

# Isle of Arran Community Council

## MINUTES OF MEETING

held at Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick on, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2013

### Those present:

John Inglis Chair, Jim Henderson, Treasurer, William Calderwood Secretary, Liz Evans, John Lamont, Brenda Stewart, Richard McMaster, Colin Mackenzie and Cllr John Bruce

Also present were: Jenny Lyon - Arran Banner, Gus Macleod – NAC, Sgt Allen Dodds, Strathclyde Police, Jim Nichols. and 2 members of the public.

### Apologies for absence

Steph Hill and Chris Marriott

### 13/02/1 Membership of Arran CC

Colin Mackenzie was co-opted to the CC as a representative for Brodick.

### 13/02/2 Minutes of meeting – 29<sup>th</sup> January 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held 29<sup>th</sup> January 2013 were adopted as a true record.  
Proposed Brenda Stewart                      Seconded Jim Henderson

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

### 13/02/3 Matters arising

13/02/3/1 Ferry related items.

Jim Henderson advised that the proposed 2 boat service was not yet guaranteed at present. It was also uncertain if there would be a 2 ferry service during the winter months.

13/02/3/2 Meals on Wheels

Jim Nichols spoke of the Meals on Wheels service currently being undertaken on the Mainland, featuring the introduction of meal prepared by Appetito, and how the WRVS had established a Lunch Club in Largs. He also spoke of the 2 new lunch clubs on Arran that had been established as part of the Reshaping Care for Older People agenda. It was anticipated that further Clubs will be established in other villages.

13/02/3/3 Loss of Taxi provision

John Lamont agreed to make further enquiries relating to taxi provision and conditions relating to taxi plates.

### 13/02/4 Police matters

Sgt Dodds reported that 2 Officers had now acquired cycles, and it was anticipated that they would be available at the ferry to offer advice to cyclists.

13/02/5

## Correspondence and Communications Report

13/02/5/1 Secretary spoke to the Communications report previously circulated to members including the ACC Secretary's report for February 2013 meeting:

- A Message had been received from Nikki Harris thanking the CC for allowing her to present to the meeting last month.

Correspondence:

- North Ayrshire Licencing Board had advised of a consultation in regard to the proposed 'Rules of Licencing Policy Statement'. It was agreed that Jim Henderson and John Lamont would produce a response on behalf of the CC.

"Contact us" notes:

- Request for information regarding cycle event in July. Potential for 250 min, 300 max participants. Thanks to NAC local manager, Sgt Dodds, VisitArran and Brodick hall management for their assistance. The organiser of the event wished to thank those individuals that had responded.
- Dialogue with resident regarding ferry disruptions and ferry review plans.
- Request for info regarding initial NEDL consultation event.
- Enquiry for children's fun fare on Brodick green. BIC and NAC handling.
- Notification of new articles on National Network of Community Councils website. Academic study of CC's engagement with the digital age available at <http://www.nationalnetworkcc.com>. Full report is 21 pages long but the article carries a summary. It appears the ACC site is one of only 4% of sites which contain current planning info. A follow up analysis 'Online and good at being in touch' lists ACC third of the current active sites.
- Notification received from NEDL consultants regarding second consultation event to be held 4th March in High School.
- Message sent to NAC highlighting problems with planning system updates. Awaiting resolution.
- Attended Reshaping care for older people event.
- Attended Elderly Forum meeting.
  - No major issues highlighted. Distributed SPT rail concession guarantee cards provided by Cllr Bruce following problems highlighted last month.
- Consultation events held at various locations regarding proposed new "Montrose House" facility. These Public events had taken place in Lochranza, Brodick, Blackwaterfoot and Kilmory.
- Distributed message regarding "Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill" - Consultation responses - EASY READ SUMMARY.
- Circulated Draft Community Engagement Strategy" comments welcomed. Jim Nichols advised of the on-going implementation of the new strategy, which had now been approved by the Community Planning Partnership Board.

13/02/6

## Transport and Ferry Policy

John Inglis proposed that the Community Council should develop a Policy in regard to Integrated Transport Arrangements.

He felt that currently no one organisation was responsible for Integrated Transport.

Such a policy might embrace a range of issues including:

- How spare capacity on the vessel might be utilised.
- Arrangements relating to youth travel – as only 2 free tickets are made available annually, might there be reduced pricing.
- Ferry disruptions – the ferry is not sailing as much as in the past during adverse weather.
- A service was needed that would allow residents to commute to the mainland for work.
- More use of buses, and in particular, from Ardrossan Terminal.

(A paper that had been circulated to the CC is available on the Arran Community Council website and comments welcomed from interested parties)

Brenda Stewart felt that people who regularly travel to the mainland for dialysis should receive discounted fares. The service should also enable nursing staff to travel to Arran in connection with their work.

John Lamont spoke of the high cost of fares, citing that the Arran Ferry is one of the dearest in Europe. He believed that car traffic to Arran had enormously reduced and this had a serious detrimental effect to the hotel trade. The continued existence of the RTX scheme was to be confirmed.

Bill Calderwood spoke of the Mull services and the ticket differentials compared to Arran in terms of validity.

John Lamont was concerned that the Scotrail operations in terms of late running of trains may be detrimental to passengers, and of problems encountered at Glasgow Central relating to Ferry cancellations. Any strategy would require engaging with a lot of partner agencies.

Cllr John Bruce talked about the Strathclyde Concessionary Fares Scheme, which is run by SPT.

In relation to tickets for Young Persons, Bill Calderwood proposed that SPT and the Scottish Government (probably through Transport Scotland) are brought together with users (eg Youth Council). Currently Scottish Government rules permit 2 free Youth tickets annually. This is universal through the Islands.

Cllr Bruce, in company with Kenneth Gibson MSP, is meeting with the Communities Minister in Inverness during March. He agreed to take this matter up. Secretary will produce a statement in relation to this.

Bill Calderwood reminded the Committee of the formula used to calculate RET fares.

A reminder was issued regarding the CMAL Public Meeting taking place in Brodick Hall Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

**13/02/07**

**A.O.B.**

13/02/07/1 Richard McMaster believed that the 'My Bus' vehicle was no longer going down farm tracks. Cllr Bruce advised he was travelling around on the service this week, and would make enquiries.

13/02/07/2 Cllr Bruce advised that the Cabinet of NAC was visiting Arran High School on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

13/02/07/3 A meeting of the Amenities Group will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

**Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2013.  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick.