

# Isle of Arran Community Council

## MINUTES OF MEETING

held at Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick on, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2013

### Those present:

Jim Henderson, Chair, William Calderwood, Secretary, Brenda Stewart, Hazel Gardiner, Barbara McNeice, John Lamont, Cllr John Bruce, Colin Mackenzie, Liz Evans and Richard McMaster.

Also present were: Jenny Lyon and Laura Hemming - Arran Banner, Gus Macleod – NAC, PC Alex Ulivi and Jim Nichols (minutes).

**Apologies:** John Inglis, Alan Stout and PC Alan Dodds.

Jim Henderson spoke of the death of Ian McCallum the previous weekend. He wished to express condolences to the family.

### 13/08/2 Minutes of meeting – 30<sup>th</sup> July 2013

With an amendment being made to the attendees listed, the Minutes of the meeting held 30<sup>th</sup> July 2013 were adopted as a true record.

Proposed: Brenda Stewart

Seconded: Hazel Gardiner

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

### 13/08/3 Matters arising

#### 13/08/3/1 Whiting Bay Nursery

Bill reported that there was continuing communication between mothers and NAC. Paperwork has been completed and has been sent to NAC.

#### 13/08/3/2 Housing

Bill reported that a letter had been sent to NAC financial group regarding the education related housing discussed the previous meeting. The acknowledgement also advised of the pending decision on the Whiting Bay property.

#### 13/08/3/3 WW1 Memorial

Barbara reported that there was to be a further meeting held on 6/9/13. She explained that the museum were interested in getting involved with the project, although she would appreciate if other interested parties could get in touch with her, especially those from the South End.

John Lamont explained that there had not been much interest shown in Whiting Bay. Hazel then spoke of the efforts that were underway to get some community stories.

#### 13/8/3/4 Damage Repairs from Snow Incident

Bill reported that a letter had been sent, and Richard McMaster apologised that the delay in doing so was due to himself.

Cllr. Bruce reported that compliments had been received from Andrew Fraser regarding the letter sent by the Secretary of ACC. He also reported that the Minister

had been over today to speak to the farmers. NAC's view was accountability is the responsibility of whoever was ultimately responsible for the damage.

NAC were talking to NHS regarding a joint approach with regards the compensation for certain facilities who had made a significant contribution to the effort.

Richard also felt that the damage had in fact been caused by NAC and their snow clearance methods, and not the snow itself.

#### **13/06/4          Police Matters**

Nothing to report.

#### **13/08/5          Correspondence and Communications Report**

##### **13/08/5/1          Correspondence:**

- Wrong dates been put on the website regarding Uphelya festival in Corrie had highlighted the need for each member to take responsibility for their village information on the website.
- Bill reported that he would be attending the waste management session scheduled for Friday.
- It was reported that Jim Nichols and Bill had attended the Community Engagement Network and that the minutes would be published.
- Bill and the Lochranza/Pirnmill representatives attended a meeting the previous Friday regarding the proposed roadworks. The only work that would be done would be to take 300mm off the surface. NAC are in talks with contractors to see if workarounds would be possible, but this is difficult. The NAC local officer would keep the Community Council informed. Liz reported that the meeting had put things into context regarding the concerns over the nature of the work. The main concern now is the closure of the road.
- Bill also reported that a contractor had carried out key areas of work and there was on-going talks regarding completion of the outstanding list of white and double yellow lines around Brodick. No date had been given as to when the workers would return to complete the work.
- Scottish Power have suggested an end of November meeting date to discuss possible opportunities for community funding schemes.

##### **13/08/5/2          Waste Disposal**

- It was reported that you could now take waste to the recycling centre on the same day, as long as you phoned before 2.45pm. The Saturday slots must be booked in advance. Gus reported that as it not a registered station at present, it cannot be operated without prior site entry arrangements.

#### **13/08/6          Project Updates**

##### **13/08/6/1          SPT Island Transport Survey Response**

A draft response had been circulated before the meeting.

