

Isle of Arran Community Council
Minutes
Meeting held 26th July 2016

Those present: Ricky McMaster (Chair), Bill Calderwood (Vice Chair), Jim Henderson, Neil Arthur, Marilyn Woods, John Lamont, Peter McMullen, Daniel Bowles, Colin McKenzie, Barry Mochan, and PC Val Gray

Also in attendance: Jim Nichols and Hugh Boag.

1. Welcome / Apologies

Apologies: Liz Evans, Hazel Gardiner, Gus McLeod, Cllr John Bruce,

2. Minutes from Meeting 29th June 2016.

Proposed by John Lamont, seconded, Daniel Bowles.

3. Matters Arising:

- Public Toilet Facilities on Arran:

Held meeting with NAC and they confirmed they are preparing a status report for each location. I presented the questions we had prepared and they will work through them. Land will not be sold to communities but amenities will be leased long term. There may be small funds available to bring facilities up to spec before handover to communities who may be interested. Further meeting will be scheduled when info has been prepared. Propose we have a joint meeting with relevant village association reps when the picture is clearer. Discussions with NAC are also ongoing with other communities including Cumbrae. It was agreed the CC would be the single point of contact for the island at this initial stage and NAC will confirm who we should work with in their organisation.

4. Police Report

- PC Val – All going well. A couple of drink driving incidents. Police on Arran have a more reliable speed gun in use on Arran and all PCs are trained. Issue is also officers working on own (cannot enforce). One machine is in each car. Policy is to engage with people on a preventative measure. Police attend each Ferry.
- CC thanked Sgt Dodds for a helpful guidance note he had produced in response to CC questions.
- Other topics covered were:
 - Speeding. With the benefit of new equipment the local police have been monitoring several locations and have issued warnings to drivers who have been exceeding the limits. The distribution of these incidents shows an even split between residents and visitors.
 - Advised that 20's Plenty schemes are not being approved now for use in Scotland
 - They have also been checking noise levels from vehicles and again have issued tickets to owners. In response to question from JL PC Val – It is possible for an ASBO to be issued after complaints and evidence. Exhausts are tested as part of MOT.
 - The speed restriction sign at the entrance to Brodick from the Museum which was knocked down was requested to be replaced before the next term starts.
 - The situation at the bend in Lamlash near the Co-op was again highlighted as a major safety concern and it was asked if possible that NAC follow up on earlier discussions to mark the area with a warning.

- Cyclists' road manners were also identified as a safety concern for other road users. It was agreed that we should ask CalMac if they could consider including this item as part of the safety announcements on board.

5. Correspondence

- The situation regarding the emergency helicopter landing site is being followed up with all parties involved and various locations are under review for consideration.
- Acknowledgment from Patricia Gibson MP of copy minutes and offering assistance if required on any topic.
- Note circulated on Community Choices fund.
- Communication from NAC on review of CC's and elections was distributed to general list. Secretary has spoken with NAC to try to confirm the dates and it looks like elections will not take place until sometime in October/November. They plan some promotional activities to encourage participation and attract interest and then a second activity to explain the roles and responsibilities. We have asked if the existing CC's can be involved or made aware of anything in advance. It was also highlighted that August is our last scheduled meeting and we need to have dates etc confirmed before then to allow us to confirm our process if we are to remain in place until the elections take place.
- WC had also pointed out Arran is the only CC in North Ayrshire where villages are required to nominate people.

6. Reports

Ferry Committee

- Minutes from June were approved and will be posted on our website when signed.
- No further update on Ardrossan Harbour Task force.
- A discussion on the 2017 summer timetable proposed that we request a full two boat service for the duration of the schedule with each day having a full schedule as per current Mon –Wed.
- Working group presented some booking info which is being collected to help justify the requirement for extending the service time of the second boat and also expanding the weekend service.
Performance numbers were presented by CalMac and discussions covered the experiences where “full” sailings were travelling with spaces. This is being followed up by CalMac.
- The question of user representation was also raised and we are waiting for the new contract to be signed to enable us to hear what the operator has proposed to change.
- Pilot process for folks requiring access to lifts is working well and plans are for red cards to be displayed in windscreen rather than hazards. Trials of barcode readers at check in are also positive.
- Passenger numbers for the period from 25th March to 30th June showed that passenger numbers for the Ardrossan route versus same period last year were up +11%, Cars +9% and Coaches +20%. The Lochranza route showing 20% increase for passengers, 21% for cars, 23% for coaches.
- New terminal is progressing well and it is hoped that the new bus terminus will be introduced around the time of meeting. This will require revised passenger access to the ferries and various other pedestrian route amendments and everyone is asked to co-operate with the contractors and CalMac staff.
- Next Mtg will be held 8th Aug with the Sept scheduled for the 12th and no Meeting in October.
- NA from independent traveller problems are booking, ticketing and availability.
- Calmac are trialling a scanning system at the pier.
- NA believes there is no spare vessel currently in the CalMac fleet.

- WC requested examples where queuing problems @ Ardrossan with the coning at the Ardrossan kiosk.
- JL raised issue of Ferry Security and perhaps raise will the FC. WC will enquire.

Connect Arran

- 4G rollout still has made limited progress. Awaiting negotiations with operators to confirm who will sign up.
Crows-nest design proposed for Lamlash would not be suitable due to design limiting operators to one.

BT Broadband Roll out

- Problems still being encountered. The alternative Company has fitted equipment to houses, but to date have only 1 paying customer. Machrie, Shiskine, Kilpatrick area has approx. 500 houses in the catchment area.
JL highlighted issues in Whiting Bay where individuals have had faults with BT Phone and Broadband, and the problems encountered with trying to pass on reports of service issues.

Dog Fouling

- Street signs are up and leaflets distributed.

Environment

- R McM summarised the proposed Southend Land Management Proposal which has no adverse impact and it was agreed he would indicate our support at the next meeting of the panel.

Elderly Forum

- DB attended the recent EF meeting and report feedback related to the CCP Locality Partnership Planning Meeting and the strong feeling it was going to be a sham and not work from some individuals.

Camper Vans

- 2 Chem toilet disposal points on the island. WC believes that this part of the service may continue. R McM queried if the chemicals used in camper van toilets were compatible with septic tanks. Agreed to write to VisitArran expressing concern re: the problems of waste disposal and establish what information is out for visitors to Arran.

Also the Harris leaflet highlighted by MW will be drawn to the attention of NAC recycling.

9. AOB.

- Scottish Hydro
New leaflet publicising Power Cut number 105 circulated.
- Housing
Colin McKenzie reported of a recent meeting for housing services.
Meeting aims to support the development of the strategic housing investment plan.

10. Date of the next meeting 30th Aug 2016 @ 7.00pm.