

Isle of Arran Community Council

MINUTES OF MEETING Held at Ormidale Pavilion on 26th January 2016

Those present: Ricky McMaster (Chair), Bill Calderwood (Secretary), Jim Henderson (Treasurer), Hazel Gardiner, John Lamont, Neil Arthur, Peter McMullen, Liz Evans, Marilyn Woods, Barry Mochan and Cllr John Bruce

Also present were, Jim Nichols, Arran Banner

16/01/1 Welcome / Apologies: Daniel Bowles, Colin Mackenzie, Sgt Dodds (Police), Gus MacLeod (NAC Local officer).

16/01/2 Presentation from Coast: Postponed due to unforeseen circumstances. Coast have gone to Scottish Parliament to lodge a protest re: the proposal from MSP to scrap the MPA's.
Coast have offered to make their presentation at a future meeting.

16/01/3 Minutes of 24th November Meeting –
Minutes had been reviewed electronically and proposed by Marilyn Woods, seconded Peter McMullen.

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

16/01/4 Matters Arising:

16/01/4/1 Roads:

Several updates received from NAC regarding road works and closures. All circulated and posted on CC website.

16/01/4/2 Replies sent to the following actions:

- Bus service for 323 service extension to take in Cladach. Due to practical issues regards space and timetable this is not viable.
- Community Maintenance of toilets. Response suggested that a similar scheme be considered to the Lamlash proposal where businesses make facilities available.
- Additional bus shelter in Brodick. No support and proximity to ferry terminal sited as arguments and no support recorded from other groups. We have indicated this has no significant community support and request is withdrawn.
- Montrose House neighbours' concerns. This has been responded to by NAC and neighbour will monitor progress.

16/01/4/3 Islands Bill: Response submitted as circulated and agreed. Confirmation received of receipt.

16/01/5 Police Report:

- No Report available.

16/01/6 Correspondence:

16/01/6/1 Acknowledgement received from MP for Minutes.

16/01/6/2 Several messages received regarding Kinneill Park and Holy Isles highlighting concerns related to NAC planning procedures. Message were circulated earlier with no comments received.

During discussion PMcM asked if consideration be given to including cc's email on NAC letters to individuals. This was not supported as the neighbour notification process encourages direct response and we are only one further response request with no additional powers. NAC process needs to be consistent across all CC's. It was noted that assertion had been made re: the ethics of the CC in the Press and with no evidence to support his position we cannot respond.

RMcM requested all CC's to continue to make discreet enquiries relating to neighbours views.

16/01/6/3 Environment meeting notes published to website.

16/01/6/4 Concerns received re: ongoing issues with rail staff challenging ferry users. Cllr Bruce raised the issue to SPT and a refresher programme for staff will be initiated. New supply of the cards for passengers to explain process have been received and distributed to CalMac ticket office, ACVS, Elderly Forum and various residents. Further stocks are available on request.

NA requested that cards be the same size as credit cards for storage. Cllr Bruce indicated size of proof was easier for people with eyesight difficulties.

16/01/6/5 Note circulated regarding alternative arrangements during Lamlash Co-Op closure.

16/01/6/6 Machrie Improvements groups quarterly Newsletter received and published on CC website.

16/01/6/7 Meeting with David Hogg re resilience activities and agreed to further discussion of how the group can involve the community groups more. Discussed the partnership working between CC and ACVS and agreed a further meeting to be held with Jim Nichols attending.

16/01/6/8 Note regards a CAB survey circulated to group.

16/01/6/9 RMcM has received a letter re H & S issues proposing that the new ferry terminal . . . The letter was available for further discussion if required.

16/01/7 Review of Community Councils Structure:

CC has until 8th February to respond. WC explained the current proposals which were agreed to be accepted.

Discussion took place regarding the timing of Community Council elections. It was noted that September was clear of Scottish MSP election.

16/01/7 Reports from Sub Committees.

ConnectArran project: NA gave a report of Connect Arran – In Shiskine 3 of 4 cabinets connected to fibre. HIE site has the ability to tell residents. David Hogg has a good network established through Connect Arran. A project is also underway relating to 3G and 4G network.

Ferries

WC had circulated a report and no adverse comments received, or questions raised.

A key issue at the recent Public Meeting was reliability of sailings.

RMcM is going to Oban to discuss with Calmac re: the issue of carriage of livestock. NA noted that Karen Yeomans (NAC) had implied at the Public Meeting that something may be done at Ardrossan which was encouraging news.

CC agreed that WC takes over FC role from JH. JH will be the deputy.

Forestry

ACC Chair declared an interest in relation to the wider programme as possible alternative sites being considered in the south of the island may involve his land.

NA explained there is a basic disagreement between Machrie residents and forestry as to how timber leaves Arran.

Standing timber Sales will commence from 1st April.

This will mean a switch from dealing with FC to new contracted arrangements. All forestry minutes are on the website. It was agreed that further discussion would take place on a later date.

16/01/9 Cllr Bruce's Report

- NAC Budget deliberations – 17th February is date for meeting to approve next year's budget. Looking for savings of £13.8m to balance the numbers.
- Civic Pride Awards
Nominations are invited, to be in before 28th.
- NUTS2
Council are supporting status quo. CC agrees position.
- Public toilets: Mechanical toilets are to be removed.
Cllr Bruce agreed to get a cost for Community Purchase of Whiting Bay Toilet.

16/01/10 AOB:

Treasurers Report: Members were asked to submit interim expense claims to help assess our budgets for this term.

16/01/11 Date of the next meeting: 23rd February 2016 @ 6.00pm.