

Isle of Arran Community Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

held at Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick on 29th October 2013.

Those present:

John Inglis, Chair, William Calderwood, Vice Chair, Hazel Gardiner, Secretary, Barbara McNeice, Colin Mackenzie, Richard McMaster, Brenda Stewart.

Also present were: Hugh Boag - Arran Banner, Gus McLeod and Jim Nichols (minutes).

13/10/1 Apologies: Jim Henderson, Liz Evans, John Bruce, Sgt Dodds, John Lamont and Alan Stout.

13/10/3 Minutes of meeting – 8th October 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held 8th October 2013 were adopted as a true record.

Proposed: R. McMaster

Seconded: H. Gardiner

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

13/10/4 Matters Arising

13/10/4/1 WW1 Memorial

Barbara McNeice advised she had made contact with Arran High School regarding the collection of stories.

13/10/4/2 Knotweed

Brenda reported that 8 out of the 9 individuals had passed the exam. A further course is to run next year at the Agricultural College.

13/10/4/3 Planning responses

Responses were still awaited for some applications. These are currently still being dealt with by Bill Calderwood, not Alan Stout. The question was raised as to why the planning portion of the meeting was held in private. The Chair explained that this was to ensure that matters could be discussed without the possibility for outside pressures.

13/10/4/5 Brodick Beach

Bill explained that the Brodick Improvements Committee had been involved with the consultation in regards to the 2 ramps on the beach which had been discussed at the start of the summer to allow access to the beach over the bags. Brenda queried how the consultants had been engaged. NAC are responsible for the consultants, and Bill confirmed that the consultants engineer did meet with BIC. NAC's position is to ensure the old Coup is retained and secure.

13/10/4/6 Lochranza – Expansion of Kintyre Wind farm

Hazel felt the issue of holding the Lochranza meeting in Lochranza Hall was that they would be charged for the use of the hall. It was agreed that Hazel would sound out the Lochranza and Pirnmill residents again and explain to the hall managers why it was being considered.

13/10/4/7 Marine Scotland Event

Hazel reported that there had not been much new information at the meeting. The aim seems to be a 200 mile area round the coast of Scotland.

The literature from the event is available from the secretary if required.

13/10/4/8 Leader Funding mtg.

Bill reported the recent LEADER meeting had been well attended and that the new allocation of funds would be confirmed and released in 2014. It was anticipated that the funding available would be reduced.

13/10/4 Police Matters

Bill had received an update from Sgt Dodds.

Police are proactively monitoring the 20mph speed limits around the primary schools, in both morning and afternoons.

13/10/5 Correspondence

13/10/5/1 Roads

NAC are providing updates to the CC and others regarding any changes to the Road Closure notifications for the C147.

Some confusion had been advised regards closure. The normal procedure is that the road is closed between 9.30am and 3pm, but it was confirmed that the road would be open on Remembrance Sunday (10.11.13).

Gus reported that they had reverted to standard metal signs instead of the electronic signs. Communications

13/10/7 Project Updates

13/10/7/1 Environmental Panel meeting

The Chair reported that the main issue was the removal of timber at Sannox. It was confirmed that timber would be removed by barge from a Mulberry Pier.

The question was raised as to when the Fallen Rocks path would be closed. Signage would be necessary to advise people of the closure at both ends of the Coastal Way.

13/10/7/2 Roads

Bill spoke of a meeting he had attended last week with the NAC Roads department. The meeting was held to gather views on the proposed road upgrade on the String next year. The proposal was to update 1.5km of the road from the previous section towards Brodick. The work is estimated to take 8 weeks, and the road will be closed with a convoy from 7-8 morning and evening to allow travel to and from the ferry. Work was initially suggested to commence just after whit weekend by it was requested to start earlier. A further meeting will be held in the future.

13/10/7/3 Ferry Committee

Bill provided information for the recent meeting he attended in Jim's Absence.

The meeting was called to discuss an approach from Transport Scotland to review the second boat sailings schedule for 2014. They had proposed some alterations to this year's schedule which were considered not in Arran's best interests.

The Ferry Committee have requested that Transport Scotland rethink the proposed revisions, as the trial service was for 3 years. It was considered that it should not to be amended year by year.

Following discussions it was suggested by CC members that the implications of the RET introduction be considered to proactively recognise and put in place procedures for the increase in RV's and campers to ensure that the current bad practice of unofficial overnight parking and wild camping did not become a hazard.

Brenda asked who would benefit from the RET introduction and others questioned how it would impact student and senior fares for residents. It was suggested that the CC should engage with those islands who are already on the RET scheme to get their views.

It was also mentioned that the CalMac staff at Brodick were advising that when RET was introduced all discount tickets would cease including the SPT senior citizen concession.

Bill advised that this had previously been ruled out as the elderly tickets were controlled by SPT and the RET fare level was a Scottish Government managed charge. It was agreed to ask for clarification at the next ferry committee meeting.

Colin asked why the Ferry Committee was not an open committee on Arran, as it is on Bute.

The Chair reiterated the importance of a reserve Community Council representative to attend the Ferry Committee meetings, should the principle representative be unable to attend.

13/10/7/4 Resilience Planning

It was reported that meetings regarding community resilience plans had already been held in Lamlash and Brodick, with Corrie scheduled for 7th November. Bill reported to the committee about a meeting held with Ayrshire Civil Contingencies, ACVS and CC at the ACVS office. Bill and Jim spoke of the ongoing discussions with the villages and also the SSE offer of assistance to purchase equipment to support village resilience plans and the competition to encourage participation.

13/10/7/5 Community Energy Project

Bill reported that the approved Constitution was currently being reviewed for consistency by ACVS staff. The initial OSCR registration application had been drafted for registering as a SCIO and was waiting to be submitted.

The project is also awaiting feedback from consultants regarding 2 potential sites in Corrie, and discussions were to be held with NTS regarding their plans. Bill confirmed that he was in ongoing discussions with Glasgow University teams, and a meeting would be held the following week to discuss their plans. Bill reported that the website design and layout was also progressing.

13/10/7/6 School involvement

Bill reported that he had attended a meeting with the High School student's council and provided an overview of what the CC are currently working on, especially Transport and Energy. The students were interested and will consider our draft and inform the CC of any omissions or new items for our attention.

13/10/7/7 Accounts

It was reported that the signed accounts had been received from NAC. Copies distributed. The grant payment was expected to be processed imminently to the CC account.

13/10/8 A.O.B

13/10/8/1

Cllr Bruce had provided several updates in his absence.

- Creation of permanent shared headship for Corrie, Brodick and Pirnmill primary schools.
- Disposal agreed for sale of 2 former school houses. 1 further at Kilmory to be retained and brought up to standard and allocated.
- NAC shortlisted for waste management award.
- CMAL public mtg for new terminal 6th Nov.

13/10/8/2

- Brenda reminded the Community Council that she would be standing down.

13/10/8/3

- Jim N spoke of a Neighbourhood Planning Event to be scheduled.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 26th November, 7.30pm.