

Isle of Arran Community Council
Minutes
Meeting held 28th November 2017

Those present: Bill Calderwood (Chair), Jim Henderson, Neil Arthur, Peter McMullen, Liz Evans, Colin Mackenzie, Julie Graham, Peter Randell, Cllr Ellen McMaster, Marilyn Woods, Cllr Timothy Billings

Also present: Gus MacLeod NAC, Hugh Boag Arran Banner, Jim Nichols Minute Secretary and 2 members of the public.

1. Welcome / Apologies

Apologies: Ricky McMaster, John Lamont, Barry Mochan

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

31.10.2017 - proposed PR, seconded JH

3. Matters Arising:

Toilets

- Lamlash Improvements are now leasing the toilets from the Council, and are expected to be open in the Spring 2018. The longer term plan is to take over through Asset Transfer. Neil Arthur queried why Lamlash Improvements are arranging roof repairs in the interim as the property is leased from NAC. Cllr Billings advised that the work being undertaken is interim. Lamlash Improvements are applying to become a Charity and may then be able to apply for Charitable Grants.
- There was no further information in relation to Blackwaterfoot or Sannox.

Play Areas/Swings

- Liz Evans reported that Pirnmill are meeting tomorrow evening. It is known the Insurers of the Village Hall are not prepared to insure the swings.
- Cllr Billings reported that the process of asset transfer has commenced in relation to the Lamlash Swings.
- Gus MacLeod advised that NAC are assessing the works required at Corrie following the recent wind damage to the equipment at Corrie which is maintained by NAC.

Fish Farms

- 160 people had attended a number of meetings arranged by COAST held around the island and a summary of opinions is being collected for distribution.

Improved Access for Persons with Disabilities

- A note produced by Alistair Hendry had been circulated. Members reported discussions held to date with a few Improvements Committees, but further time is needed to carry out these discussions. Peter Randell advised that Whiting Bay Improvements had discussed the issue and were seeking more information. Alistair Hendry provided more information in relation to Glen Ashdale. Ricky McMaster had made initial approaches to the Forestry Commission. It was agreed to defer discussion on this topic to the January meeting of the CC. In advance of this CC members would progress and provide information to JH prior to the meeting.

Roads

- Notification had been circulated in respect of proposed repairs to be carried out in January/February.

Neil Arthur and Marilyn Woods had approached members of the community to get their views regarding work on the String.

Facebook had been used as part of this process and this media had given some concerns over the reach/coverage to individuals.

Feedback received to date has been that, in the main, Private Individuals have a preference for the work to be undertaken during the week, whilst Business Favour the work to be conducted at weekends to minimise disruption to their business.

Liz Evans said that a meeting to discuss this this matter would be held tomorrow at Pirnmill. No response has been received in respect of Whiting Bay. Jim Henderson reported that Lamplash have no preference.

The position was agreed that on balance it may be best to have the work done over the weekends.

Cllr Billings reinforced the preference of businesses for weekend closure.

The chair requested outstanding responses to be submitted by next night.

- Gus MacLeod advised that NAC are still awaiting a quotation to repair the mobile illuminated sign, which is currently out of commission.
- Cllr Billings reported that NAC will be providing 2 Grit Bins (Brodict Recycling Centre and Lamplash NAC Office) for the public to collect grit for use in their paths and driveways.

4. Police Report

- No attendance and no report had been received.
Julie Graham report the previous Sergeant had agreed re visit Lochranza at a future date the chair will follow up CC attendance with the Sergeant.
- Peter Randell enquired if the disabled bays outside Fiddlers had any legal standing.
Gus MacLeod advised it had been marked as a bay, but it has not been through the legal process to make it legally enforceable.

5. Correspondence

Correspondence received was noted as follows.

- A message from a resident in relation to the outlet for waste at the Distillery. The Chair reiterated the role of the Community Council in terms of consultation with residents in regard to Planning Applications.
- A message from an individual in regard to relocation to Arran and work projects. The secretary will respond.
- Pamphlet received relating to a funding fair. The Chair reported he had attended the event.
- 'Our Voice' Pamphlets had been distributed Julie Graham advised that, at Lochranza, consensus was that there were not many socially isolated individuals and take up of leaflets was not great.
- A note had been circulated relating to the Ross Road closures.
- A Participatory Budgeting opportunity for youth was noted. Deadline 1st December 2017.
- Neil Arthur clarified position on recent Glasgow Herald item attributed to him and advised he had received an apology from the Herald.

6. Report of Sub Committees

Ferries

Bill Calderwood reported information from the November Ferry Committee.

- i. Initial stage of "Print at Home" ticketing still being refined and developed prior to roll out on Arran Route. No date given for when this will be implemented.
- ii. Scope and tendering of new connected system is still being discussed with Transport Scotland and CalMac. MSP was asked to escalate the need for this to be progressed.
- iii. Major discussions around timetables for 2018/19 winter schedule which are required to be submitted by end Nov.

1. Ardrossan route expanded service will be negatively impacted by the news of the delay in the introduction of the new Glen Sannox. It was agreed to request as full a service as possible with early 07:00 sailings (Mon – Sat) and late return sailings from Brodick, Thur. Fri and Sat as a minimum with the retention of the 08:20 sailing on a Sunday.
 2. Lochranza route expansion was a longer discussion, with a proposal to operate two return journeys to Tarbert daily which had been developed in conjunction with the LCVA group unfortunately considered to be impractical due to the impact on the Portavadie service and particularly the school transport. It was agreed that the daily service needed to be developed and further data to be gathered to support a revised schedule which would run to Claonaig weather permitting but default to Tarbert.
 - iv. There was no notification of the subsequent delayed opening of the terminal which was announced several days later.
 - v. Response to questions from CC were provided after the meeting:
 1. Access in event of lift breakdown will be via car deck.
 2. Training of local personnel is under review with initial warranty covered by suppliers.
 3. Parking is also under review with revised procedures being considered.
 - vi. He had attended the launch of the Glen Sannox on the 21st November 2017.
- Colin Mackenzie reported he had attended a recent Patient Group mtg. where it had been stated that CalMac staff at the pier had not been consulted or directly involved in discussions re: Patient Transfer arrangement.
- Neil Arthur advised that the Health and Social Care Manager for Arran is now a member of the Ferry Committee.

Elderly Forum

A report from Peter Randell had been previously circulated, and is included below:

- A higher than average attendance were disappointed to hear that the speaker Margaret Broster from North Ayrshire Access Panel was unable to attend due to ill health. John MacDonald who was attending on behalf of NAC said he was the support officer to the panel gave a short but informative insight to the work of the panel. He stressed that unless authorities/businesses were aware of access problems they could take no action and encouraged members who found such problems to bring them to the attention of the relevant people.
- My Bus
At the last meeting there was some confusion over the use of My Bus, ACVS made available leaflets that gave full details of operating procedures.
- Community Council Report
The report indicated that it had been a relatively short meeting and that a member of the public (Alistair Hendry) had attended the meeting and asked for the council's support in his work in improving access to various parts of the island by the less able bodied. Chair of the community council gave a brief update of revised arrangements for the opening of the new ferry terminal on 27th November 2017.
- NAC Report - John MacDonald said there was little to add to what he had already said.
- ACVS Report - In their report they mentioned that
 - The Befriending service was going well. There had been some new volunteers and there was to be a recruitment drive in January
 - The Acorns were also going well – this where members of the younger generation were visiting elderly residents.
 - They were still waiting for feedback from the “What Matters to You” exercise that had taken place.
 - The “Lunch Club” at the Glen Estate were still in need of a volunteer chef.
 - Investigations on the portable hearing loop was still ongoing.
 - Funding cheques from NAC were to be dispatched in the near future,
 - Funding Fair – 20th November from 10am – Noon at Saltcoats.

- Under any other business the question of the problems associated with motorists parking on and therefore blocking pedestrian access along pavements was raised. It was accepted that this was an age old problem and as it was not illegal to park on pavements no further action to be taken apart from keeping an eye on the bill which apparently was still making its way through parliament.
- Chair reminded members of the annual lunch on the 7th February 2018 and to give thoughts to outings during 2018. She also reminded members there was no meeting in December and therefore the next meeting would be on the 17th January 2018.
- Bill Calderwood advised that a 3 month trial, concluding in January, is ongoing to improve the system of Medical Transport from Arran.

7. Councillors Report

- **Cllr Billings reported:**

- Lamlash Green - Major work has now finished at Lamlash Green. Snagging has still to be undertaken.
- Bus Timetable - Cllr had raised the issue of timetabling in respect of Sunday services and some inconsistent timings but has been advised the services cannot be improved due to lack of funding.
- Fair Trade - Cllr noted that Sainsburys had withdrawn from the Fair Trade initiative.
- War Memorials - Cllr requested feedback if there were issues with the condition of any war memorials on the island.
- Budget Consultation: Cllr spoke of the ongoing NAC Budget consultation, including the use of an online tool.

- **Cllr McMaster reported:**

- Remembrance Day: Cllr McMaster had attended, in company with Cllr Billings, the local Remembrance Day ceremonies.
- WASP Group: Cllr reported that a local group had been formed on Arran in respect of the lobby to revise State Pension for women.
- Arran Locality Partnership

The recent meeting takes place on 14th December 2017. The agenda includes Barbara Hasting from TSI North Ayrshire talking about Community Engagement and Inclusion.

There will be drop in sessions in the New Year in regards to Locality Partnership Engagement and the Community Investment Fund.

8. AOCB

- Cemetery Maintenance:

Issues relating to Cemetery Maintenance were raised.

- There were concerns regarding the wet condition and flooding at Shiskine.
- Gus MacLeod advised that the contractor would be returning to Lamlash Cemetery to finish the fencing. He further advised that any headstones found insecure or dangerous will be stickered or laid flat.

- CalMac Community Board Committee:

Bill Calderwood advised there are two Arran representatives on a new CalMac Community Board. Bill and Sheila Gilmore who attend as individuals and not as a result of their roles in other committees. There are 12 members in total representing destinations across the network, and the 1st meeting had been held recently.

Stated the new Community Board is additional to existing bodies, and does not replace the current Ferry Committees, User Groups etc already in place.

It was confirmed that minutes will be taken and published when approved.

9. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 30th January 2018. 6pm

Meeting Close – 7.30pm