

# Arran Community Council

Meeting Held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at 6pm.

Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick.

**Present:** Bill Calderwood (Chair), Peter Randall, Liz Evans, Julie Graham, Neil Arthur, Marilyn Woods, Ricky McMaster, John Lamont, Colin McKenzie, Peter McMullen, Gus Macleod (Local Officer), Cllr Tim Billings, Cllr Ellen McMaster. Sergeant Allen Gow (Police Scotland).

**1. Welcome:** The chairman welcomed all those attending including a welcome to Cllr. McMaster to her first meeting of the ACC. In the absence of a Minute secretary the Chairman asked for a volunteer to undertake the task.

**2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Jim Henderson and Barry Mochan.

**3. Minutes of the meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting was proposed by John Lamont and seconded by Peter Randall.

**4. Matters arising**

4.3 **Play areas** - Bill and Cllr Billings are to put further points about the programme of removal of some of these facilities. There has been concern about the way in which this has been handled and communications which could have been better handled. Some play areas which had not been part of the initial list for removal have subsequently had items earmarked for removal due to condition with no date provided for replacement. It was noted that not all sites appear to be inspected every week.

**Action:** Bill, Ricky, Barry and Cllr Billings

4.2 **Communications** - Ricky advised that the communications mast at Kilmory was now erected at height of 25 metres. This should provide a 4G signal soon. Revised planning app to be submitted with new height details to ensure transparency of build plan.

4.3 **Hedge and verge cutting** – Some discussion on this but it was agreed that a review would take place at the end of the season. This was the first year since NAC took the work back in house from a previous private contractor. There have clearly been some teething problems and machinery breakdowns. ACC have been assured that they will be consulted at the time of the review.

**5. Police report**

- a) The Highland Games had had presented to no real problems.
- b) A programme of vehicle speed testing had been carried out in the early mornings, lunch times and early evenings since the schools had returned.
- c) The vacant post of sergeant had been advertised and four candidates were being interviewed.
- d) On point (b) above Gus McLeod updated the meeting on the point that the lights at 20 mph limits at the schools had suffered some software and hardware faults but that a supplier had been found to resolve these issues and it was hoped that the lights would be fully operational within 14 days.
- e) Colin McKenzie raised the issue of parking on the road to Springbank, Brodick which he considered exacerbated the dangers on the bend at that location. This developed into a wider discussion about parking in several areas. CalMac had been asked if they could open the new parking area ahead of official opening and a response on this was awaited.

**Action:** Police to monitor any danger elsewhere.

## 6. Correspondence

- As above, several messages from various locations regards the verge cutting. Lack of and poor conditions. All are asked to highlight areas of concern to help build record for future review.
- Concerns raised regards road safety at hidden dip in the area of Knowe Farm entrance. Local office have asked for a review of signage. Action: Local office to respond to ACC on outcome.
- Confirmation received from Scottish Govt. to advise application to expand fish farm at Lamlash has been withdrawn.
- Various updates on planned road upgrades. Welcome addition of section on String.
- Comments from residents regards LDP2 call for sites. The sites listed are identified as an outcome from the call for sites in the previous consultation and have not been approved and are initially listed to allow feedback prior to review by NAC as next step in process.
- Notice circulated advising work to commence at Lamlash to repair and reinforce gabions at front of local green.

## 7. Sub Committee Reports

### a) **Locality Conference feedback**

Six Locality groups met for a full day discussing a range of topics specific to each locality. Key priority areas for Arran were listed as:

- i. Affordable Housing,
- ii. Social Isolation, and
- iii. Transport

Details of each locality can be found on North Ayrshire Council website:  
<http://www.northayrshire.community/>

This was followed by a local meeting including a cross section of the islands community and commercial representatives to discuss the NAC response to the Islands Bill. Follow up meetings will be scheduled for later in September.

### b) **Toilets**

- A summary of the status of the various community actions in respect of asset transfer was given and the progress achieved to date. Brodick and Lochranza now open. Leaving only three locations to be confirmed.
  - i. Blackwaterfoot waiting for info.
  - ii. Lamlash village meeting was very well attended by a very supportive audience. It is anticipated that the group will move to have their facilities opened up if agreement can be reached with NAC.
  - iii. Sannox still waiting confirmation of delivery and installation date for their facilities.

### c) **Ferries**

Bill gave an update on ferry matters, including ongoing discussions regarding time tabling for 2018 and the trial of a system to assist those with urgent medical need to get a vehicle place on the vessel, subject to an approval system currently under discussion between the island's medical services and CalMac. Other topics discussed included the connection times for rail and ferries which will be developed with partners.

### d) **Forestry**

A meeting of the Work Group had taken place on the 10<sup>th</sup> August and subsequently a planning application had been submitted by Forestry Commission Scotland for a slip and storage area at Machrie. In discussion it was believed that further documents were still to be received by NAC Planning in relation to this and because of this it was agreed that ACC should request an extension of time to accommodate their response which would allow the committee to review all responses from interested parties.

## 8 Councillor reports

- a) Cllr Tim Billings informed the meeting that since the last ACC meeting NAC had mostly been in recess but was now sitting and attending to the business in hand. The Cllr advised the meeting about a forthcoming event - the Community Land Initiative meeting – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September. He also advised that the three Ayrshire councils were considering a future merger to create a joint board relative to health and social care services.
- b) Cllr Ellen McMaster summarised her activities since her appointment to the Council and apprised members of the committees on which she would now sit in Irvine and on the island. These included Locality Planning Partnership; The Islands Bill, NAC Planning Committee; Arran Economic Group and the Arran Ferry Committee. She emphasised the importance of the CC being represented at the LPP mtgs.

John Lamont enquired of Councillors about any further action being considered to improve the recently opened Waste Disposal Site in Brodick. After some discussion, it was said that some changes were being considered and SEPA had been contacted. Neil Arthur greatly regretted that the design had not been the subject of consultation with the ACC prior to construction which would have resulted in a more user friendly and practical facility.

**Action:** Further updates to be requested from NAC on response from SEPA

## 9. A.O.C.B

**10.** Proposed date of the next meeting 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017. This meeting will be preceded by the AGM.

The meeting continued in closed session as usual to discuss planning matters.