

Isle of Arran Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held 25th February 2020

Present: Bill Calderwood (Chair), Jim Henderson, Liz Evans, Ricky McMaster, Frances Wheeler, Julie Graham, Peter McMullen, Neil Arthur, John Lamont, Aileen Balfour.

Also present: Sgt Douglas Robertson, Brodie Pierce, Hugh Boag - Arran Banner, Jim Nichols - Minute Secretary

1. **Welcome / Apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

Apologies Colin Mackenzie, Cllr Billings, Bob Haddow,

2. **Minutes from Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the January meeting had been previously circulated

Proposed Ricky McMaster Seconded Julie Graham

3. **Matters Arising**

3.1 McLaren Hotel – No further update had been received. John Lamont advised that he had been in contact with NAC Building Control and that they had been in touch with the owners. Building Control will check that the building is in lock fast condition when they next visit. Brodie Pearce advised that the building is not secure at the moment.

3.2 Brodick Nursery – The CC had attended the recent event, which had been subsequently been reported in the local Press.

4. **Police Report**

Sgt Robertson noted that 44 incidents including 7 crimes had been reported in the period. There were no significant trends.

The Police are now arranging for summer secondees and are awaiting the results of the ongoing recruitment.

Sgt. Robertson reported that a group has been set up to consider the helicopter landing site for the future. Peter McMullen is representing ACC on this group.

5. **Correspondence**

Bill Calderwood reported correspondence including:

Messages received via “Contact-us” and “other correspondence”–

- Inquiry re: Scottish Land commission asking about possible venues for meeting in early March. Hugh Boag advised that he believed the visit would be 5th March.
- Message from Fairlie CC highlighting Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park Forum. Not applicable to ACC
- Question of contact details to have old mattresses removed. This was referred to NAC.
- Copy of various road closures and restrictions. This included temporary restrictions on Machrie Moor Road
- Invite to event in Argyll re community benefit from expansion to wind farm. AC would participate in conf call.
- Message circulated covering National Planning Framework 4.
- Launch of Provosts recognition awards at Locality level....

6. **Reports from Sub Committees**

6a. Feedback from Ferry Committee

WC reported

- The last meeting had been postponed due to the weather and the unavailability of the invited guest.
- AFC continue to represent Arran views to operators as matters arise.
- New Facebook page is being used to inform community promptly.
- Positive news that funding has been approved to restore Gourrock linkspan later this year.
- Extra sailings to clear backlog approved.
- AFC submitted paper to RECC inquiry into FMEL situation.

Concern was expressed re the food laying open in the Coffee Cabin on Caledonian Isles.

Date of next meeting is scheduled for 9th March 2020

6b Feedback from Elderly Forum

- Feb meeting covered several topics common to CC. including the mess caused by the flailing.
- Concerns voiced about availability of drugs and information sought re: costs to provide a sniffer dog at Ardrossan.
- Road conditions near Kildonan. Compensation conditions for ferry interruptions.
- The forum received a presentation from Sandy Lammie on completing various claim forms assistance

Sgt Robertson spoke of the role of the Police in regard to drugs. He advised this was primarily enforcement. Recently he had meetings with AYF, ACVS, NHS and the Parent Committee. He emphasised the importance of intelligence from the community and mentioned how Crimestoppers might be used.

The use of dogs at the ports was discussed. This is under constant review and availability of resources, costs and risk is all balanced.

7. NAC Councillors report

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Billings. No report.

8. NAC Local Managers report

A list of issues and concerns had been forwarded to NAC in advance of the meeting as under:

- Can you provide timescale for repairs to bridge parapet at Birchburn which was damaged by NAC contractors carrying out work on pavements. This was a safety issue. Brodie could not advise when this work would be carried out.
- White lining at various locations. Need some indication of timing for the work to start. Particularly to address identified "safety" risk areas:
 - Safety and stop lettering at Birchburn bridge.
 - Same at Blackwaterfoot bridge both sides - adjacent to swing park
 - Various sections across the string missing.
- The issue of the damage caused by the flailing (vandalism) carried out on the string etc has been raised by other groups. A statement on why this happened and what and when corrective action will be carried out is requested. Brodie reported that Street Scene had been assisting in cutting back.
- Apparently there is a lot of rusting wire from gabion baskets that were washed out after storms last winter. These baskets are strewn along the beach just north of the breakwater at Pirnmill at the site of significant erosion which is awaiting repair. This has been raised previously and is obviously a safety risk. Can this be cleared up? The current position with regard to any remedial work is not known.
- A request for a pothole to be filled in just after the rocking stone going into Sannox. Brodie advised that 3 workmen have been patching potholes around the island.
- Some time ago the water board opened up a section of the main road just before the Lamlash Golf club to investigate a leak. Their work reinstating the road has failed and now presents quite a

depression, which is getting worse. Nearby is the water hydrant for the fire brigade etc. A long-standing problem, The previous Island Officer had been reminded of this before the road was resurfaced but nothing was done and the fault is now becoming a problem again.

- Various sections of road around Kildonan have been highlighted again for repair on safety issues with regular drivers taking to the middle of the road to avoid the damage and facing oncoming traffic. Major safety issue. Brodie reported that work had been undertaken, but John Lamont advised the repair had not lasted.
- Flooding and subsequent road damage at the front of Brodick. Are there plans to resolve the cause of the flooding? Brodie advised that measurements have been taken, as part of assessing the work required.
- The proposed roads plan does not include resurfacing of Brodick front. If this plan is for 3 years are there other opportunities to resurface this stretch of road which has an increasing number of potholes etc and must carry amongst the highest volumes?
- Update on actions to address the High Risk of contamination, safety and the potential loss of access to Fishermans Walk which is the lead into the Coastal Way- the Islands popular visitor route. Brodie reported an inspector had been over today to look at Fishermans Walk.
- John Lamont queried if Gabions can be used without rock armour.

Brodie advised that he could not give a timescale for the 20/21 Roads Programme yet. Patching of the roads was felt to be a better option than traffic lights or closing roads completely.

9, A.O.C.B
Nil

10. Next Meeting: 31st March 2020 at 6pm.