community Council agreed to write to NAC supporting his application.

### **11/5/5 Police matters:**

Sgt Mackay had no major issues to raise. He reported that Fraser Mitchell would be leaving his team shortly, and a replacement would be arriving. The CC recorded their appreciation for the work done by Fraser during his time on the Island.

The organisers of the triathlon were still seeking roads closures, but this was still being opposed by the police on the grounds that it would have too much of an impact on the local community (especially NAC Home Care and social workers). He was confident that the safety of the participants could be assured without road closures.

Harry Davidson notified that £134 remained in the 'Cycle Safe' account. It was agreed that this would be transferred to the CC account, to be used for safety leaflets for cyclists travelling on the ferry.

### **11/5/6 Correspondence**

- **11/5/6/1** A letter had been received from the Community Planning team inviting the CC to send a representative to the Community Engagement Network meetings held on the mainland. William Calderwood was nominated to attend on behalf of the CC.

### **11/5/7 Proposed Salmon Farm at a site off the Cock of Arran.**

Mark Edwards from the Scottish Salmon Company described the background to his company and outlined details of the site currently under consideration.

The site will house 16 circular cages would be supported by sea from their existing site in Lamlash. All fish and food movements would be by sea. The plans are still at a very early stage but they wanted to inform the local communities in advance of any potential planning submission to ensure they recognise any concerns before submitting their proposal.

Steph Hill stated there was anxiety in Lochranza, as the exact site location was not known. A detailed map was circulated.

Mark answered several questions related to environmental issues, and confirmed that the environmental assessment will be published after the planning application is submitted. He confirmed that the fish food would be responsibly sourced.

(A more detailed report of the presentation is available on the Arran CC website, including the handout notes distributed at the meeting.)

## **11/5/8 AOCB**

- **11/5/8/1 Arran Doctors Out-of-Hours dispute**  
Steph Hill spoke of the recent dispute between the Arran Health Group and NHS Ayrshire and Arran. This centred around changes in working practices that would result in mainland based locum doctors undertaking some first call duties out-of-hours on Arran. Concerns had been expressed in the press that the financial cost effect of this would lead to non-filling of GP vacancies on Arran. It has now been agreed that time will be allowed for further talks to clarify and discussion to resolve the issues.  
There was concern that locums would not have the expertise to handle all situations.
- **11/5/8/2 Car Parking in Brodick**  
Harry Davidson spoke of the indiscriminate parking next to the Brodick Co-op. It was agreed that Harry would discuss this with Gus Macleod.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2011.