

Cumrae Community Council
Meeting Minutes Thursday 13th June 2019, Garrison House

- I. **PRESENT:** Crawford Gillan - Chair (CG), Graham Wallace (GW), Alex Caldwell (AC), Lisa Christie (LC), Angie McCallum (AM), Sharon Hagan (SH)

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr. Tom Marshall, P.C.Walker, Michael Bertram (MB) (CCDC), 6 members of the public and Mari Wallace, minute taker.

APOLOGIES: Sandra McIntyre and Cllr. Ian Murdoch

- II. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** The minutes of the last meeting, held on 9th May 2019, were proposed for approval by GW and seconded by AM.

III. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:- Nil**

IV. **BRIEF REPORT OF OUTSIDE MEETINGS ATTENDED AND MATTERS BEING PURSUED:**

- a) **AGM Isle of Cumrae Tourist Association (IoCTA):** Minutes of meeting available on own website which has been upgraded and will be available by end of week. The new website will provide tabs to other local organisations and groups. More committee members are needed and anyone interested in going on committee should speak to Margaret Kennedy / Scot Ferris to register interest. Membership for Associate members is £5.
- b) **Islands' Bill** – Cllr. Alex Gallacher is the newly nominated representative for North Ayrshire islands for the Council. Feedback to online questionnaire will be available online from 30 August.
- c) **Ferry Users' Group** - The matters raised at this meeting plus additional ones raised at CCC meeting included; queuing at ferry slip, passing places being made available for traffic; additional signage being made available in Largs; queuing traffic having difficulty of purchasing ticket; consideration of introducing online tickets/"sold at vehicle" tickets; early school closure for Millport school children; CCTV; summer timetable being introduced on 24/6; lack of liaison with buses during summer timetable; introducing facility to purchase ferry tickets on island; traffic management plan; coaches picking up from ferry; priority boarding for residents; number of cars travelling to island.

V. STANDING ITEMS:

Police Report: It was reported that the number of crime related incidents, over the last 12 months, had reduced from 37 to 27 although the number of crime reports had increased from 3 last year to 8 this year. Most of the incidents were of violence/disturbance. The lack of multi-agency support on the island has already been highlighted and raised at Police Liaison meetings. Although, if required, the Lady Margaret Hospital can be used as a 'place of safety' there is a pressure in providing Child Protection/Safeguarding when necessary. It was agreed that this should be highlighted to Cunninghame Housing to ensure that more consideration is given to level of needs of people/families prior to placement on the island. Without the necessary level of support being available 24/7 on the island vulnerable people and children could be being put at more risk.

ACTION - Invite representative from Cunninghame Housing to future CCC meeting.

Dog Fouling: Unfortunately this continues to be a problem, and a source of complaint, for walkers, children and mobility scooters.

Parking on north side of front street in busy periods: Tickets will be issued

Motor homes: Street furniture from motor homes is not allowed.

Drinking alcohol in public: This is illegal and, if witnessed by Police, the law will be enforced.

Town Hall: Millport Town Hall has now been registered as a charity and this will hopefully assist the process of securing funds to enable the necessary building works and adaptations to the building. Work is ongoing in the process of applying to NAC for a Community Asset Transfer. A new website is being developed and will link to CCC and IoCTA. The next fund raiser is being planned for 4 October and further details will be given nearer the time.

Statement from Chair re Town Hall Project

The community council are delighted to receive the news that The Town Hall project has been granted charitable status, funding of £100k has been forthcoming from NAC, and that the Asset Transfer process has commenced.

A 'Hall for the Community' is one of the most valuable assets in any community, in the sense of the facilities and activities it provides for the well being of people living on the island. The Town Hall will be important; supporting jobs, directly and indirectly, the use of local services and trades, and will provide facilities for social, educational and recreational activities for all ages. A well equipped, accessible, revitalised and modernised Town Hall is important to maintaining the health and well being of local people, especially with an ageing population on the island and the social isolation that brings to some. The Town Hall will be a valuable asset to the community and will serve as a hub for the islands youth, families, senior citizens, civic organisations, arts and crafts, island heritage and more. The plans for a community hub area, heritage centre, a main hall area where large, 150+ functions, dances

and social gatherings can take place will bring back to the island everything that is great about living on Cumbrae. The submitted plans for the Men's Shed area are particularly exciting and welcome.

In a small, community, especially on an island, all of the above are vital and essential in ensuring that community spirit is maintained, increased, nurtured and grown. The Town Hall project is a vital driver towards these goals.

CG

Planning applications:

- a) Kirkton Caravan Site – appeal to NAC Planning LRB refused. The site must be cleared of all caravans outwith the current planning consent for touring caravans during the season.
- b) Shop front – 27 Guildford Street is part of CARS initiative
- c) Agricultural building at Ballykillet.
- d) Dormer Extension at 1/1 31 Stuart St
- e) Cumbrae Parish Church – application submitted for conversion to 6 residential units.
- f) Westbourne Caravan Site – Appeal to LRB which will be heard at their next meeting in September. CCC previously commented that the application should be considered taking cognisance of the LDP for Cumbrae.
- g) Dawnfresh Fish Farm proposals - Invitation received by CCC to visit Loch Etive site. EIA scoping request with NAC prior to planning, marine licence applications etc.

Beecology and Plastics Ambassador Update

- LC is now Plastics' Ambassador for the island and thanked Cllr. Marshall for his assistance in taking plastics' project forward
- Awaiting plants for flower tubs along front but should be completed by end of June.
- Wild flower beds will be left wild this year but will be dug over and new seed planted next season
- Street Scene does not seem to be aware of input ! – but it was confirmed that they are due to plant flower beds in the town.

CG thanked Ecology Group for all their work on the island and in particular for their efforts in beach cleaning and planting the flowerpots. **He suggested that in future CCC members should support the plastic free initiative by using refillable plastic water bottles at CCC meetings.**

VI. PRESENTATION: Sarah Hammond, East Ayrshire Citizens' Advice

This is a free and confidential service. An outreach worker is available in Largs Library on Thursdays. Arrangements can be made to visit Millport regularly if requested (once per fortnight) Leaflets will be made available in Breath of Heaven and further publicity undertaken to raise awareness of the services offered.

VII. AGENDA ITEMS:

- I. Hunterston A
 - Cladding – contract cancelled – due to the contractor meeting unforeseen additional costs after tendering. Delayed by 12+ months

- Colour/style – it appears that a new planning consent may be required as a result of the delay. Therefore representations will again be made to ensure a more sympathetic colour of cladding (similar to Hun B) is used.
 - Demolition 2080 estimated.
 - A lot of explanation/discussion on End State Use/s for the site – there will still be restrictions in place on potential uses well after 2080.
- II. Hunterston B – An update on the current shutdown was given at the recent Site Stakeholders’ Group which CCC attend. Both reactors (3 & 4) at Hun B remain in shutdown due to greater cracking of graphite bricks in the reactors than anticipated. EDF, the owner, is presenting its case for re-commissioning the reactors on the grounds that the cracking is not dangerous but this requires the approval of the ONR (The independent Office for Nuclear Regulation <http://www.onr.org.uk/>) which has not yet been given. There are more cracks in Reactor 3 than reactor 4 and it is likely to open sooner. It was noted that both reactors are operating well beyond the original time earmarked for closure of the site and EDF wish to now operate them until 2023.

Hunterston Parc – A master plan for major industrial development of the Hunterston site has been produced by Peel Ports the site owners. Everyone is encouraged to complete the consultation survey which closes 28 June. Friends of Firth of Clyde consultation is also open for responses. Meeting being held at Hunterston on 20th June. and 2 reps from CCC are invited to attend.

