

Isle of Arran Community Council
Minutes
Meeting held 24th April 2018

Those present: Bill Calderwood (Chair), Jim Henderson, Neil Arthur, Julie Graham, Peter Randell, Marilyn Woods, Richard McMaster, Cllr Billings

Also present: Sgt Douglas Robertson, Gus MacLeod NAC, Hugh Boag Arran Banner, Jim Nichols Minute Secretary and one member of the public.

1. Welcome / Apologies

Welcomed everyone for attending.

Apologies: Cllr Ellen McMaster, Liz Evans, John Lamont, Colin Mackenzie and Peter McMullen.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

Minutes of 27.03.2018

Proposed JG, seconded MW.

3. Matters Arising:

Toilets

Sannox now been commissioned.

As Village Associations now manage these, the matter is now a closed item on the Community Council

Electronic Noticeboard

Gus Macleod reported that NAC have now received a quotation for repair, and NAC will be paying the cost of repair.

Swingpark (Blackwaterfoot)

Neil Arthur queried the position of the slide, but Gus has no further information.

PR enquired about NAC's attitude towards consultation for the events. Gus responded that NAC would hold meetings on a as required basis.

GDPR

It was confirmed that updates have been received from ACVS.

Events

NAC had held a meeting, but the CC had not received the expected invitation to attend. Sgt Robertson confirmed that they were seeking as much advance notice from organisers as possible.

It was noted that, in terms of larger events, NHS facilities on the Island (eg hospital) are limited.

Display Flower Tubs

An application had been made for £600 match funding and Bill Calderwood had received verbal confirmation that this would be approved. The £1200 total amount is to support the purchase of bedding plants for 80 tubs within the villages. Bill received assurance from the CC's that the Village associations would pick up the flowers from Eleanors Florists in Brodick.

Roadworks

Marilyn asked why the section towards Kilpatrick had been repaired when other sections appeared in greater need. Gus explained that a different contractor had been available for the work. Screeding was going across the bridge and pot hole repairs were being carried out.

There had been a number of contacts relating to the notices of road closures of up to 1 hour as work in Lamlash is being undertaken. This was to avoid closure of 4 hours duration.

4. Police Report

No significant incidents to report.

Positive feedback had been received in relation to the recent Rat Race event, and there had been no incidents in the recent 10k event.

6 events planned for May were noted.

Summer recruitment of police has progressed well, and 4 police are being recruited and expected to be in post by the end of May.

5. Correspondence

A note of correspondence had been previously circulated.

WC reported:

- Message from residents in Lamlash concerned about a planning item. Jim has spoken to them and Jim, Peter will discuss.
- McMillan Information Bus will be in the Ormidale Car park on 31st Aug.
- NAC roads updates circulated
- Note from Focus Community Learning group to advise of consultation session to be confirmed.
- NAC have asked to attend CC meeting to "ensure your participation in the Community Council Forum". CC has replied to indicate that the timing and location of these meetings prevents this due to them being in the evening. CC had suggested that if they can give more details of what NAC require, it could perhaps arrange for a session in day time to save costs and save taking time at the CC business meeting. Further discussion will take place with NAC.
- Various messages/ calls related to capacity/ delays etc on ferry. Some of which were rail related.
- Messages had been received regarding misinterpretation of the current notice referring to revised timetables and a separate issue relating to the fault on Mezz deck which had restricted "unbooked" cars.

The Mezz deck was currently estimated to be resolved by the weekend on return of repaired equipment.

The re-timetabling will last until end of May assuming vessels are repaired and returned to service elsewhere on the network.

- It was noted that concession ticket holders now required to walk from office to kiosk and back to cars. Alternative arrangements will be sought through discussion with the Port Manager.

6. Reports from Sub Committees

a) Elderly Forum

PR reported that the main topic at the April meeting had been Roads, and attendees were not impressed by the lack of information in respect of when the roads would be closed.

b) Ferries

A note had been circulated outlining discussions held at the April Ferry Committee meeting.

Bill Calderwood reported on the progress made towards the new Calmac ticketing system. On-line ticketing is being scoped, and will be tendered. This process may possibly take 2 years.

Similarly, technical and practical reasons preclude the issuing of concession tickets at the same time as car tickets are purchased.

In relation to the request for extending services in the Winter, Calmac have not agreed to the proposal. Calmac are also not committed to responding to the likely timetable when the second ferry is introduced.

Richard McMaster sought clarification on the requirement to be at the gangway 10 minutes before departure, and cited an example when the gangway had been withdrawn before the 10 minutes. Bill requested information on the sailing so that an enquiry could be made.

Bill reported on the Calmac Communities Board meeting held that week.

Cllr Billings spoke of the perception in the Terminal that the toilets are only for the use of ferry travellers, and queried why tickets are taken at the top of the stairs rather than at the point of embarkation. This was preventing people going outside in the event of disruption.

7. NAC Councillors Report

Cllr Billings reported that the LDP Review of Planning Guidelines will be published next week. It was confirmed a drop-in session will be held in Brodick. The date will be confirmed.

A new policy is being implemented to build a small number of community led affordable housing for workers on Arran.

Cllr Billings and Cllr McMaster have been involved in discussions relating to the withdrawal of wardens in the sheltered housing complexes on Arran. An extension of 3 months has been made by NAC.

Cllr Billings reported on the Think about Plastic Group that has been established with the aim of reducing single use plastics on Arran. (See below)

8. AOCB

Bill reported he had attended a meeting relating to 'Sustainable Arran'.

The new group "Think about Plastic" had been established and wished to speak to the CC to explain their aims and also seek our support for them to gain accreditation from Surfers Against Sewage for a 'plastic free' coastline on Arran.

After discussion Marilyn Woods proposed that the group be requested to submit a report for consideration by the CC at the next meeting. This Proposal was seconded by Richard McMaster and agreed.

9. Date of Next Meeting

29th May 2018 6.00pm at Sports Pavilion, Brodick