

Isle of Arran Community Council

Minutes

Meeting held 28th February 2017

Those present: Bill Calderwood (Chair), Jim Henderson, Marilyn Woods, Neil Arthur, Peter McMullen, John Lamont, Liz Evans, B Mochan, Julie Graham, Peter Randell, Gus Macleod, Cllr Bruce

1. Welcome / Apologies

Apologies: Chris Attkins, Ricky McMaster

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

Minutes of 31.01.2017 - proposed JL, seconded BM
JH worked through a previously circulated action list.

3. Matters Arising:

Item 1: CC Training

Note sent to Jim Miller for planning training. List circulated to members covering Licencing, Understanding of Community Councils etc to be followed up.

Item 2: Follow up on action agreed at discussions with NAC on revised process for "Delegated powers" particularly need for 3 elected members to initiate "call in". It expected that this will need to wait to new administration is in place.

Item 3: Toilet closures

Letter sent to NAC seeking review of decision.

A response has been received from 3 villages – Whiting Bay, Kilmory and Corrie/Sannox indicating interest.

Brodick, Lamlash, Lochranza and Blackwaterfoot had indicated no interest or no ability to resource a take-over.

Councillor Bruce confirmed budget will be set tomorrow.

There is a need to get transfer of assets completed by 31/03/2017.

Items 4-7 have been concluded and will be covered in agenda item 6c and 6d.

4. Police Report

New divisional commander Paul Main had visited yesterday and met with various groups including the CC Chair.

Sgt Gow reported a quieter time in Winter.

Highlighted some examples of people helping themselves to bikes and not returning.

Ongoing issue with speedy motorists with a number of warnings issued. (30 -40).

- Neil Arthur – Asked if Police Station will be unmanned. The sergeant confirmed policy is Police are out of office. No change in manning. Phone 101 if Police needed in a non-emergency.
- Liz Evans – Speeding how often are smaller villages checked? Sgt confirmed all villages are checked on a regular basis.
- Peter McMullen – Is there a reduction due to pre warnings. No records of this were available.
- Sergeant Gow – Does not mind if people flashing. It is about education. We should be slowing down entering 30mph limit.
- Summer Police will arrive in May.

5. Correspondence

- Various messages covering information request for council and other services were handled.
- Advance note to introduce a sporting event “Ultra Marathon” trail running event scheduled for the 9th October. The organisers are at the start of their process and are available to meet with us 7th March at a time and venue to be agreed if we wish. ACC will meet with organiser on 7th March.
- Further contact from Charity event organiser planning a cycle run (NOT a race) with an estimated 45 - 50 entrants which will take place on the 29th March. Following a visit last week they propose pit stops in Blackwaterfoot at the Kinloch Hotel and in Lochranza (just in the car park beside the ferry terminal).
- Local Officer for the Scottish Health Council has asked if it would be possible to come along to a meeting and introduce the Scottish Health Council and Our Voice? Possibly May or June. Agreed
- Resident seeking info on Holy Isle wind farm and complaining that we have not responded to a message from his wife. Response sent to advise we had no outstanding messages.
- Message from EcoSavvy to announce the climate change funding for their project and the community land initiative and asking to come along to make a joint presentation to the CC. Neil – Suggested the groups have a drop in. Agreed – WC suggest they send a paper in.
- Message rcvd asking for info related to Woodland Burials possibly at the Community Land initiative site in Whiting Bay– Gus advised that there would be nothing to stop them but would be subject to many regulations. SEPA and NAC should be contacted.
- Scottish Council Elections Poster was presented and al asked to ensure that residents were registered to vote in advance of 4th May elections. Reminder to check if on Electoral Register.
- Pre event note from organisers of “Grinduro” event being planned for 14th – 16th July.
- Message received regards electrical safety form plug blanks and also highlighting risk of Hemlock.
- Note received from Patricia Gibson MP thank us for copy of minutes and offering her support if required on any appropriate issues.
- Various notes regarding Toilets. Message sent to Council Leader asking for a review of their decision given the changes in Government funding. Still awaiting final details for the villages who have indicated their agreement to adopt the premises. At Kilmory and Whiting Bay, Sannox awaiting confirmation of replacement facilities.
- Julie had raised a couple of items from her local village meeting which were forwarded to the appropriate NAC groups for response, decision. All covered.

5. Reports From Sub Committees

Elderly Forum:

Peter Randel had circulated his report.

- A well attended meeting with many of those coming to hear Andy Moynihan
- from trading standards talk on “Scams”.
- Jim Nichols (ACVS) in his report spoke of the cause and effect of government budget cuts which affected all across the boards of Health and Social Care.
- Arran medical group and social services were reviewing travel access problems.
- More integration by GP’s, Medical and Social Services – the emphasis being to keep people out of hospital.

