

Isle of Arran Community Council

MINUTES

of meeting held at the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, 25th October 2011

Those present:

John Inglis, Chair, Harry Davidson, Treasurer, William Calderwood, Secretary, Ian Small, Willie Kelso, Brenda Stewart, Liz Evans, Steph Hill, Jim Henderson and Richard McMaster

Also present were Gus Macleod - NAC, Cllr Margie Currie, Sgt R Mackay, Jenny Lyon - Arran Banner, Jim Nichols - Arran CVS and 5 members of the public.

Apologies for absence

John Lamont

11/10/1 Minutes of last meeting – 25th October 2011:

The Minutes of the meeting held 25th October were adopted and can be viewed at <http://www.arrancommunitycouncil.org.uk/records.php>

Proposed Steph Hill Seconded Brenda Stewart

11/10/2 Matters Arising

11/10/2/1 Road Repairs

In relation to the 'Road Condition survey', Gus Macleod agreed that the document may be available on loan from the office to interested parties.

11/10/2/2 Community Councillor Vacancies

It was noted that there are still vacancies outstanding for Shiskine and Whiting Bay.

11/10/2/3 Road Safety Initiative

Secretary has written to advise funding (£132) is available from CC.

11/10/2/4 Meeting with Aileen Campbell MSP Minister for Local Government and Planning

A report was received of the recent meeting with the Minister. Brenda Stewart and William Calderwood attended for Arran CC, together with Jim Nichols of Arran CVS.

The Minister is keen to promote the role of Community Councils, and to involve community groups.

2 representatives from Irvine CC were also present at the meeting. This highlighted differences in approaches and levels of support between CC's.

11/10/2/5 Ferry Committee

Willie Kelso queried if the proposed event in Lamlash on 26th/27th November might qualify for Calmac to consider if a Winter ferry discount might be appropriate. It was noted that the Christmas lights in Brodick are turned on the same weekend. Cllr Currie felt a letter should go from Arran CC to Calmac requesting this.

Steph Hill requested the current position regarding an earlier ferry on a Sunday. Willie Kelso advised this is still an on-going discussion on the Ferry Committee. Similarly, the responses to the survey have not been published.

The Secretary was given authority to contact Calmac regarding the Winter ferry discount and the Sunday sailing issues.

11/10/2/6 Pirnmill Bridge

Liz Evans advised that an e-mail had been sent to NAC requesting the erection of temporary safety fencing. A reply was awaited.

11/10/2/7 Waste Disposal

It was confirmed that Brodick Improvements Committee were interested in progressing this. John Inglis will try to ascertain connections.

11/10/3 Proposed Farm Park

A brief outline of a proposal for a 'Animal Farm Park' was received from a couple who are hoping to open a park at the South End. Plans will include links to education, and tourist attractions. It was hoped that the Park would provide local employment, and become part of the Arran brand.

There would be indoor facilities, including a café. A sheltered play area is envisaged.

Reassurances were given concerning health and safety, and security aspects of the proposal. SNH have been consulted.

A business plan is still to be drawn up, and the CC will be kept informed.

11/10/4 Police matters

Sgt Mackay reported that there were no issues currently.

Brenda Stewart sought clarification regarding the proposed fireworks display in Lamlash. Sgt Mackay confirmed this was in hand.

11/10/5 Correspondence

11/10/5/1 St Brides Church Lamlash

A letter had been received seeking CC support for the proposed conservation work at the church. NAC are considering at the Area Committee whether financial support towards a feasibility study may be afforded. There would be the requirement to submit a business case for the conservation proposals.

It was unanimously agreed to support the project.

11/10/5/2 Rural education consultation

The Secretary had spoken to the Headmaster at Arran High School. Douglas Auld had agreed to provide a response.

11/10/5/3 Arran CC Insurance

Due to reduction in Government funding, the group co-ordinating Scottish Community Council activities will be wound up next year which will require ACC to find an independent source of public liability insurance.

11/10/5/4 Drinks Licences

2 table licence applications were discussed. No objections were raised.

11/10/5/5 Arran CVS Newsletter

This had been previously circulated, and is available on the CC website and the Arran CVS website (arrancvs.org.uk).

11/10/5/6 Lighting - Blackwaterfoot

Lighting at the new development at Blackwaterfoot is being reviewed following residents inputs to NAC regarding light levels. Cllr Currie explained that the ducting has to be installed, but there was unlikely to be a strong legal argument for lighting.

11/10/6 AGM

It was confirmed the AGM will take place at the November meeting. The event will be publicised, and the vacant CC posts advertised.

11/10/7 Childrens Outreach Services

A response had been received from NAC to the CC letter. They still plan to revise services. The risk due to ferry reliability in winter etc were highlighted, Cllr Currie will continue to seek for changes to the plans.

11/10/8 Straight Talking

It was agreed to support the NAC Straight Talking event next month with several representatives.

11/10/9 Referendum on Separation

This topic was briefly discussed. It was agreed that this was a personal decision.

11/10/10 Roads:

Ian Small showed a video of the road conditions from Brodick to Lochranza highlighting areas of concern and sections which are of poor standard. He plans to continue round the island with this exercise. NAC had highlighted to the Community Council prior to the meeting a section of road recently resurfaced which had troubles and outlined the work required to correct it. Permanent repairs may need to wait until next year but the roads will be temporarily patched to prevent further deterioration over the winter.

It was appreciated the roads are very poor and the funding needs to be found before we get an improvement. Further discussion at present could not resolve the funding and NAC local manager highlighted the general situation and the need for funding. He reported NAC are spending approx £1m on Arran roads this year.

The NAC local manager had confirmed that other scheduled repairs would be completed as planned.

Resurfacing at car parks in Lamlash and Blackwaterfoot are also being completed and the funding for this work is coming from a different source than that used for the roads. This explains why these are being completed, when sections of road are perceived locally to have higher priority.

11/10/11 Brodick Improvements Committee

Harry Davidson reported BIC are applying for funds to fill in a stretch of open ground at the lower green and were seeking ACC support. This was agreed, and will be confirmed in writing.

11/10/12 Scottish Islands Federation Representative

It was agreed to re-establish contact with this group.

11/10/13 AOCB

11/10/13/1 Arran Health Reference Group

Brenda Stewart, as CC representative on the Arran Health Public Reference Group, provided a further update on the future Arran Health Delivery Model and New Montrose House discussions that are on-going through the Public Reference Group.

11/10/13/2 Road Equivalent Tariff (RET)

After a short discussion it was agreed that until details of the timing and structure of the cost of the scheme were known it was felt that the CC could not take a view on the topic. It was confirmed that the scheme was indicated to be introduced during this government's term of office. Some reports had previously indicated introduction some time in 2012 but timing of introduction has not been confirmed.

Date of Next Meeting (and AGM):

Tuesday 29th November 2011