

Isle of Arran Community Council

Minute of Isle of Arran Community Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 24th November 2009 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick

Those present were:

Campbell Laing Chair, Alison Prince , Secretary, Harry Davidson , Treasurer,
John Inglis , Willie Kelso , Jenny Meade, Brenda Stewart , Richard McMaster , Ian Small ,
Howard Driver ,

Sgt R. MacKay Strathclyde Police, PC Alec Ulivi (Part meeting)

Also in attendance Jim Nichols (ACVS)

Apologies for absence

Charles Currie, Gillean Langley , Cllr Margie Currie ,

Declaration of Interest

Nil

1. **Minutes of Meeting held Tuesday 27th October 2009**, were approved

Proposed Richard McMaster, Seconded Harry Davidson

2. **Matters arising**

2.1 **Scottish Government/Arran Community Council (ACC) Pilot Scheme**

It was reported that the application was now being dealt with through the SRDP process.

2.2 **Roads**

The concerns relating to the positioning of the pedestrian crossing have been reported, and the crossing nearest the pier will be relocated.

2.3 **Meeting with Chief Superintendent Fitzpatrick**

No further response had been received.

3. **Police matters**

Sgt MacKay spoke of a recent spate of break-ins on the west side of the Island. Investigations were continuing, but he requested that anything that appeared suspicious be reported to the Police.

Richard McMaster reported that spotlights at a site in Whiting Bay were shining onto the road, and that there might be a chance of traffic being temporarily blinded, putting walkers at risk.

4. **Correspondence**

Correspondence was reported as under:

4.1. **Cours Wind Farm**

A letter advising of a public exhibition to be held in Tarbert Village Hall on 7th December 2009.

4.2 **Airtricity**

Cllr Currie reported Arran has been allocated £2000 from Airtricity Wind Farm, for use on community projects related to the environment.

4.4 **Expenses**

Harry Davidson reported that he had written to NAC requesting a higher expenses payment for the Community Council.

4.5 Montrose House

Kenneth Gibson had written to Bernadette Docherty concerning Montrose House refurbishment. The reply was NOTED.

5. Housing

5.1 Forestry Feasibility Study

John Inglis reported that a further meeting of the Steering Group for the study concerning the potential for Affordable Housing on Forestry Commission Land had taken place on 10th November 2009. The draft final report from the consultant was discussed.

The report covered a potential 7 sites, with a mix of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom houses. Some might be for affordable housing, and some for forest croft style developments.

There was concern that the lowest cost property might be £164000.

Further related issues were discussed relating to environmental considerations, and how costing of possible solutions had been carried out.

5.2 Sale of School Houses

Concern was expressed regarding the plan to sell off former school houses. It was known that several vacancies exist, and there was potentially a problem of housing for new appointees. John Inglis suggested that the rules on 'standards of housing' (which were believed in part to be behind the reason to sell off the properties) should be relaxed. He felt ownership should be transferred to Isle of Arran Homes. Campbell Laing believed that any contract should be on a tied basis, to ensure the properties remained available for education.

It was AGREED that a letter be sent to NAC Education Department, requesting that the properties should be maintained in the education system for teachers employed on the Island, for the duration of their contract of employment.

5.3 Allocation of loArran Homes Houses

Issues relating to recent allocations were discussed. A letter had been sent to loArran Homes, and their response was read out.

It was AGREED that the Secretary would write again to loArran Homes.

5.4 Bank Building – Lamlash

Brenda Stewart reported a new contact address in relation to the Bank. The Chair emphasised the need to go to NAC again if a reply is not received.

6. Planning

In the absence of Charles Currie, the following were noted;

- The Septic tank for the new development in Corrie had been approved, despite objections raised by Arran CC.
- Concern was expressed concerning the height (including plinth) of a proposed monument to be erected in Glen Scorrodale. It was AGREED CC would obtain a location plan.
- It was reported that consideration is being given to an application for 'end-of-life' recycling site for vehicles, in Market Road, Brodick.

The Chair reminded ACC of the need to route all responses to NAC through Charles Currie, and not to send them direct.

7. AOCB

- Ian Small reported that an NAC officer had removed his road campaign sign well in advance of the 28 days he had been given to remove it. He has now requested NAC to put their own sign up.
- It was AGREED that a letter be sent to the manufacturer of the Jetpatcher, to advise the company that the use of the machine on Arran is such that their product is held to ridicule.
- Harry Davidson reported on a meeting he had attended to progress a feasibility study grant application in respect of the Brodick to Corrie Multi User Track that has been under discussion for several years.
- Contact has been re-established with the ArranCC website designer, and an offer of additional free support has been received.
- 2 Applications have been received in respect of the vacant position of a Community Councillor for Whiting Bay. An election will be held.
- Campbell Laing reported his attendance at a conference in Edinburgh, where Community Councils were asked to support the present Scottish Government's proposals for a minimum price for alcohol.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 26th January 2010, at 7.30 pm in Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick.