

Isle of Arran Community Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

Held at Ormidale Pavilion on 25th March 2014

Those present:

John Inglis (Chair), William Calderwood (Vice Chair), Jim Henderson, Barbara McNeice, Hazel Gardiner (Secretary), Brenda Stewart, Alan Stout, Richard McMaster, Colin McKenzie, Cllr John Bruce

Also present were: Sgt Alan Dodds (Police Scotland), Gus MacLeod (NAC), 3 Representatives of Brodick Improvements and Jim Nichols (minutes)

14/03/1 Apologies: John Lamont, Liz Evans

14/03/2 Minutes of meeting – 25th February 2013

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as a true record.

Proposed: Jim Henderson Seconded: Alan Stout

The minutes can be viewed at <http://www.arrancommunitycouncil.org.uk/records.php> following the meeting.

14/03/3 Matters Arising

14/03/3/1 Roads

John Inglis pointed out that the String road appears passable and it seems that nothing is being done, he also queried why the road still cannot be passed in the evening when the work is over.

Gus MacLeod explained that over 2,000 tons of material has been moved, there is a lot happening on the site. Programme was on or ahead of plan. He added that it is a construction site – Risk Assessment have identified that it is not possible to run through unescorted. Escorts are expensive.

William Calderwood stated that people were querying why it was being managed by operators using radio and not by convoy.

Gus MacLeod added that it is now escorted, as the radio control practice has ceased.

Alan Stout explained that there is recognition on why the closures are necessary during the day. The complaints are around why the road cannot be used at night. Comparisons drawn with the t'lights in use in Lamlash. The area on the String Road is wider than the area in Lamlash that was using traffic lights.

Gus MacLeod explained that a contractor is doing the work in Lamlash and is operating on a permit to work for a private individual. The String Road work is a construction site, NAC cannot accept responsibility for individuals going over at night.

Alan Stout stated that the emergency vehicles are going over at night.

Gus MacLeod explained that emergency vehicles are a manageable risk.

William Calderwood explained that there has been a request made to Craig Hatton to review the situation again and quoted his response.

Alan Stout added that the agreement seems to have been taken to accommodate businesses without taking into account the views of the community.

William Calderwood stated that a meeting had been held in November, but since then, meeting seems to only have been with focus groups and that at the last meeting with 5 Community Councillors we were simply told what was going to happen.

Barbara McNeice explained that Visit Arran were driving it with the business community. NAC consulted with Visit Arran and some businesses but not the residents or community.

14/03/3/2 School Curriculum

Acting head has provided note to say she has started parent discussions as proposed and she has met with one so far.

Recent parent's council meeting suggests a majority of parents are more understanding and accepting of the proposal. However this was not a unanimous view.

Contact has also been received from Kilwinning Community Council re. a similar issue.

14/03/3/3 Brodick Improvements Beach problems.

No updates or response from NAC have been received on the matters.

14/03/3/4 Short Term Parking at ferry terminal – Disabled

Two spaces are available and a notice will be erected to highlight.

14/03/3/5 LEADER

William Calderwood and Jim Nichols expressed concern re the draft document to be submitted to the Scottish Government. Note has been sent with suggested amendments.

14/03/3/6 Statistics

Concern was expressed that few statistics were available relating Tourist Information and Population Statistics.

It was agreed that there is a need to clarify the specific areas of interest and which statistics would be to be tracked and a working party would be established.

14/03/4 Police Report

Sgt Alan Dodds reported an incident of vandalism in Lamlash, and 2 complaints of speeding from Corrie and Whiting Bay. Speed checks are being carried out.

14/03/5 Correspondence

Invoices for settlement:

1). Insurance renewal has been received from Zurich, the same amount as last year. This was agreed for payment.

William Calderwood said that enquiries had been made with Ayrshire Resilience Team – their view is that the Community Council is covered by the NAC insurance when on official resilience matters.

2). Payment for website licence was agreed.

14/03/6 Arran Resilience Update

Hazel Gardiner gave an appraisal of the resilience meeting that had been held in Lamlash.

Brenda Stewart felt that an approach should be made to SSE to seek their assistance in lobbying for more mobile coverage.

14/03/7 Arran Ferry Committee

Jim Henderson tabled a note of the responses reviewed:

(see attached)

John Inglis stated that there seemed to be a contradiction between CalMac's position re Gourock as a port of refuge.

Hazel Gardiner felt that the concerns of the people on the Island and their experiences have not been addressed.

Community Council were requested to give comments back to Jim Henderson before the next meeting to enable him to respond to CalMac.

William Calderwood drew attention to suggested questions to be raised with Clydeport.

14/03/8 Cllr John Bruce's Report

Brodick Pier Development – NAC Cabinet recommendation is to provide capital funding for £1.2m to progress single phase development subject to council approval next week.

CMAL will agree to progress the project and application will be made to Coastal Communities Fund.

William Calderwood queried if Brodick Beach would be supported. Cllr Bruce reported that the beach is not owned by NAC. NAC - JB will ensure Brodick Improvements Committee meet with Environmental Services.

14/03/9 A.O.B

Brenda Stewart quoted a Herald article re. Radioactive waste proposed to be dumped in the Clyde.

Hazel Gardiner requested that the Community Council members bring any derelict building issues to the next meeting.

14/03/10 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be on the 29th of April at the Ormidale Pavilion at 6pm.