

Isle of Arran Community Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

held at Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick on, 25th September 2012

Those present:

John Inglis Chair, Harry Davidson Jim Henderson, Treasurer, William Calderwood Secretary, John Lamont, Brenda Stewart, Steph Hills, Richard McMaster, Willie Kelso, and Cllr John Bruce

Also present were: Jennifer Lyons - Arran Banner, Gus Macleod – NAC, and 1 member of the public.

Apologies for absence

Liz Evans, Jim Nichols, Chris Marriot, Sgt Mackay,

12/9/1

Following the AGM Harry Davidson as retiring treasurer provide an update regarding grant allocation for travel expenses and distributed cheques to members in attendance. Jim Henderson will arrange to take over the treasurer's role when the accounts are returned from the NAC auditor.

12/9/2 Minutes of meeting – 28th August 2012:

The Minutes of the meeting held 28th August 2012 were adopted as a true record

The minutes can be viewed at <http://www.arrancommunitycouncil.org.uk/records.php>

following the meeting.

Proposed Willie Kelso

Seconded

Jim Henderson

12/9/3

Matters arising were covered by following agenda.

12/9/4

Police matters

The reassignment of Sgt Bob MacKay was noted and it was agreed that we should send a letter of appreciation to Sgt. Mackay for his support and contribution to our meetings.

The secretary was asked to contact Strathclyde Police for new contact. Gus MacLeod highlighted that NAC have a police liaison officer and it was agreed we would contact him initially.

The question of the police presence at the ferry terminal for each arrival was questioned and clarification sought as to the need for this. This question will be addressed to the new representative when appointed.

12/9/5

Correspondence and Communications Report

Secretary spoke to the Communications report previously circulated to members.

- Contact us" notes:
 - Proposed revision to train connection times. - Acknowledged. Awaiting further update. Cllr Bruce confirmed that further discussions were being taken to minimise the waiting times by linking to bus schedules or express bus provision. We will be updated as appropriate. The question of the concession tickets not being accepted for "peak time" journeys was raised and Cllr Bruce confirmed he had been in contact with senior SPT management who confirmed that ferry concession card holders were eligible for rail discounts at these times. SPT have confirmed that "refresher" training would be undertaken with their staff.
 - Notice from Bute Community Council regarding potential wind farm. Acknowledged.

- Craighforth study. Notice circulated with details of on line contact details etc.
- Message from K. Clarke MP Re: Issue of wild camping and associated anti social behaviour which was raised to her during recent surgery.
- Community Planning Training workshop. Spaces available for 31st October workshop at greenwood Resource Centre. Dreghorn. No Charge for this course. Starting 9:30 until 16:00. Lunch is included.
- NAC letter to announce modified LDP released and representations are invited before the 19th October. The significant change which may impact Arran residents is the allocation for up to 3 houses as enabling development to fund improvements at Lochranza Youth Hostel.
- BC/BS Attended Elderly Forum AGM and business mtg. SPT / My Bus and phone coverage concerns were main points.
- ACVS updates on several items
 - **Community Connector appointment. - Morven Buckby**
The role includes directing older people and their families to services provided on the Island, third sector voluntary groups, health, social and private.
 - **Lunch Clubs**
There have been 2 applications received jointly from Arran Homes and the Salvation Army to develop the current lunch club already running monthly in Lamlash Sheltered Housing (Mackelvie Road) and to start a new lunch club in Brodick Sheltered Housing (Glen Estate).
Aiming for a launch in Lamlash on the 29th of October.
There has also been other interest on Lunch Clubs at the North and South End of the Island.
 - **NHS 24**
NHS 24 will be launching on the 1st of October. Leaflets, posters and credit card sized information will be available. The cards are going to be in the surgeries, the Co-op and in the Cal-Mac office.

Brenda also provided an updated from the recent PRG meeting and minutes have been distributed to members.

12/9/6 Community Empowerment Bill response

The draft response prepared by Bill and Brenda had been circulated prior to the meeting and no major amendments were required. It was agreed it should be submitted as is.

12/9/7 Update from Energy Sub Committee

A full report from the recent meeting of the sub committee and the forestry representatives was given and will be circulated when approved by the members.

A site meeting had also taken place with the applicants and members from the sub committee. A summary of this was also provided and will be included in the published notes.

The sub committee have also been trying to develop alternative opportunities and have been discussing the potential for a Hydro based scheme. It is very early stages but the opportunities will be followed up and grants are available to carry out feasibility studies if this is felt to be required.

12/9/8 Ferry Update

Willie Kelso provided a report from the recent ferry committee meeting.

Passenger numbers had fluctuated over the summer and weather had been an influence. Final numbers will be confirmed later.

A response to our request for feedback on the recent summer second boats "success" and whether it was felt to have delivered "value for money" will be addressed at a future ferry committee meeting.

Initial response was that there had been no congestion on the early boat. The commercial justification for the service was not confirmed.

Other items covered were:

The 9 day saver ticket introduced as a trial would be considered for further roll out but the decision will need to be discussed with Transport Scotland.

The planned development of the Brodick linkspan will be rescheduled into 2014.

It is expected that RET will still be introduced to our routes in 2014.

The move to a two boat service is also still being planned.

The early Sunday sailing was again raised and is still under review. Unfortunately the summer trail was not advertised and therefore was felt did not give a true reflection of the demand.

It was agreed we would continue to develop this topic at the next Community Council meeting

12/9/9 AOCB

12/9/9/1 Cycle safety report.

We had received a letter from Neil Gillies and Shirley Anderson of the **Share Arran Roads Safely** group detailing the number of accidents reported and the reasons. He has requested support to erect signs at the "blackspots" alerting road users to the dangers. K Gibson MSP, Cllr J Bruce and NAC roads department have all been contacted. This was considered to be a worthwhile cause and we agreed we should support the request. The discussions highlighted that signage alone may not be enough as cyclists were often travelling at speeds above a safe level. Follow up meetings will be arranged with Neil and other interested parties.

12/9/2 Taxi availability

The recent notification of the loss of an established taxi service at Brodick was highlighted and the potential impact to the visitors. During the discussion it was confirmed that a new licensed operator had recently started to in Brodick and the net effect may be considered level although it was noted that the previous providers had utilised minibus type vehicles and the new service was a private car.

It was considered that the whole picture of public transport needs to be discussed including the provision of private hire contracts for school transport etc and it was agreed we should seek further information and expertise to take this forward.

Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 30th October 2012.

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick