

Isle of Arran Community Council
Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 26th July 2022
Meeting held in Ormidale Pavilion

Present: W. Calderwood (chair) J. Graham, P McKinnon, J Adam, T. Young, Cllr T. Billings, R. McMaster, S Garaway, J Hunter and R Haddow

Also present Sgt K Blakeley, Rosslyn Mills NAC, H. Boag Arran Banner and J. Nichols Minute Secretary.

1. The Chair welcomed all to this meeting

Apologies for absence were received from V. Park

The Chair reported with regret the resignation of P. Albrich from the Committee.

Declarations of interest – R. Haddow (Petrol Item and Brodick Pier Office),

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 28th June 2022

The minute of the meeting held on the 31st May 2022 was approved.

Proposed by J Graham and seconded by T. Young

3. Matters arising from the minute

3.1 Cost of fuel on Arran

Patricia Gibson MP has provided the following update re: fuel pricing:

‘Regarding you and the Community Council’s ongoing concern about fuel prices, you will undoubtedly be interested to note that the initial and urgent review by the CMA has found *“cause for concern in the growing gap between the price of crude oil when it enters refineries, and the wholesale price when it leaves refineries as petrol or diesel.”* The outcome of this review was sent to the UK government 7 July and has now been published in full. You can read its findings here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/review-finds-cause-for-concern-in-some-parts-of-road-fuel-market>

Further analysis of the relationship between wholesale and retail prices – including how rises and falls in wholesale prices are reflected at the pump – will now be carried out as part of the CMA’s market study.

I am sure many on Arran will be interested in the opportunity to feed into the Competitions and Markets Authority (CMA) invitation to comment on this issue. You can see how you may do so by clicking the link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/62c6f2c18fa8f54e86e2fc36/Invitation_to_Comment_.pdf

The deadline for commenting is 1st August 2022 and the background to this inquiry can be found by clicking the link:

<https://www.gov.uk/cma-cases/road-fuel-market-study>

Bob Haddow proposed that the CC should write to Mrs Gibson thanking her for responding to the CC letter. The Chair confirmed she had already been thanked.

3.2 Locality Partnership

A proposed workshop to discuss Arran Locality structure had to be rescheduled due to unavailability of Key NAC participants.

4. NAC Local officers report

Rosalyn Mills had provided a written report which is reproduced below.

Report It

<https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-road-fault.aspx>

As of the 1st April you can report any road faults via the council website. It is a very quick and effective way to have your concerns recorded. It will also show where others have reported faults too (hopefully cutting down on duplicates) Please continue to circulate this link.

Rosalyn confirmed that both tractor drivers who are involved with verges were incapacitated in recent weeks.

2022/23 Roads Programme

Final programme circulated today (copies provided at meeting). Full closures will be blue light access only

Avian Flu

Several deceased birds have been washed up on beaches across North Ayrshire, and it is suspected that they have been infected with Avian Flu. Our Streetscene and Waste Disposal services are currently working to remove the birds from the areas and safely arrange for disposal. As part of this process, they need to wear personal protective equipment, so please do not be alarmed if you see them while they are uplifting the birds.

Avian Flu poses a very low risk to humans; however, we would ask that you:

- Do not touch any dead or sick birds
- Keep children away from dead or sick birds
- Keep dogs on leads and other animals away from dead or sick , birds
- Avoid feeding wild birds, as this causes them to congregate and may encourage the spread of the disease
- Do not touch wild bird feathers or surfaces contaminated with wild bird droppings
- If you come in contact with wild birds, wash your hands and clean and disinfect your footwear

Please report sightings of dead birds to our Contact Centre on 01294 310000

If you come in contact with wild dead birds and develop flu like symptoms, then please contact your GP or NHS 111 and advise of the full circumstances.

Office duties

Our office reopened to the public on the 20th June, however due to high levels of staff absences with Covid we had to close our doors and they remain closed currently. Phones are now manned until 1645 each working day.

My final week with NAC

I finish with North Ayrshire Council on the 3rd of August, my last working day with be Friday 29th July. I am so grateful for the support and encouragement from the Community Council during my time on the island, I want to formally note my sincere thanks and appreciation.

The Chair thanked Rosalyn for the contribution she had made to the CC during her time on Arran and wished her well in her future endeavours.

5. Police Report

Sgt Blackley reported there had been 73 incidents relating to Arran recorded, resulting in 16 crime reports raised.

Of the 73 incidents, 7 related to Road Traffic Collisions although all were fairly minor with no serious injury.

Nothing to suggest any worrying trends from all the incidents reported.

In the light of an increase in speeding, more checks will be implemented.

Sgt Blakely issued a reminder to be vigilant to assist fraud prevention.

It was noted that Machrie Moor Standing Stones had been vandalised again. The decision had been taken not to close access to the public.

He confirmed that there will be some upgrade work to the Police office.

6. Correspondence

Contact us:

- a) Note received about “Illegal campers” at Fallen Rocks.
Rosalyn confirmed the people have now moved on, and the site has been cleared.
- b) Several comments had been submitted associated to large camper van which has been parked on front of Brodick. Question asked if it is right to allow vehicles this size to utilise several parking spaces on a prime location in the village.
Rosalyn confirmed the owner had been spoken to, and the vehicle will be moved to a car park off the Island.
- c) Community Survey on Tourism.

b) Correspondence:

- a) Various road closures notified for Lochranza, Pirnmill and Machrie.
- b) Revised date for CC chairs meeting indicated late August. To be held in person which will exclude Arran attendance. Possible hybrid arrangements being considered.
- c) ACVS updates available at: <https://www.arrancvs.org.uk/arran-update-bulletin/>
- d) Housing: Note received announcing: To let you know that North Ayrshire Council’s Housing Services are now holding a monthly surgery on the first Wednesday of

the month, the next meeting is 3rd August 2022 in Brodick Library's IT suite between 9am-1pm. (Subject to short notice delays and cancellations, due to the ferry).

In order to ensure confidentiality, this will be an appointment only surgery, where residents can discuss their housing options, and NAC tenants can discuss any tenancy related issues.

Note: This is not for accommodation providers but aimed at tenants.

- e) Several notes on conserving water.
- f) Notices circulated to alert to bird flu / Avian influenza outbreak.
- g) Arran Core path works update.
- h) Attended an initial meeting along with other groups to discuss opportunities to lease the old ferry terminal building. Have indicated that ACC have agreed non intention to apply but we will be interested to consider any community benefit application and support if appropriate.

Bob Haddow had declared an interest in this item, and stated that he was aware of a previously prepared plan for the whole of the Pier area.

The Chair reminded him that only the old pier office was included in the future use of the facilities.

7 Treasurers report

J Graham requested members to complete an Expenses Claim form prior to the end of August.

The AGM will be held in October.

8. Reports from Sub Committees

8.1 Ferry Committee

Bill Calderwood provided an update from Ferry Committee

- Tidal restrictions at Claonaig are being investigated and no obvious restrictions identified. Further work planned to reduce impacted sailings.
- Request to have kiosk open longer at Brodick to help reduce tail back of traffic. Relocation being progressed but general view is it won't resolve issue. Kiosk at Ardrossan also requested to be open longer or to operate double sided to again reduce risk when traffic is queued.
- Updates on proposed T&C's still to be finalised. Initial feedback suggests that proposal in full will not be introduced.
- Ardrossan infrastructure maintenance. Meeting ongoing and delivery of replacement fenders now expected in late August with install in September. AFC have negotiated 07:00 sailings where possible to provide
- Minutes from meeting with Minister drafted and awaiting agreement from TS etc.
- Report being finalised covering feedback on Ardrossan Landside consultation. Awaiting final NAC approvals and comms plan. Hope to release in next week or so.

- The Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee at the Scottish Parliament has launched an Inquiry into [A modern and sustainable ferry service for Scotland](#). Closing date of 26th August. AFC will respond.

8.2 Grant to Arran CC

Documents have been passed to SPR and NAC islands officer for review and feedback. SPR have confirmed receipt and have circulated internally for comment. Awaiting response from Islands officer.

8.3 Roads Meeting

Peter McKinnon reported on a Roads Webinar he had attended along with 7 others. A number of issues relating to Roads were discussed between Cllr Billings, CC Members and Peter McKinnon. It was agreed that Peter would discuss ideas for the future with Cllr Billings.

9. Elected Members Report

Cllr Billings spoke to a written report he had submitted in advance of the meeting. 'This month continued to be a busy although there were fewer council meetings during the month. Most of my work has been trying to help individuals with a variety of issues.

Two specific items I have been involved with are:

Planning Committee – on Wednesday 29th June North Ayrshire Council's Planning Committee (I am vice-chair of this committee) approved the construction of a new cable factory on the Hunterston site. The factory will make undersea electrical cables that will, amongst other things, be used to import solar energy.

Arran Locality Partnership and Island Plan Implementation – it was agreed at the last Arran LP meeting that there would be a workshop involving a range of stakeholders from across Arran. The purpose of the workshop is to agree the future shape of the Arran LP and the governance processes for the implementation of the Arran Island Plan. It was hoped to hold the workshop next week but unfortunately some of the key players were not available. Therefore, the meeting is being arranged for a later date as it is essential that representation is as wide as possible. This has taken longer than I would have liked but we do need to get this right rather than rush it through.

For information:

Short-term lets licensing – North Ayrshire Council is currently developing the procedures that will be used to licence short-term letting. There will be a report brought to the Licensing Committee meeting to be held on 17th August 2022, which will then go out to public consultation. There needs to be a finalised policy in place by 1st October 2022.

Ardrossan Harbour Consultation Report – I have been told that the report on the public consultation is due to be published this week.'

CLLr Billings also confirmed that there were no Pre-Planning discussions on-going in relation to the recent sale of a farm at Kings Cross.

10. AOCB

Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 30th August 2022 @ 6pm

Ormidale Pavilion