

Isle of Arran Community Council

MINUTES OF MEETING Held at Ormidale Pavilion on 30th June 2015

Those present: Ricky McMaster (Chair), Bill Calderwood (Secretary), Jim Henderson (Treasurer), Barbara McNeice, Daniel Bowles, Liz Evans, Colin Mackenzie, John Lamont, Neil Arthur, Peter McMullen, Peter Randell, and Cllr John Bruce.

Also present were Gus MacLeod (NAC Local officer), Hugh Boag (Arran Banner) and 9 members of the public.

15/06/1 Welcome / Apologies: Hazel Gardiner

15/06/2 Minutes of 26th May Meeting –

Minutes of meeting proposed by Jim Henderson, seconded by Daniel Bowles with 1 amendment to draft noted and agreed.

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

15/06/3 Matters Arising:

15/06/3/1 Buses and SPT

- Luggage racks have now been fitted to all buses. This completes the various points related to the new fleet with gearing revisions complete and the “bandit screens” removed.
- Response from SPT to confirm that the CC will be provided with list of works to be carried out when available. They have provided an explanation on one specific area of concern at Pirnmill which has been communicated to the resident.
- List of all sites and proposed work has also been circulated and 2 items at Balmichael and Shiskine school will be clarified.

15/06/3/2 Taxi Rank at Invercloy:

- Area has now been marked out for normal vehicle parking

15/06/3/3 Resilience.

- Mobile sign has arrived as provided by SSE.
- Will be stored in NAC yard under the jurisdiction of Incident Managers (Gus and Police)
- System needs to be towed by appropriate vehicle and is a two person job to set up.
- Will be available to local community / non-profit groups – Additional resources need to be trained.
- Members to communicate ACCT plans to hold a meeting at end of August as apart of education process for setting up emergency “rest centres”

15/06/3/4 Speed signage at Whiting Bay

- Only 200 – 100 markers positioned in Whiting Bay. Lamlash has 300 – 200 – 100 markers.
- GMcL advised the reason no 300yd warning was that 300 would be on the junction with Knockenkelly.
- PR highlighted that the Open top bus was leaving trimmings in the road – Agreed Gus will talk to Stagecoach.

15/06/3/5 Boundaries Commission

- NAC Chief executive has scheduled to visit for the 30th July to meet with representatives from the CC at the Lamplash office. Chief Executive, Head of Democratic Service, Executive Director (Place) and Strategic Support manager will attend.

NAC proposal is for a total of 33 elected representatives across 10 wards in North Ayrshire, The proposal also suggests that Arran would be realigned with West Kilbride and Fairlie to form a new ward. With other areas in North Ayrshire realigned along neighbourhood lines as far as possible.

Various comments were recorded in the discussion of the proposal which need to be followed up.

- Concerned that we may not have an Island Councillor to represent Arran.
- How does this align to NAC's announced neighbourhood structure which confirms Arran will be one of six across NAC?
- Scot Govt. proposals re: Islands empowerment needs to be aligned
- Funding available for devolved responsibilities.
- Meeting to discuss matter further arranged for Tuesday 14th July 2015 at 6.00pm. Prepare position statement in advance of meeting with NAC.

15/06/4 **Police Report:**

- In the absence of Sgt Dodds an extract of the Police report presented to the recent Area committee was covered: *Increase in vehicular and foot traffic following RET introduction. 60 motorists issued with Conditional Offers and reported to COPFS for offences such as speeding, driving without a valid certificate of insurance and driving whilst under the influence of alcohol.*
- A copy of the Fire services report from the same meeting had also been circulated and all items from the meeting are available on NAC website.

15/06/6 **Correspondence:**

- Messages had been received from several contributors regarding the condition of the local public toilets. NAC had provided a report which was considered still left room for improvement in the facilities.
- Message from the community council blog notified last month asking for details of the £15k grant we were allocated in 2010. Questions are :
 - How did it go?
 - Was your local authority supportive?
 - What did the Scottish Government say about your efforts?
 - Do you think community councils should be given this kind of money every year (or more)
- Lochranza village association sent in copy of their minutes for the chair's attention and we have accepted their offer to be copied in future issues.
- Message received from "Ayrshire Litter Volunteer Network"
- Invite received from Balmichael to review facilities. Invitation accepted by several members and positive comments have been mentioned.

