

Isle of Arran Community Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

Held at Ormidale Pavilion on 26th August 2014

Those present:

John Inglis (Chair), William Calderwood (Vice Chair), Jim Henderson (Treasurer), Hazel Gardiner (Secretary), Brenda Stewart, Barbara McNeice, John Lamont and Colin McKenzie.

Also present were: Cllr John Bruce, Hugh Boag (Arran Banner), Emma Sharp from the Arran Youth Group.

14/08/1 Apologies: Liz Evans, Alan Stout.

14/08/2 Minutes of meeting – 29th July 2014

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a true record.

Proposed: Breda Stewart Seconded: Jim Henderson

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

14/08/3 Matters Arising

14/08/3/1 Recognition

It was highlighted that this would be the last meeting for a couple of long serving members. John Inglis was stepping back after 12 years of service representing Corrie and Sannox and his service included 4 years as chair.

John also represented the community on Housing, Environmental and Forestry matters.

Brenda Stewart was also stepping down after approx. 11+ years representing Lamlash. Brenda had been a strong campaigner for various items including Scottish water in the early days and more recently the Japanese Knotweed identification and eradication. Brenda intimated she would still continue her interest in this latter item. Brenda was our representative on the Health Public Reference group.

The contribution of both members was much appreciated and their influence will be missed.

14/08/3/2 Brodick Beach

Representatives from the consultants had attended for a two day investigation on several parts of the lower green and Cloy Estuary. Chair of Brodick Improvements met with them and passed on some local views. We are also asked for any further historical data which we can provide to assist the consultant's report. This has been collected and will be forwarded to NAC. **Action:** Vice Chair to write to NAC.

14/08/3/3 Flower beds

Response sent to NAC as requested. No further information received from NAC.

14/08/3/4 Resilience: Note circulated confirming SSE have proposed to provide notice boards for each village and a Large Mobile road sign for the Multi Agency teams use.

14/08/3/5 Machrie Road signage. Awaiting updated from NAC.

14/08/4 Police Scotland Report

Concerns raised regards some recent examples of large groups of cyclists travelling together. Some areas were still concerned re speed of vehicles through villages.

Action: Arrange meeting with Sgt Dodds to discuss the rural police approach.

Police rep distributed questionnaires to be completed.

14/08/5 Correspondence

14/08/5/1 Chairman advised of a letter complaining that there was no bus service on a Sunday across the string road. **Action:** Check with local manager if timetable has changed

14/08/5/2 Report from police commander has been distributed. Also circulated note outlining background to operation "REDWALL".

14/08/5/3 NAC note regarding replacement of Energy saving Lights circulated.

14/08/6 Ferry Committee Report

A report was received from the recent Ferry Committee meeting.

Main points as follows:

The Arran FC had firmly rejected any plans to use pricing to assist in demand management when RET is introduced. There were 2 options for the demand management.

1. To have no forward planning and have a wait and see policy.
2. Manage the anticipated increase of traffic by utilising the maximum use of the Caledonian Isles and Isle of Arran.

The debate on this subject lasted for some time with the selection of the 1800 identified as a problem for commercial traffic. The solution being, subject to demand the use of one mezzanine deck only for private cars.

On other Caledonian Isle sailings there could be a problem for mobile homes with their height restricting the use of the mezzanine decks. Management will direct their bookings to the sailing before or after using the Isle of Arran.

IoA will leave as scheduled due to previous commitments for fleet maintenance.

Although the introduction of a 2-boat service is being considered for April'15 the Ferry review clearly states that the service will operate from the beginning of May until September.

The Lochranza winter service will have capacity for 150 passengers but will be limited to 15 when carrying petrol and gas supplies. Operator to work with customers to minimise impact to one day per week if possible.

An update was received from R. Muirhead to confirm the ground survey had been completed.

The tender would be going out for the preferred contractor to be engaged to begin work in spring 2015, which is a 6 month slippage of the proposed schedule, partly due to the problem arising with the barge and delayed investigation.

Sea Wall repairs at Lochranza have been completed including other faults, which were found during the works.

Lochranza timetable for summer 2015 is to be adjusted to meet with the bus service.

It was expected the September meeting would be attended by CMAL and Transport Scotland representatives to provide details of progress regards design of new vessels etc.

14/08/7 Boundaries Commission review of Local Authority Representation

A briefing had been prepared by John L and Bill C and circulated to the group outlining the situation from NAC's position to have a preferred increase of representation from 30 to 35 which was more than the LBC's suggested 33 officers. NAC had also proposed that Arran would be realigned to form a ward including Fairlie and West Kilbride rather than the existing structure of Ardrossan.

It was agreed we would respond recommending an increase in representation but suggesting that any increase should be used to ensure that Arran or the NAC islands had a specific representation which would guarantee we have resident officers. This was considered to be in line with the requirements to facilitate and implement the proposed plans for "Empowering Scotland's Island Communities"

14/08/8 Arran Community Council election status

A briefing note from NAC had been circulated including details with several options to be considered until the review of the CC structures has been completed and new elections will take place.

It is confirmed that it is

1. Acceptable for current member to continue to serve. or
2. The current members can resign and an election process will be arranged.

It was agreed that as all members present were happy to continue until the structure was clearer we would arrange for an AGM in October to elect new officers following the loss of our chairman. A note will be inserted requesting new members to come along to our September meeting or the October AGM.

14/08/9 Cllr John Bruce's Report

NAC is currently in recess and as there is a purdah in place due to the Referendum Cllr Bruce was limited in what he could report.

14/08/9/1

NAC have published their LDP action plan and copies are available.

14/08/10 AOCB.

14/08/10/1 Following Mr Inglis and Mrs Stewart's decision to stand down it was proposed that the following members would replace them at the relevant groups.

Forestry: Richard McMaster

Housing: Colin McKenzie

Health PRG: Barbara McNeice.

14/08/10/2

An open invitation to the youth groups was extended and their participation in our future meetings was welcomed. It was indicated that the future CC structures would almost certainly include a reduction in age limits for eligibility from 18 to 16 and applicants would be welcomed from this age group for any of our current vacancies.

14/08/11 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be on the 30th of September at the Ormidale Pavilion at 6pm.