

Isle of Arran Community Council
Minute of meeting held on Tuesday 28th November 2023
Held at Ormidale Sports Pavilion Brodick.

Present: W. Calderwood (chair) J. Henderson, J. Graham, T. Young, P. McKinnon, J. Adam, Sgt K. Blackley, R. Haddow and R. McMaster.

Also present 1 member of the public representing Ecco Savvy.

1. **The chair welcomed** all attending and opened the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from the following:

J. Nichols, S. Garraway, H. Underwood, H. Boag, Clr. Billings and Patricia Gibson.

There was no conflict of interest declared.

2. **The minute of the meeting** held on the 31st October was approved by T. Young and seconded by J. Graham after Tom raised a change regarding an action for ACC to write support for Sgt's proposals to help address backlog of traffic during ferry disruptions. Action is on AFC action list but after discussion it was proposed to write separate note of support.

3. **Matters arising from the minute-**

- Response to the above road works by the NAC senior manager in connection with general repairs and particularly the Pirnmill bridge.

Work to replace temporary parapet on the Pirnmill bridge will take place this week. Disputed the negative comment on the impact of the community. Highlighted the problems experienced with managing works at times of ferry disruptions and material supply. Assuring that the Roads Services is acutely aware of the management problems working on Arran. The Pirnmill works has been going on for over a year, with the latest response only received on the 27th November. J. Adam representing the Pirnmill community expressed disappointment at the tone of the response.

- Bank of Scotland update. The agents simply confirmed that the proposed closure of the Brodick branch would take place on the 31st January 2024. There will be a community bank service in place before the closure takes place, but to date no venue has been confirmed. They have also been consulting the Post Office banking team on a regular basis, looking for interested parties to run a post office service in Brodick. The meeting again voicing the future concern relating to access for change, renewal of car licences and ferry concessions, as the Brodick Post Office was the only available unit for such services.

4. **Police report update.**

- Since the date of the last meeting there have been 52 recorded police incidents, resulting in 5 crimes.

2 related to RTCs – 1 resulted in a serious injury but not life threatening.

Of the 5 crimes recorded:

- 1 relates to sheep worrying.
- 1 relates to fraud- the caller claiming to be a bank employee.
- 1 relates to the alleged possession of a controlled drug.
- 1 relates to driving with no insurance.

- The Sgt offering advice for victims of fraud to make use of the phone number on the reverse of their bank card.

Nothing to suggest any worrying trends from all the incidents reported but a timely reminder in the run up to Christmas to be vigilant of online/telephone scams.

Monthly activities and other information.

- A relatively quiet month in relation to reported incidents and crime.

- Met with NAC's Road Safety Officer earlier in the month and we hope to have an experienced driver event some time next year, which will include other organisations offering advice, support, CPR inputs and the offer of assessed drives.

- Note: The QR code advertised in last months minute takes you to an anonymous short survey where participants are able to make comment on what your local police could be doing better, what they are doing well and gives you the opportunity to give feedback and help shape the future of local policing in Ayrshire, and Arran in particular.

As always, if there are any concerns which anyone wishes to raise directly with myself then please feel free to do so at any time by calling or dropping in at Lamlash Police Station. All information will be treated in the strictest of confidence and any anonymous information can also be submitted via the 'Crimestoppers' website or freephone number 0800 555 111.

It was also noted that Road Safety Procedures were not just the use of speed guns or vehicle checks. This opened a debate about the number of speed signs, which are no longer operating and the 20 MPH signs at schools. Regarding areas designated with 20 MPH it was advised that such restrictions may also require street lighting.

5. NAC Local Officers report on roads.

- a) In connection to concerns around delays to holes from work carried out by BT, Water and other carrying out work on behalf of third parties, the square reinstatements are from work undertaken by Broadway Partners. Excavation was required when they could not pull cables through existing ducting. They used a number of different civil contractors during the period that the works were being undertaken. NAC are aware that some of the reinstatements are failing and have submitted defect reports through our utility system. Once a defect has been logged we are promoted to provide updates through the system and are continuing to do this. In two locations where defects have become unsafe, we have also undertaken some rechargeable remedial works, but the onus is on Broadway Partners to arrange permanent repairs.
- b) Temporary traffic signals have been installed on the string road, following the subsidence of the adjacent verge. The lights will remain in place until the remedial works are undertaken. Remedial works are being organised by our colleagues on the mainland, the design has finalised and the works are out to tender.
- c) Pirnmill- we have asked for an update and have been advised the contractor will be on the island this week to complete the parapet works. (See separate note above.)
- d) String Road- the road is formally inspected on a monthly basis and defects at our intervention level added to our reactive maintenance programme for repair. We would also encourage people to use the online fault reporting system to notify us of any defects. We currently have remedial works to repair in this section of our programme.
- e) Radar- data from the Corrie area, 6th to 11th November 2.335 vehicles recorded with 6% being over 6M in length. 61% travelling under the 30 mph, an average speed of 28 mph.