15/06/7 **Reports from Sub Committees:**

- **15/06/7/1 Ferry Committee:** Jim Henderson had indicated that there was no Ferry Committee business meeting this month due to the AGM.
- Good attendance at the AGM with Robert Waine re-elected as Independent Traveller representative. Minutes from last year's AGM published on CC website.
- Various messages circulated in connection with recent industrial action.

- We received a response from the transport representative of Bute CC to our approach regarding Community Council representation on the Clyde Ferry Users Group.
Following a discussion with the full council regarding the Arran proposal it was the view that Bute CC did not feel the need to be included at this level. Bute CC is also the recognised Ferry Committee for the island and their meetings are open to the public.
They also have attendance at their meetings from CalMac, CMAL and Transport Scotland management when needed.
Bute CC appreciates the position which Arran CC has and would encourage us to work to try and arrange a similar structure to Bute but have confirmed this will not restrict their willingness to work together to address common issues as they arise.
However they feel they do not require another meeting at this time.

They wished us well and will keep in touch on shared concerns.

It was agreed we would continue to communicate with CFUG and Transport Scotland to improve user consultation process as identified in ferries review.

- Concerns raised from public re: traffic queuing back on main road at both Brodick and Ardrossan. Had been advised procedures were in place to correct this JH asked to progress this.
- Continuing frustration from residents over booking process, told unable to book but plenty of space on board. Jim asked to raise with FC.
- It was reported that CalMac did not notify people that Lochranza to Claonaig did not sail during recent industrial action and an explanation was requested.

15/06/7/2 Elderly Forum:

- Daniel Bowles had attended recent meeting and reported of a demonstration of defibrillator procedures. F Laing praised for quality of demonstration.

15/06/7/3 Forestry

- NA – Meeting had taken place – NA/LE with Senior Management of Forestry Commission. General meeting and site meeting at Machrie. Further meeting arranged with Mr Lauder for 1st July Machrie Hall at 6.00pm.
Minutes to be posted to ACC website following approval.

15/06/8 NAC's Transport Strategy:

- Brief discussion and agreed to develop and circulate draft response to be agreed at July meeting.

15/06/9 Cllr Bruce's Report

Councillor commented on recent meetings and activities covering a range of topics including:

- Developing a Neighbourhood approach in North Ayrshire Council.
- Community Action Plans
- AASS area committee held on Arran
- Updates provided on Brodick to Corrie multiuser path – continuing progress
- Update provided on Brodick Beach works.
- Letter sent to interested organisations re: Arran Economic Group, request for confirmation of interest by Friday 10th July.
- Report on Community Benefit (draft policy) from windfarms

- Report on Participatory Budgeting in NAC. To introduce it by working with partners in the 6 neighbourhoods to establish effective approaches.
- Report by Executive Director of Place on a managed approach to control of erosion at Lamlash Bay. See AOB. For further notes.
- Roll out of superfast fibre optic in North Ayrshire – Contract makes progress
 - Arran and Cumbrae January 2016 – July 2016.
 - Programme is on tune and budget according to Digital Scotland
 - Exception Machrie Bay area - £410m private/public investment

Further details on all the above are available via the NAC website.

15/06/10 A.O.C.B

- Lamlash Bay Erosion Report
 - Cllr JB spoke to the report approved by cabinet.
 - DB asked why no public consultation had taken place.
 - JB advised that the report was in Public Domain and decision to support the optional £10,000 had been taken at council meeting.
 - JB suggested that Local Village association could write to Director of Place.
 - JB also suggested that community talk to landlords and consider options for Crowd Funding.
 - JB suggested CC request meeting with Craig Hatton for general position.
 - DB pointed out that no copy sent to landlord, Improvement Committee or Community Council.
 - For consultation, Lamlash residents feel decision taken with no consultation at all.
 - JB said Council cannot put Public Funds into Private ownership Audit Scotland would not allow it.
 - NA Proposed letter goes urgently request that nothing be done until a Public Meeting has been held.
 - Suggestion to request meeting and of all parties and ask NAC to do nothing until this is held. Invite Lamlash Improvement and Brodick Improvements. It was pointed out that the main road is 3' lower than the green, so potentially if the green goes, the road and businesses etc would be destroyed. This was not agreed at this time
 - NA – Queried how far back in time do we need to go before the amenity is listed
 - Why wait before property is damaged. Where does public liability start?
 - Action agreed to request a meeting with the CC (only) and North Ayrshire Council.

- JN announced new initiative:
 - Lunch Club Community Connector appointment by ACVS.

Date of the next meeting: 28th July 2015.