

Arran Community Council

Meeting held on Tuesday 27th June 2017 at 6p.m.

Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick.

Present: Bill Calderwood (chair) Jim Henderson, Peter Randall, Pete McMullen, Marilyn Woods, Neil Arthur, Ricki McMaster, Julie Graham, Cllr Timothy Billings.

1. Welcome / Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Liz Evans, John Lamont, Barry Mochan, Sgt Gow and Gus McLeod. Confirmation was sought regards further apologies. It was confirmed that all received were recorded.

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 30th May 2017

Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting was proposed by Peter Randall and seconded by Peter McMullen.

3. Matters Arising.

3.1 Chris Attkins resignation: An advert will be placed regarding the vacancy in Brodick. As a matter of courtesy the chair will approach Colin McKenzie who was a former councillor for Brodick and had indicated an interest at the previous elections.

3.2 Secretary position: With approval of the meeting Jim Henderson volunteered to assist the chair until the AGM in September. This was agreed.

3.3 Minute secretary: The chair explained the position of Jim Nichols who will be retiring from his work with the ACVS on the 14th July. The chair will consult with Jim Nichols to determine his voluntary role as the minute secretary. Neil Arthur enquired what his future role will be with the health board etc. In the meantime until the Minute Secretary role is clarified the meeting proposed a shared basis until the AGM. Further discussion was raised regarding the use of facebook, the Chair advised that the ACC did not have a facebook account and warned about the requirements of using this media in the public domain. There were no volunteers to maintain the site and it was agreed to hold this for further discussion.

3.4 School speed signs- Gus McLeod advised the chair that some spare parts were now obtained and that the repairs to signs would be completed for the new term.

NAC had acknowledged the list of further road repairs as reported by the ACC members which would be considered subject to additional funding being obtained.

4. Police Report.

With the Sergeant's absence the chair reported that the recent events appeared to have caused no problems. However, local representatives on committee raised the point about advertising or warning notices not being removed after the event was completed. There was also criticism of the short notice for the ArranMan event. Chair advised that this point had been taken into account for future events, NAC are preparing a draft procedure which will require event authorization and there would be a review of arrangements inclusive of cover by the emergency services and community representatives.

Sgt had thanked the community for the support given in connection with the missing person search.

5. Correspondence.

- Message received from member of the public regarding the absence of trimming hedges and verges, who considered that road safety was being compromised. The local officer has advised that verge work was scheduled to take place soon and that safety issues were being handled as identified
- Civic trust note regarding the proposed new hotel in Brodick. Advised that the ACC could take no action until there was a planning application. However confirmed that the CC had written to the developers recording feedback from the public meeting.

- Grinduro event scheduled for 15th July mainly off road. Plans to use the Lamlash village green has been refused because it clashed with the annual village Heather Queen event.
- The volunteer awards scheme is expected to now be an annual event.
- Locality planning meeting will take place on the 6th July from 1100 hrs at the Ormidale Pavilion
- Latest news of Fish Farm in Lamlash Bay- ACC objection to the proposed size increase (depth) to be followed up by Jim Henderson.
- Post Office in Kildonan has been removed from the Hotel to village hall to be more central for the locals. Feedback was invited.

6. Treasurer's report.

To date Income £1.300.00, expenses paid out £365.45-balance in account £ 934.55.

Claim for travelling expenses to the ACC meetings should be lodged by the next meeting scheduled for July 25th, inclusive of the August meeting to allow the audit by NAC for the September AGM.

Members who were part of the ACC claims start from the September meeting 2016, new members from date of their first meeting.

Amendment to the ACC constitution will be on the agenda of the next meeting.

7. Sub-Committee reports.

- Toilets.** This began a rather long debate with members expressing their frustration at the process. The chair advised of the cabinet meeting and possible outcomes. An amendment is to be lodged tomorrow.
The Brodick facility is leased - not NAC property. Possible subject to approval of Arran estate that the public toilet facility will be de-commissioned and demolished. It was established that there is a complete change to funding sources to maintain a service. Some areas/communities have no financial assets or backing. There was a visit by officers from NAC today (27th May) who inspected all the facilities still to be re-opened. Neil Arthur expressing that as his area representative he had no knowledge of the visit to Blackwaterfoot. The group considering undertaking the operation of the facilities are a separate committee with no connection to the improvements group. The chair explained that this arrangement was organised all within the last 24 hours and the CC's part was in assisting transport.
- Ferries.** The annual AGM was held before the business meeting on 12.6.17 12 members of the public were present who raised a number of questions relating to health and safety of the public, terminal building and new vessel design. Normal business covered patient transport, summer schedule for 2018, timetable of new vessel due late summer of 2018.
- Elderly Forum.** Peter Randall reported that the main topic raised was the Public Toilets- the forum intend to lobby Holyrood in protest to the actions being taken and seek legislation for statutory provision of toilets. Next meeting scheduled for September.
- Forestry.** Machrie Improvement committee have researched and proposed an alternative route to extract the Island timber. R. McMaster proposed that until full information was available or planning application was submitted there was no value for the sub-group to discuss the proposal and Neil Arthur agreed and maintained that the FCS has a funding issue with their present plans at the proposed Machrie slip.

8. NAC Councilor's report.

Timothy Billings advised the meeting that the NAC were aware of the need to improve communications with the ACC.

They were working on a local plan to identify land available for building development.

On record the Arran High School was recognised as the 2nd best in North Ayrshire with academic achievements. However, this has created another statistic where the numbers going on to further education or apprenticeships is low compared with NA. Full details of this are to be found on the NAC web site meeting papers.

9. A.O.C.B.

Play parks- This again began a rather long debate with members expressing their objection to the process and lack of community consultation as previously indicated. The current situation on Arran covers 24 separate locations, of which 7 are to be deleted. They all involve regular inspections by competent engineers with a cost factor.

The NAC response details that local staff have no expertise or capacity. The swing seats of parks identified for removal will be removed within a week.

The Lamlash representative predicting that removal of the swings will cause a local protest as the swings they have identified for removal are well used and are in a good state of order.

This was also recorded from other areas. It was agreed that each CC representatives should engage with their community groups and seek alternative sites or proposals and feedback to the chair.

The next meeting of the ACC is scheduled for Tuesday 25th July.

Chair.....

Min. Secretary.....

Bill Calderwood

Jim Henderson