6. Correspondence

- Message received requesting information on affordable housing on Arran. Directed to ADT website.
- Work due to start on the Cloy burn by the flooding team.
- The National Library of Scotland would like to provide public access to archived copies of the following web site- Arran Community Council- the ACC meeting was requested to raise any concerns or objection- None were raised.
- Patricia Gibson MP has advised that she has written to NAC regarding the care and maintenance of War Memorials. This has been raised previously by constituents and the Brodick Improvement Committee have also noted the condition of the lettering. The Chair explaining that it was not a simple procedure and may have to involve an expert.

- Meeting with Transport Scotland and the CHFS3, which was publicised. The meeting was held in the Ormidale Pavilion attracted several people from all parts of the Island, including a few of the ACC. Overall the impression of event was poor and similar reports are being received from other areas.
- NAC- the 2024/25 budget challenge was issued, to date the number of responses has been limited.
- Arran Locality meeting online takes place tomorrow, minutes of previous meetings available on the NAC website.

7. Treasurers report.

- Admin account balance at 28.11 23 is £1200. The ACC grant for travelling expenses has been made up to the full total, complete with 2 credits being paid on the 2nd and 6th November.
Project account- there has been no transactions in 2023, balance remains at £171.08p
Scottish Power Renewables Grant
There are no transactions outstanding, current balance of account at £32,820.46.
Treasurer will show “ring fenced” funding and net balance for future.
T. Young requested an explanation of the project account. The Chair responding by giving a clear account of the history of this money, which is rightfully part of the ACC with no ties to the NAC. Funded by a donation several years ago.

8. Sub-committee reports.

a) Ferries-

- Full turnout of members and supported by senior management of CalMac, CMAL and Transport Scotland. Main topic was the winter resilience for the service and Ardrossan ‘Fit for purpose’ issues.
- Craig Hatton NAC CEO was co-opted onto the Arran Ferry Committee to help inform the council directly of discussions and to provide a direct input to the requests being made by the FC to officials.
- AFC had facilitated a prior meeting with PPG and key partners to establish status and initiate contingency opportunities for Ardrossan.
- Reasons for the cancellation of the 0700 sailing was covered and alternatives are being reviewed.
- Troon readiness in case of infrastructure failures at Ardrossan were discussed and port will shortly be service ready.
- Further analysis of Ardrossan and further discussions on Troon readiness are planned.
- Schedule published for the C. Isles annual service period 3rd January until the 24th with the Isle of Arran and Hebrides operating a 2 boat service.
- Discussion of additional services at Lochranza and also future actions to minimise tidal disruptions for next year.
- Initial wave analysis report for Brodick has been provided to CMAL, who will review and summarise.

Further information contained the following-

Work being carried out at Troon involved a building warrant for the erection of a waiting room.

CalMac & Transport Scotland are reviewing the contract and vessel availability for improvements on the Lochranza service including a survey of an extension to the slipway. The summer timetable for 2024 is being planned on existing vessel availability. This may be revised subject to the timing of the Ardrossan work and arrival of the Glen Sannox. The task force meeting has been suspended until January/February.

R. Haddow declared an interest and introduced rumours that the Glen Sannox may be re-deployed to another area. Also, media reports and Scottish Alba on the TV causing further confusion. Chair responded that the ACC cannot deal with unsubstantiated rumours and declared that the SG budget was in place. It was also confirmed that there are 4 ferries were being constructed in Turkey.

b) Health and Social care:

Julie provided a detailed report of a recent meeting which is summarised as:

Arran Integrated Services Meeting held on the 22nd November 2023 via teams for duration of 3 hours.

SCIM (Scottish Capital Investment Manual) design statement.

The meeting was multidisciplinary to discuss new building designs on Arran, based on the evaluation of existing buildings at a meeting held on the 18th October 2023.

The system used was MIRO, an online workspace for innovation that enables teams of any size to have visual templates. This allowed for a wide and diverse collection of pictures that we could all see and add a green dot if liked or a red one for the disliked. Time was given to consult each section and then discussed the building design that was favourably agreed by the group.

There will be further meetings and consultations to take place and to date no site has been established as a suitable venue. The meeting expressing that whatever site is agreed it had to be serviced by or on the bus route.

c) Arran Housing Task force.

The next meeting is scheduled for the 12th December.

d) ACC / SPR Grants scheme.

Several groups have provided feedback to the secretary, including the provision of invoices. To date they are the Shiskine Primary, Brass Band and Whiting Bay Memories. Bike club have also had interest from SPR.

9. NAC Councillors report.

- Arran Island Plan:- following the workshops held this month the Steering Group is now working on bringing together all the outputs. The aim is to present all the information about priorities, work streams, activities, and achievements into one integrated online format. This will enable anybody to easily see what is happening, who is doing it and how they can get involved.
- Arran Housing Task Force:- The draft survey report is due to be presented to the group in December. In the meantime, there have been discussions about how to finance new affordable housing and the cost of providing housing on Arran.
- Local Development Plan:- NAC has set out the timetable for the review of the Local Development Plan. This will take until 2026 to complete. The current phase is to gather evidence about communities need in planning terms going forward. There will be further consultation on this over the coming months, but in the meantime 'Your place survey is still open'

10. A.O.C.B

No other business was raised by the meeting.

11. Date of the next meeting, Tuesday 30th January 2024

Meeting closed at 1950 hrs.