- Recruiting ongoing for “Befrienders” to help with loneliness and isolation, with training to be held on Arran.
- Meetings being held to discuss transport to various clinics and hospitals on the mainland, including the effect should the ferry go to Troon.
- Bill gave updated figures from CalMac showing an 8.7% increase in passenger numbers.
- He also highlighted the Local Development Plan exhibition at the Ormidale pavilion on the 27th February 2017 from 11am until 4pm.
- Date of next meeting - Wednesday 15th March 2017

Ferries

- February Ferries Meeting report:
- January meeting minutes approved and available in Library and website.
- Report received from Transport Scotland on the impact of RET for Arran. Full report is available @ <http://www.transport.gov.scot/news/ferry-fares-scheme-booststourism-arran>
- The carrying figures for 2016 were released which showed increase for Passengers of 8.7%, Cars up 6.8%, coaches up 14% and HGV's up 17.2% possible as a result of the new terminal.
- Situation with Muti-journey tickets was discussed at length. No agreement to remove without full detail of process.
- Electronic ticketing is getting closer but still some work to be done before introduced on our route.
- New terminal is progressing well and the passenger access system is next to be delivered. Internal fitting out is also progressing well.
- The problems experienced by visitors left at Ardrossan on the Sunday prior to the meeting were raised and this was due to breakdown in communications with the operators providing the replacement bust service. A meeting was arranged to understand what could be changed to prevent further problems.
- Together with reps from the Ferry Committee and Arran Economic Group we met with the Transport Minister to discuss the Ardrossan Vs Troon options and put forward the case for Ardrossan. A decision is expected on this within the next few weeks.
- Audit Scotland are talking to the ferry committee in March to get some views on various aspects of Service, Vessels, Harbours, CalMac and Transport Scotland, RET and the latest CHFS contract.
- JL asked about problems on the admin side. Eg. Wait-listing on Computer system etc WC confirmed operator is trying to establish more accurate method when new booking system coming in. JL also highlighted major pot holes on entering the terminal.
- WC – attended last night's ABP meeting and made brochures available.

Digital Comms

Chris and Peter Mcm had circulated an outline covering possible digital communications opportunities we could consider.

- Website:
- Facebook presence
- Initiate personal CC emails to protect personal versions.

Non Digital Comms

Peter R and Marilyn met to discuss how we can begin to move forward with promoting the ACC and raising our profile through the use of non-digital communications.

SUGGESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY CCs

- An initial article in the Banner to launch Facebook, introduce new councillors and posts held by us all. NA asked is Banner a safer option than digital. BC suggested could also be an article on the website. Cllr Bruce – Suggested WC as Chair does 200 words to go to the Banner.
- Following on from this we suggest that we could all take a turn at writing a brief report after the monthly meeting to include a short piece on whatever topic we were involved in/interested in. We have already spoken to Hugh B about these proposals and he is willing to support us in principle and seemed amenable to the idea of a regular 'news' section each month. Peter suggested we ask the public what they know about us before we take further. It was agreed a regular article could go to the Banner. Rotation was discussed re: writing the article. NA did not support this.
- We are aware that a number of people don't know that they can attend meetings or generally don't think the CC has any relevance to them. With that in mind we are proposing to take the CC meetings to a different village, say twice a year. This has to be agreed at a later date
- A decision is needed on making individual contact details public.

7. Cllr Bruce's Report

- Arran Roads Programme 17/18 featured in physical end panel £554,500 capital expenditure. A841, C147 resurfacing and screening. NAC will arrange usual meetings when required.
- Housing Consultation 2017/22. 155 pages which concentrated on needs for affordable housing – online. BC will circulate link.
- LDP – Cllr Bruce queried if CC will be putting in a submission.
- Budget – Balanced budget needed. BC will provide link to papers.

8. A.O.C.B

- Verge Cutting Contract. Gus advised this has now been taken in house? First priority is Safety to Public but the flowers and hedgerows will be considered.
- Changeover of green from Arran Estates to local authority is progressing. Questions asked regards camping on the green particularly during events. Gus advised this needs to be considered but not comfortable with people camping on the green indiscriminately
- Jim Henderson – Needs to change the bank mandate for new officers and he may need everyone's details.
- Neil Arthur requested a confirmation that any CC member who has "declared an interest" in a planning application or is personally involved with the application is required to leave the meeting prior to any debate starting. This was confirmed as part of our procedures and it was also recorded that at the previous meeting one member had left the meeting in advance of any discussion on their application. It was also confirmed that the member was not informed of the outcome prior to publication on the NAC website which is consistent with procedures for all other applications.

9. Date of next meeting: 28th March at 6pm in Ormidale Pavilion.

No Planning matters were discussed.