

**Isle of Arran Community Council**  
**Minutes of meeting held on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022**  
**Meeting held in the Otmidale Pavilion**

Present: B. Calderwood (Chair), P. Albrich (Sec), J. Graham (Trs), T. Young (minutes), R. Park, B. Haddow, P. McKinnon

Also Present: H. Boag (Arran Banner), S. Garraway, Dr J. Adam, Sgt. Blackley

Welcome/Apologies: J. Hunter, J. Nichols, Cllr T. Billings, R. Mills (NAC)

Declaration of interests: B. Haddow regarding item 7 (b)(i).

**1. Co-option of new members:**

Dr. John Adams standing as Pirnmill area member and Mr. Steve Garraway standing as Shiskine Valley member. Jointly proposed by B. Calderwood; Seconded by T. Young Motion carried.

**2. Minutes for 26<sup>th</sup> April,**

No changes requested

Proposed by J. Graham. Seconded by B. Haddow. Motion carried

**3. Matters arising from previous meeting minutes**

- a) B. Calderwood informed new members of the stated desire to see ACC meetings held across Arran. P. McKinnon was not present to provide information on availability of Corrie Hall. B. Calderwood asked for a written emailed response if possible.
- b) B. Calderwood reported that the S.S.E have advised that land side and road crossing work for replacement cable from Carradale has been completed.
- c) Arran Locality Partnership: B. Calderwood reported from correspondence received from NAC Director. It was confirmed that Cllr. T. Billings would be the Chair of the ALP and that the first session of the new term , including an ACC representative, was scheduled for the 16<sup>th</sup> June. B. Calderwood stated desire for ACC to be more involved in decision making processes of ALP and that agendas should they develop an appropriate 'bottom – up' approach. B. Calderwood has requested greater dialog and has the support of Cllr Billings in this matter; he expressed disappointed in the recent exchange between NAC and the ACC.

**4. Police Report:**

Sgt Blackley gave this report after item 7 on agenda due to a Mountain Rescue incident.

65 incidents reported to police since the last meeting. 50% up on April numbers. Generating 10 crime reports. 2 of which were DUI.

6 alleged DUIs in the last 6 months. Sgt, Blackley described this as a disappointing and concerning trend and generally among young male drivers. As a result there

would be an increase in stops after dark and drivers can expect an 3-4 minute delay to their journey due to this.

4 road accidents for May, no serious injuries.

NTS notified over paint markings on Goatfell from a race run by Highland Kings and after complaints and this was now being dealt with by NTS.

Historic Scotland notified over graffiti on Machrie Moor Standing Stones. They have advised of a planned site visit to this site and others around Arran.

A national gun amnesty campaign resulted in 3 guns being handed in; the ongoing promotion of Arran being a no cold calling island. Sgt advised there were still plenty of door stickers still available. The promotion of call blockers, intended for the most vulnerable have been successfully installed where requested and are still available. NAC are covering the cost of the equipment and yearly charge.

4 summer secondees started.

J. Graham thanked Sgt. Blackley for 'Sheep Worrying' notices that had been circulated in Lochranza.

## 5. NAC Report

In her absence R. Mills had supplied written report covering main points as follows:

- emphasised 'Report It' function on NAC website for road issues and
- advised that the 2022/23 Road programme would get underway in late summer though specific dates had still to come through.
- The new Jetpatcher was due and S. Garraway was concerned it would be used for whole road resurfacing; good for potholes, not for full resurfacing.
- Dates were given for Brodick flowerbeds to be planted.
- work in Lochranza and Whiting Bay on the sea walls is planned. A sink hole, initially reported on the local FB forum was also in hand.
- The reopening of the local office from 20<sup>th</sup> June between the hours of 9am – 1pm was welcomed

S. Garraway asked when Head of Roads was last over and B. Calderwood advised that no one has been for 30 months at least pre Covid; he noted the effectiveness and diligence of the local officers.

### a) May Correspondence: 'Contact us'

- (i) Note from Forestry: Core path at Merkland had been delayed due to weather. This was nearly complete.
- (ii) New Director of COAST had sent an introductory message to discuss organisational links. Meeting still to take place and B. Calderwood will advise them P. McKinnon is ACC marine ecology representative.
- (iii) Volunteer week (1<sup>st</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> June). R. Park advised that on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June ACVS will be in Cosy Room, Brodick Co. providing information on volunteering, meeting existing volunteers and opportunities currently available.

### b) Correspondence

- (i) Letter from MP regarding fuel: no action is being taken but will assist if prices have not settled down. T. Young expressed disappointment as MP seems to have misunderstood the issue, which is that the whole supply chain needs looked at regarding competitive pricing.

B. Haddow (Interest declared) proposed we follow up the extremely complex and publicly sensitive matter. B. Calderwood proposed we reply to MP and copy in CMA (governing body) Seconded by J. Graham. Motion Carried. T Young to compose letter which will be sent via ACC Secretary.

- (ii) Road work disruptions: various inc Cuddy Dook, Lamdash and Harbour Rd, Ardrossan.
- (iii) SFRS strategic plan has been circulated on the 19<sup>th</sup> May and a response is required before the end of June if we feel it necessary.

#### **6. Treasurer's Update:**

J. Graham advised figures for the month, including payments out and balances left. With new members present travel and other expenses guidance was given and the expenses form will be sent out. B. Calderwood briefly touched on ACC funding from NAC for the benefit of new members.

#### **7. Sub-Committee reports:**

- a) B. Calderwood went through the AFC report
  - All groups to confirm proposed representatives for following year and nominations to the current chair (I. Thomson) in advance of AGM. ACC agreed to confirm B. Calderwood will continue to represent ACC.
  - New terms and conditions proposed by CalMac were rejected by AFC with the AFC questioning the data and proposed CalMac collate data from new (delayed) Ar Turas booking system for 6 months before revising T&Cs. P. Albrich asked if the "No Show" figures were broken down into haulage and other vehicles and this was confirmed.
  - B. Haddow enquired about Ministerial involvement. B. Calderwood advised that the minister had participated in several calls and that Transport Scotland continue to challenge progress and seek extra tonnage wherever possible; any vessel considered and seek new initiatives to improve the resilience of the service.
  - Transport Minister had also attended the Ferries Community Board meeting to listen to views.
  - Data continues to be collected for to enable analysis of conditions at Brodick and preparation of a report for possible mitigation. Due later in 2022.
  - Discussions continue to understand the restrictions at Claonaig due to low tide. CMAL inspections have not highlighted obstructions. CalMac will review.
- b) ACC Grant: P. Albrich: Processes need finalised. Full ACC to ratify subcommittee proposals and plan to have an interim ACC meeting prior ASAP. Subcommittee seek to adapt to demand and improve service as we go.
- c) Website: R. Park : A twitter and Facebook account have been set up. Awaiting approval and launch. Process of posting tbc. No additional Website access yet, B. Calderwood / R. Park to arrange at earliest convenience.

#### **8. AOCB: none**

#### **9. Next meeting 28<sup>th</sup> June (AGM)**