It was questioned why the scope did not include ferry and train timetables and Colin spoke of the objectives of the Transport Scotland Strategy. He felt that the biggest element was the ferry and train timetables, and why would SPT go through this lengthy process if the ferry and trains were not included. Bill explained that last year there had been a major review of the ferries by Transport Scotland and this year SPT were looking at the islands bus / transport services and SPT are at least trying to resolve the anomalies with bus services and general transport including hospital

visiting, MyBus, patient transport services etc and the disconnects between the Lochranza and Brodick Ferry's.

The main purpose of the review is ensure the new contract to be issued imminently by SPT for island transport services should cover the key areas in a comprehensive manner.

Colin voiced that one objective is to provide a seamless transport system on the island, to the mainland and on the mainland.

Jim Henderson confirmed that the scope of the subject was not within the remit of the ferry committee.

There was discussion that a sub-committee should be formed, on which the CC should take the lead. Bill reported that the CC transport document had been available for 4-5 months, but there had been limited contribution from members. There was the feeling that there was a need to be more constructive in how we move forward projects.

Bill continued that the draft response had been prepared following several meetings and discussion with various groups around the island. This has been circulated and there had been limited responses from CC members.

Cllr Bruce expressed that transport was a multi-agency issue and emphasised that there was a need for cohesion.

It was agreed that the CC would submit the response to SPT as proposed and circulated.

### **13/08/6/2 NAC review of CC Structure**

It was reported that John Inglis, Bill Calderwood and Jim Henderson had been through the questionnaire. Their recommendations had been circulated prior to the meeting and in the absence of any comment were accepted as the CC response.

All were reminded that individual responses were also welcomed from NAC.

Proposed: Richard McMaster                      Seconded: John Lamont

### **13/08/6/3 Knotweed Training**

The meetings had been held in Brodick on Saturday and Sunday.

Brenda spoke of the sessions held, which included information on Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam, and Japanese Knotweed. Brenda then distributed a report by the Ayrshire Rivers Trust and requested the sheets be put on the website. They are willing to pay for 12 volunteers to be trained by spring, and for training to begin as early as September. She was pleased to report that she had got some young volunteers, although there was a need to recruit more volunteers.

Brenda explained that the first stage would be in May and she has sent the information to NAC and Charles Fforde. Realistically this would not start until 2015. If and when the grant is received, companies would be employed to deal with it. Brenda appealed for people to talk to their improvement committees and groups.

### **13/08/7 A.O.B.**

#### **13/08/7/1 Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team**

Bill spoke of the Community Councils discussions with Andrew Fraser who had arranged for the Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team to visit the island. Representatives from the First Responders, Community Council, ACVS and Cllr Bruce attended the meeting with the ACCT, and Bill and Jim Nichols spoke of the meeting. It was agreed that Jim and Bill would go round the villages to help them build village related resilience plans.

### **13/08/7/2 Unaccompanied Baggage Charges**

Richard McMaster spoke of a letter he had received from Mrs McDonald. Calmac charged her £8.95 to transport a t-shirt unaccompanied. Colin stated that he was aware that there was now a charge for unaccompanied baggage.

Cllr Bruce agreed to write to Martin Dorchester and will send the response to Mrs McDonald.

### **13/08/7/3 Planning Responses**

There was discussion surrounding the need for the CC to respond to all applications earlier, and it was agreed that a response should be given from the members even if there are no issues to be raised.

The Secretary expressed that he would like a volunteer to take on the planning correspondence. John Lamont agreed to talk to the Secretary about what is involved.

### **13/08/7/4 Elected Representative's Report**

Cllr Bruce gave a short summary of several items of interest which he was handling relevant to the island.

- **Brodict Pier Development**

The committee would be pushing for a single stage development.

An NAC and HIE consultation would be the next step and this is anticipated to begin in early October.

Brenda enquired about what would happen to the old pier. Cllr Bruce believed that CMAL would try to sell it, but if they were unable to it would be demolished.

- Cllr Bruce also explained that he would progress the issues of the poor state of Brodict Beach as well as the signage for the Multi User Path.
- He also reported that an undersea cable was to be laid between Arran and Cumbrae next year.

### **Date of Next Meeting:**

It was agreed that the AGM would be delayed until Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013, with a normal business meeting held after the AGM.

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict.

Discussion took place regarding the Office Bearers within the CC which should be resolved at the AGM.

The meeting was adjourned and the Planning items were discussed in closed planning session.