

Isle of Arran Community Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

Held at Ormidale Pavilion on 27th October 2015

Those present: Ricky McMaster (Chair), Bill Calderwood (Secretary), Jim Henderson (Treasurer), Hazel Gardiner, Daniel Bowles, Neil Arthur, Peter McMullen, Liz Evans, Colin Mackenzie and Peter Randell,

Also present were, Jim Nichols, Arran Banner, Sgt Dodds (Police) Gus MacLeod (NAC Local officer) and four members of the public.

15/10/1 Welcome / Apologies: John Lamont, and Cllr John Bruce

15/10/2 Minutes of 29th September Meeting –
Minutes proposed by Jim Henderson, seconded Hazel Gardiner.

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

15/10/3 Matters Arising:

15/10/3/1 New Community Council members:

- WC reported, thanks to an article in Banner – 1 completed application for Corrie/Sannox and 3 completed applications for the Shiskine area had been received.
- WC explained election process is something which should be done locally with approval from NAC.
 - Applicants have 5- 10 minutes each to speak.
 - Residents of local area attending meeting make choice.
 - Neutral chair and ballot process.
 - WC proposed he arrange, book Shiskine Hall and place notice in Banner – Agreed.
- For Corrie – WC will notify individual he is appointed un-opposed.

15/10/3/2 Roads:

- WC had circulated paper re: proposed works starting next week on A841.
 - Majority of work will be with traffic lights for the initial 5 wk. period.
 - Second phase to start In January / February weather dependent (estimated time 3 weeks). This will require restrictions from 09:00 -12:00 and 13:00 – 16:00 to accommodate resurfacing and further meeting will take place with NAC to finally agree procedures.
- PR queried why Whiting Bay white lining has not been carried out as previously indicated.

Gus MacLeod advised White Lining machines have not been over to the island. Other areas such as at Shiskine intersection and bridge at Kinloch were highlighted as dangerous due to lines having worn out.

15/10/3/3 Broadband Roll-out and “ConnectArran”.

- JH & NA attended a workshop in Lamlash.
- A group ‘Connect Arran’ has been formed. Workshop speakers.
 - Strathclyde Uni, Develop E M Services, Microsoft
- Good outcome and starting to discuss how to move forward.
- NA proposed Secretary writes to BT to establish plan for the roll out of the system. There will be cabinets installed and it was expected the proximity to the cabinet will determine the reception.

- NA spoke of examples where 2 health cases could not operate alarms – NA queried what are standards of service on the island?
 - Action: Secretary to request further details from earlier communication from HIE.
- 15/10/3/4 CC Digital engagement workshop
- Only 25% of CCs in Scotland have a website.
 - Arran CC has dropped out of the top 4% rating as we no longer include planning information.
 - Facebook was promoted as an option to help engage with communities. This has been discussed for Arran, but resource and poor reception is a problem.
- 15/10/3/5 General points to NAC Local Manager.
- Liz Evans advised people were questioning the drop by the bus stop at Pirnmill. Gus M SPT have been over to survey. He agreed to progress.
- 15/10/4 Police Report:**
- Very quiet month.
- 15/10/5 Correspondence:**
- 15/10/5/1 **Responses to planning applications:**
- WC mentioned communications received from a resident regarding an earlier planning application. He confirmed that as discussed in last month's CC meeting a revision of process will be implemented to take account of applicant's views in responses.
 - It was emphasised there is the need to ensure neighbours and applicants are consulted prior to decisions being taken.
 - NA felt where there is a negative approach there should be a second sign-off by another CC member before any submission was delivered to NAC. He felt consideration should be given to how neighbours are approached. This is included in the revised procedures.
 - RMcM spoke of implications for people outside of 10 metres of property. You need to make certain you see everyone impacted to ensure fairness.
 - WC suggested that if negative responses are proposed, there should be more discussion.
It was suggested there may be case where individuals be invited to the meeting.
 - A member of the public contributed: A public view was CC's must get there facts right.
The point was made that the applicant had not been afforded the opportunity to state their case.
 - CM spoke of difficulties of obtaining views if the applicant are off-island.
DB suggested in the event of negative decisions, the applicant should be advised before the Council are notified. Proposed PR – Seconded NA
 - It was confirmed that the revised process will require that in either a case of positive or negative response, it would be circulated to all members. If anyone disagrees notify CC planning rep immediately. If no objections, submit to NAC.
 - The resident felt that someone should have contacted the applicant and made enquiries re: the rationale for the application. She believed there is a duty of care to give a reasoned and balanced response. Did not feel responsibility should be on the applicant to talk to neighbours.
- 15/10/5/2 Message received regarding a proposal to increase the size of the fish farm in Lamlash. It was noted it was the depth of the net that would be increased, which would lead to increased chemicals and risk. WC queried if CC should respond. DB stated Lamlash Improvements is very much against the proposal. Concern is the capacity would be increased by 20%, and is in a MPA. Agreed the Lamlash CC rep would draft a response in conjunction with COAST.

- 15/10/5/3 Knotweed – Who is taking on Brenda’s previous role?
 JH – Brenda still interested COAST conducting mapping through school.
 PM - will discuss with Brenda.
- 15/10/5/4 NAC CAB have offered to attend a meeting and give overview of their services.
 Agreed to reply with possible dates next year.
- 15/10/5/5 HG -Rural Poverty – Agreed – Investigation to be extended to NACAS.
- 15/10/5/6 Locality Planning meeting advertised in Brodick Hall - General drop in session in the afternoon and invited attendance in the evening. It was agreed we could discuss if we need further details after the meeting

15/10/6 Reports from Sub-Committees

15/10/6/1 Ferries:

- JH meeting this month notes circulated.
 Next meeting 16.11.2015. WC will be attending and also for next 3 meetings.
- WC has received a call from Serco requesting a meeting with the CC whilst on the Island.
 Proposal is a combined CC/Ferry Committee meeting on 9th November.
 Serco are proposing a Drop In Session 2.00pm to 7.30pm to help them produce their submission for the tender process.
 WC has discussed with Chair of FC and both feel a joint meeting would be appropriate.
 Joint meeting would be held in the morning of 9th (possibly 11.30am).
 JH proposed WC, JH and NA meet and agree a list of concerns.
 RMcM confirmed with CC if CC want the meeting – Agreed to accept offer of joint mtg.
- WC is optimistic that Arran CC may be included in future Clyde User Group meetings.
- Changes in procedure at Ardrossan re: cones.
 WC outlined conversations with NA spoke to CalMac to try to change the process.
 They are building and unnecessary queue.
- Still receiving reports of difficulties getting cars booked on boats then finding there are spacers on the ferry.
- NA gave examples of bad loading on the ferry resulting in denied access.

15/10/6/2 Forestry:

- No meeting since last meeting.
 NA advised that FC meeting had not taken place due to absence of FC manager through illness.
 Next meeting will be held Thursday this week.
- RMcM advised that FC have notified that funding is not now available for next 2 years.
- NA spoke of need to get data from sub-groups to CalMac in relation to future timber extraction off the island.

15/10/7 A.O.C.B

- WC attended an NAC meeting on Review of Community Councils. Consultation closes in 2 weeks.
 NAC presented proposals re: how Community Councils may evolve.
 Views were expressed that 4 years was right period of time but staggered away from elections.
 - Peter R – is there any paperwork to explain the function of a Community Councillor. WC confirmed NAC have guides on their website which should be revised.
- Agreed - ACC will submit response covering points previously discussed.

Date of the next meeting: 24th November 2015