

Isle of Arran Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held 29th January 2019

Present: Bill Calderwood (Chair), Neil Arthur, Julie Graham, Liz Evans, Jim Henderson , Peter McMullen, Marilyn Woods, Cllr Timothy Billings, Bob Haddow, John Lamont, Richard McMaster

Also present: Sgt Douglas Robertson, Jim Nichols - Minute Secretary and 6 members of the public

- **Welcome / Apologies**

The Chair wished everyone a happy New Year and thanked them for attending.

Apologies: Colin McKenzie, Frances Westwood, Gus Macleod, Hugh Boag, Brodie Pearcey

- **Minutes from Previous Meeting**

Minutes of 27th November 2018 had been previously circulated

Proposed JH, seconded LE

- **Matters Arising**

a. A response had been received from NAC to the CC letter regards their view of the future for CC's vs locality etc. There are no planned changes for either locality or CC's. They have offered to come to CC meetings and discuss. It was agreed this should be a separate daytime meeting.

b. The CC forum is scheduled for 23rd Jan. Limited agenda details had been provided: locality, Ayrshire CC conference and CC training would be included. Both are difficult for Arran CC to participate in.

No information relating to coms dial-in details.

4. **Police Report**

Sgt Robertson reported there had been 15 crimes but none were significant.

There had been a couple of instances of sheep worrying, which had resulted in the death of 2 sheep.

Sgt Robinson referred to the Police Scotland(PS) information on the PS website and stressed the importance of dogs being kept under control at all times.

Advertisements were out to attract police as summer secondees to the Island to cover May to October.

5. **Correspondence**

Bill Calderwood reported correspondence including:

Messages received via "Contact-us" –

- Message received enquiring about housing on Arran and application link. This was directed to NAC.
- Question re - Imacher. Quoted a ref no which apparently is an internal number and has not been published. No documents are recorded. The CC had informed the originator that it does not intend to discuss this until a formal application or more specific details are received.

It was confirmed that the Forestry Working Group was a sub-group of the CC, and included CCs where appropriate geographically. WC advised that when a Pre Planning Application or Planning Application is received, the CC will assist where they can.

- Ferry issues - 2 messages had been received asking the CC to arrange session for residents to address concerns of service, reliability and future developments for ferry. No firm date has been agreed yet but there had been general acceptance that next engagement relating to Ardrossan would allow a Q&A session.

Members of the public felt that the views of the Arran people may not be considered , and that a open community meeting should be held in the short term to allow residents to consider what they want from a lifeline ferry service. This would enable concerns to be raised with relevant parties.

Bill Calderwood gave assurance that the designs have not been finalised in relation to the Ardrossan development. He noted the points raised, reiterated that the CC had responded as part

of the process. Additionally there had been meetings with various people, including the Minister. Cllr Billings stated that there was a perception that consultation had not been handled well which had led to frustration about the process and a sense of lack of engagement.

Members of the public expressed a view that the system of engagement led to a feeling of no sense of inclusion of the community at any stage.

Bill Calderwood confirmed that the consultation process had not been decided but would possibly involve a presentation of the proposal utilising information boards recognising the comments received from the notes from the recent meetings to seek the views of users. His expectation was that the likely timescale would be at least 2 months.

He understood the frustration across the community given the protracted delays relating to the new ferry and the start of the Ardrossan port development. Meetings with responsible bodies will continue.

- A message had been received from Arran Civic Trust asking if the CC were interested in a joint letter re recent planning decisions etc. The CC had responded to let them know the CC was following a line of enquiry and would be in touch when the CC had more info. This had been followed up with MSP and response was awaited. WC confirmed that nothing had been received from NAC Planning in this regard.
- A message from local radio asking for contact re facebook article "Arran becoming first plastic free community" had been passed to TAP for their attention.

Other correspondence

- Notifications circulated covering PB sessions for Ground maintenance, Arran ideas, SFRS newsletters.
- Met mast West Kintyre.... No objections from CC members had been received.
- NAC budget engagement link had been circulated.
- Private development of forestry near Shiskine. No objections voiced in responses received.
- NHS opportunities note circulated.

6. Reports from Sub-Committees

6.1 Ferry Committee

The business meeting had covered updates on actions:

- Restrictions on the use of the Irish berth have been removed. Further work continues.
- A 2.4% fare increase starting with Summer timetable will apply to all fares.
- 2nd Jan - additional boat was assigned as requested by AFC and is confirmed as included in request for enhanced services in 2019/20 winter timetable.
- VRDP process is currently being reviewed and update based on 2018 sub set of data. Draft will be discussed with FC's prior to publishing towards end March.
- Various "incidents" were questioned and explanations had been provided and published in press.
- Actions from Ministerial meeting had been received and further details requested.
- Presentation provided by CalMac of their intention to apply "Terms and conditions" more consistently with respect to "no shows" for vehicle bookings. A £10 charge will apply. There will be no charge for sailing earlier than booked if capacity is available, but customers are recommended to ask the port staff to ensure they remove your name from the manifest.
- A procedure for returning vehicles following cancelled sailings had been drafted and Port managers have indicated willingness to trial when required. This relates to collecting a car from the car park and joining the ferry queue.
- Next Ardrossan Task Force meeting scheduled for Wed. 30th January in Glasgow.
- Next AFC meeting 11th February

6.2 CalMac Community Board:

Meeting held last week.

1. Various items were updated with Scot Gov't Ministers "demand management" news received via media discussed and CCB press statement issued.

6.3 Elderly Forum

The CC rep had been unable to attend due to other commitments. No actions from meeting had been communicated at this time.

6.3 Arran Economic Group

At a recent meeting the AEG summarised their various activities:

Housing - The ADT continues work to arrange feasibility studies on several sites and confirm funding. A further drop in session had been held re self-build and meetings with land owners were being arranged to collect details.

ADT Membership forms were available for residents who wish to be a part of the programme and be involved in the decision making. £10 initial membership and £1 annual fee. Form encl.

7. **NAC Councillors Report**

Cllr Billings reported:

- NAC Budget setting meeting is 28th February 2019.
- Drop-in sessions are being arranged in respect of the proposed Participatory Budgeting events.
- Recruitment of Social Care staff continues to be disappointing on Arran. Posts have been advertised in the Arran Banner.
NA queried if other accommodation options had been explored.

8. **NAC Local Managers Report**

No report.

NA raised concerns regarding gritting.

MW felt white-lining of the String Road was now crucial.

9. **AOCB**

- A planning application for a new Golf Course at Machrie had been announced.
- An operatic company had plans for an event in Whiting Bay.
- Proposal was made to have at least one parking area in front of Lamalsh Co-op identified for "Blue Badge" holders.

10. **Date of Next Meeting**

26th February 2019. 6pm
Ormidale Pavilion