

Isle of Arran Community Council
Minutes
Meeting held 26th April 2016

Those present: Ricky McMaster (Chair), Bill Calderwood (Vice Chair), Neil Arthur, Hazel Gardiner, Marilyn Woods, Liz Evans, Daniel Bowles, Colin McKenzie and Barry Mochan.

Also present were Jim Nichols, G McLeod (NAC Local officer) and Hugh Boag (Arran Banner)

1. Welcome / Apologies

BC chaired the meeting until arrival of the Chair.

Apologies: Peter McMullen, John Lamont, Jim Henderson (at COAST Mtg), Sgt Dodds

2. Minutes from Meeting 29th March 2016

Proposed BM, seconded CM.

3. Matters Arising:

• **Public Toilet:** Facilities on Arran

Meeting to be scheduled in Irvine and BC will attend if available. Information awaited relating to costs following decision by Council to request a full NA analysis. Expected in Aug / Sept.

• **Locality Planning:**

JN updated at the Locality Meeting.

4. Police Report

Report had been circulated with responses to questions raised at March meeting and no follow up has been identified.

Confirmation that four officers for summer season would start at the beginning of May.

5. Correspondence

Messages received via "Contactus"

- Message from resident asking why Planning items are discussed in Private and if minutes are available. **Response sent to indicate outcome of discussions are available on NAC website.**

General Correspondence:

- Message received from Marine Scotland with details of public consultation currently available in Library. - **WC provided an update relating to progress of Brodick Beach. A letter to Marine Scotland in support was approved.**
- Message from Lochranza and Catacol Village Association with minutes from recent meeting highlighting several points which we should be aware of. Hazel attended the meeting. Many of the items covered are not limited to the North end of the island.
 1. Roads and Forestry Extraction. **Reports on this topic are available on the ACC website.**
 2. Camper Van Issues. A lot of concern in the Northend about this and feel NAC should, if they don't have, a policy strategy to deal with increasing numbers with RET in terms of the concerns raised in the minutes. **To be followed up.**
 3. Sustainability of emergency services. LCVA are really concerned about this issue and would wish the community council to consider this if they have not already done so. **JN indicated that ACVS are planning a volunteer week related advert and will talk to the various groups to see if they wish to be included.**
 4. Closure of public toilets needs further discussion with NAC and perhaps CMAL. **See above**

5. Ferries as always and problems with bookings.
It was proposed and agreed that we should discuss the points further at the next meeting.

- Invoice for Website is due £63.45 NA felt it was a good idea to continue. BC – Village profiles need a refresh – agreed for each village rep to review and advise secretary of any changes Proposed RMcM, Seconded BM.
RMcC proposed use of Facebook be explored.
- Kildonan Post Office: RMcM reported villages support the proposal to move the Post Office to the Hall.

6. Reports

Ferry Committee

Ferry Committee met on the 11th April.

Discussion around the continuing problems with residents trying to book car journeys and not getting requested sailing due to lack of space and then they find that there is space. A more proactive approach to quantifying the situation is to be developed and we mentioned the Orkney/Hitrans work which we will try to get further details.

Subsequent suggestions have included an informal car share scheme for things like hospital, or other regular destinations and this is being examined as a possible DIY type facility and not something which the FC would be undertaking officially due to resources and practicality of the scheme.

Discussion confirmed: Easter and October periods need quantification with lack of 2nd boat
Smart ticketing will be explored further when the tendering process is finalised.

NA - 2 key issues are ticketing and capacity.

BM noted a Facebook group had stated to explore car sharing opportunities.

Roads

GM reported on outcome from stakeholders meeting and details are now published on the ACC website.

Surface dressing contractor not yet appointed.

Looking now to do surface dressing work in September.

Carriageway resurfacing – Pirmill will be shorter due to additional work scheduled on the string.

String Road

Preferred dates had been asked for but following discussions NAC reverted to 2 weeks before Whit holiday.

Will be trying to keep the road open as much as possible but will still require temporary closures.

Expenditure has been revised and costs now reflect £150,000 from patching budget now for String, £50-60K for Pirmill and the estimated £100K for patching round Island has been cut.

Forestry

RMcM reported meeting held yesterday (25th April).

Reviewing position re: Brodick slipway, with consideration to take Red Princess.

NA – as nothing much has been happening, the meeting next month has been postponed.

Connect Arran

WC meeting held with SFT and village representatives from Kilmory and Lamlash for the 4G rollout. Lamlash are not currently a constituted group but welcomed offer of assistance. Site owners reviewed proposed locations and both are positive.

Machrie Broadband

A new ConnectArran chair has been taking forward work previously started by Dr Hogg and the team.

Broadway Partners from Gloucester are working to identify and spec an alternative wireless system which could provide service to Machrie and the wider Shiskine Valley households currently not included in BT rollout schedule with comparable costs.

Dog Fouling

Funding bid for signage was not successful. A bag dispenser is now in place at the Rodden and no complaints have been received. Additional unit is available.

It was suggested that a Banner article could focus on this issue.

GMcL suggested speaking to NA warden Craig regarding a limited run of leaflets.

- a) **Resilience:** SSE solar boards have been re-located to ACVS storage. Note sent to village contacts to request that arrangements are made to have them uplifted and installed locally if required.

One location has indicated they won't take up the offer for their board and I am waiting to hear from two others. Several other locations have picked them up.

Councillors report:

Cllr Bruce advised that the Arran Economic Group are also looking at the toilets issue.

Council meeting had tabled an amendment that will be considered over the summer.

It is too early to comment until a costed budget is received.

A report will come to cabinet after the summer.

Cemeteries – A report will be presented after the summer.

Cllr Bruce was unaware of last week's meeting with Audrey Sutton.

Cllr Bruce outlined discussions from cabinet today.

- Directorate Appointments
- Update on Localities

WC raised issues re: overnighting of camper vans especially use of the Co-op and Car Parking.

Cllr Bruce has flagged it to Craig Hatton.

Blue light services shortages were also highlighted to the councillor.

AOCB – Arran Civic Trust are holding a meeting on the Future of Renewable Energy conference – Scotland. All welcome.

Date of the next meeting 31st May 2016 @ 6.00pm.