- III. Clyde Marine Plan Consultation – Consultation finished and outcome awaited.
- IV. Grounds Maintenance Participatory Budgeting – no outcome of this yet known.
- V. National Islands’ Plan- open for consultation on Scot Gov website. There could be some gains eventually for the island e.g. postal charges, ferry fares. 50% of issues impact on other islands in addition to Cumbrae. Results of community consultation will be fed back on website.
- VI. Millport Flood Protection – The result of the consultation exercise held in February 2019 & the proposed timeline for the next stages has been published on the NAC Flooding website.
Winter/Spring 2019 – Preferred option was approved by NAC Cabinet for release for community consultation. Further public consultation and design workshops were held re landscaping/access etc.
Summer 2019 – Landscape design proposals based on consultation feedback progress. Impacts to be considered as part of EIA.
Summer/Winter 2019 – Remaining environmental surveys will be completed and an EIA produced.
Spring/Summer 2020 – Formal consultation with regulators & stakeholders and planning application combined with Scot Gov approval. The scheme documents will be published.

Autumn 2020/Spring 2021 – detailed engineering design completed.

Construction drawings and documents prepared.

Spring/Summer 2021 – Tenders invited

Autumn 2021/Spring 2023 – Scheme will be built.

- VII. Pier repair works update – Masonry pier works have turned out to be more major than expected and extra funds/works require to be approved by NAC. CCC reported concrete spillage causing danger at landing steps and about access to stone steps being blocked unnecessarily whilst contractor off-site. Lower landing stage is installed but access not allowed as being used by divers. At least 4 more weeks of work – well into July before work finished seems likely. CCC lodged a complaint about the pennants and pick-ups not being fitted to moorings this year. MB confirmed CCDC had complained as well. NAC likely to appoint local contractor to do work.
- VIII. CCC grants still some money available. This will be advertised on FB page. Closing date 1 September. Max. up to £500 per group. AC, Treasurer, requested that funding given out asap after that date to ensure that all cheques can be cashed before accounts need to be audited.
- IX. Roads update – It has now been accepted by NAC that road at ferry queue is like a ploughed field but they will not agree to fix it ! Various areas of poor surfacing previously raised with NAC have been patched incl. the Inner Circle road but not well finished. Major flooding on west side of island which has greatly worsened following the laying of the electricity cable under the pavement is to be re-assessed when we have flooding.
- X. St Beya Housing Consultation Meeting on 20 June DA Hall, 4-6 pm. There have been several queries re allocation of housing.

h) COUNCILLORS' UPDATES

- Early Learning. The impact of the increase in entitled hours to 1140 hours in 2020 are being investigated.
- Decriminalisation parking consultation
- Cycle track – Has been discussed with Chief Executive. Details/ designs being worked on and funding sought from Sustrans. It is hoped that this is for a cycle track from Keppel Pier to ferry slip rather than a track along front of town which received very negative feedback at consultation meeting but which NAC seemed determined to push through.

f) AOCB

- It was noted that following complaints over a long period the damaged electricity supply box at Newton Sands was repaired – it was further noted that at one stage 6 vehicles were in attendance with associated workmen.

- It was noted that an NAC team turned up on the island to pressure wash the jetties which was much appreciated. Unfortunately it was high tide and they had to leave the island because it was impossible to do the work. Cost of ferry fares alone likely to be £150.

ACTION: Letter to NAC

- **Camping at Targets** – Concern continues regarding the mess left by wild campers. It was noted that wild camping is only allowed if proper behaviour and respect for the land shown.

- **Mobile homes in Garrison** – At a recent weekend it was noted that the Garrison had hosted an event for a number of mobile homes. In addition to bringing much needed funds to CCDC it proved that this could be a good option for future use of part of the Garrison grounds to provide a proper facility for the island which would mean that visitors were not obliged to park on the streets.

- A request was made to CCC for monetary support for a group of 17 locals wishing to reform as a Millport Football Team. The efforts of the young representatives were praised and they were encouraged to submit a funding bid.

Questions from the floor.

No questions were put forward and meeting was closed.

Date of next meeting: 5pm Thursday 11 July 2019, at Garrison House, Millport