

Isle of Arran Community Council

MINUTES

of meeting held at the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, July 26th 2011

Those present:

John Inglis, Chair, Harry Davidson, Treasurer, Alison Prince, Secretary, Jim Henderson, Charles Currie, Willie Kelso, Brenda Stewart, Steph Hill, William Calderwood and Ian Small

Also present were Kenneth Gibson MSP, Sgt Bob Mackay, Jim Nichols- Arran CVS, Jenny Lyons - Arran Banner, and 4 members of the public.

Apologies

Liz Evans, Richard McMaster, Cllr Margie Currie and Gus Macleod.

11/7/1 Minutes of last meeting June 28th 2011:

Richard McMaster was apologies for absence at the meeting.

In relation to 11/6/2/4 (Proposed housing development – Lamlash), Brenda Stewart had added that she was concerned regarding access through Park Terrace, which gets heavily congested on occasion.

With these amendments, the Minutes were adopted.

Proposed Harry Davidson Seconded William Calderwood

11/7/2 Matters arising

- 11/7/2/1 No response had been received in respect of the specific planning issue in respect of a small site in Brodick.
- 11/7/2/2 Charles Currie wished to disassociate himself from the letter sent to Kenneth Gibson MSP regarding the Ferry Committee.
- 11/7/2/3 Brodick Fair. The owner of the small fairground currently in Brodick enquired if there had been any problems reported to the CC. It was confirmed that no problems or issues had been notified. He distributed contact details for himself, and retired from the meeting. The Chair thanked him for taking time to come to the meeting.

11/7/3 Police matters

Sgt Mackay had no major issues to raise.

It was reported that mounted police would be present on the Island for the Agricultural Show.

Sgt Mackay was congratulated for his recent attendance at a Royal Garden Party.

11/7/4 Correspondence

- 11/7/4/1 A letter had been received from Arran Sports Association thanking the CC for the Scottish Government grant funding of £15000.
- 11/7/4/2 Licence applications in respect of Marriots and Bilslands were noted. The CC had no objections.
- 11/7/4/3 Charles Currie and Willie Kelso had received correspondence in respect of the siting of dog bins at Shiskine. A member of the public had also written to request re-siting. It was agreed a letter would be sent to Angus Bodie in this regard.

11/7/5 Transport

The issue of release of the minutes of the Ferry Committee was raised again. The CC were of the view that it was essential for the minutes to be made public following their adoption. Kenneth Gibson agreed to ensure the approved minutes were circulated.

With regard to RET, Kenneth Gibson spoke of how Island businesses might benefit through tourists being able to get to Arran cheaper. He agreed to send the CC copies of the assessment of RET when the current study is completed.

Alison Prince voiced concerns relating the ability of the road infrastructure to support more vehicles.

Charles Currie felt that any delay on introduction would have a bad effect on the hotel trade.

John Inglis wished to see more people travel to the Island on foot.

With regard to cyclists, Willie Kelso undertook to raise the possibility of a contribution from cyclists with the Ferry Committee.

It was agreed to place the introduction of RET on the agenda of the CC in August.

Kenneth Gibson advised that the Ferry Committee were seeking to include other transport in their discussions. (Bus and Rail). John Inglis noted that there would be the need for even greater transparency for the ferry Committee in future if this came about.

11/7/6 Roads

The Chair spoke of the need to produce a list of outstanding issues that require resolution with NAC. It was agreed that the following 3 issues would be reported in the first letter to NAC this month:

- The pothole repair system used by NAC
- Sand traps at Corrie and Shiskine
- Condition of road edging around the Island

1. The pothole repair system used by NAC

Ian Small outlined his perception of the current NAC system, which he felt involved a person inspecting, production of a list of work required with locations, allocation to teams, resulting in a loaded lorry dispatched to carry out the work. He believed each pothole cost circa £95 to repair.

He suggested that a more cost effective method would be to dispatch a lorry to operate on a find and fix basis.

2. Corrie and Shiskine

2 sand traps had been installed.

The Corrie road had been re-tarred less than 12 months ago, but was now breaking up. This has been sealed with a 'non-slip' surface applied, at a cost of £380000.

John Inglis stated that NAC had not been in touch with either village prior to the work.

Within hours of the Shiskine work being completed, a builder's digger had dug up the road laterally.

3. Condition of road edging

Around the Island the edges of the road are breaking away. The only way for cyclists and motorists to avoid this is to drive in the middle of the road.

It was felt that NAC would handle repairs using the Jetpatcher or trencher. The CC believed that core filling under the road would be the appropriate solution.

John Inglis stated that we should deal with these issues through Angus Bodie by correspondence.

It was agreed that Ian Small would provide details to Alison Prince for an appropriate letter to be sent.

Kenneth Gibson suggested Angus Bodie be invited to the next meeting of the CC. He added that he was meeting the NAC Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council later in the week.

Charles Currie expressed concern regarding the apparent NAC attitude to Arran CC. He felt it was one of intransigence and contempt, and that Council officials should take cognisance of the CC.

11/7/7 Contribution to Local Development Plan

The CC response relating to issues inapplicable to the LDP had been sent to NAC, and a letter of acknowledgement had been received.

11/7/9 Public Toilets

It was reported that the public toilets in Lamlash had been closed by NAC, following vandalism.

Alison Prince felt that costings may reveal that it would be more cost effective in the long term to employ an attendant.

It was agreed that Brenda Stewart would discuss the problem with Gus Macleod.

11/7/10 Possible development of new power station at Hunterston

Kenneth Gibson gave some background information relating to this proposal.

It was confirmed that Arran CC have already lodged a planning objection.

John Inglis referred to the Arran CC position relating to wind farm developments. Each application would be judged on the merits of the individual application.

11/7/11 AOCB

11/7/11/1 Proposed Closure of Craigielea Care Home

Harry Davidson spoke of the concern relating to letters received by residents (7) and relatives indicating that the Care Home will close. Kenneth Gibson advised that he would be discussing this at his meeting with NAC later in the week.

11/7/11/2 Arran Health Delivery Model / Arran Out-of-hours cover/service

Jim Nichols gave an update of the on-going meetings being held between NHS Ayrshire and Arran, the Arran Health Group (Arran medical professionals), and the Arran Public Reference Group concerning future health delivery on Arran. A series of meetings are on-going to agree the future working model. These are scheduled to finalise in September 2011. Full public consultation is expected later in the autumn. Brenda Stewart represents the Arran CC on the Public Reference Group.

11/7/11/3 Sannox Cemetery

It was reported that the cemetery is now reaching capacity. It was agreed that a letter be sent to NAC Head of Environment to request that another site is secured ASAP.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 30th August 2011.