

Cumbræ Community Council

Meeting Minutes Thursday 13 February 2020, Garrison House

Present: Graham Wallace (chair), Crawford Gillan, Sharon Hagan, Lisa Christie

In Attendance: Deborah Ferris (CCDC), Members of the public

Apologies: Cllr. Tom Marshall, Cllr. Ian Murdoch

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the last meeting, held on 9 January were proposed by Crawford Gillan and seconded by Sharon Hagan as a true record.

The Chair advised the meeting that Ron Gilchrist, a keen supporter of Cumbræ and a contributor to the work of the Community Council, had recently passed away and condolences were expressed to his wife and family.

- **Presentations**

None

- **Matters arising from previous minutes:**

- i. Astroturf signage: The signage which NAC undertook to erect on the fencing of the astroturf pitch has still not been put in place. CCC to raise yet again with NAC.
Action: LC
- ii. Bogus Workers: There are continuing reports of bogus callers/workers operating in Millport and Largs. Advisory leaflets and posters have been obtained via trading standards. Contact has been made with Age Concern and the Elderly Forum to highlight this issue.
Action: SH
- iii. Watersports Centre: No updates have been received since the last meeting.
- iv. Dog Fouling: There appears to have been a slight improvement since the last meeting. The Police and NAC wardens are again to be encouraged to deal with any offenders. The public can report details of offences to NAC in confidence and the offenders will be pursued. A fine of £80 can be imposed.
Action: LC
- v. Ferry Road Traffic Issues: Following complaints of traffic using Ferry Road driving at inappropriate speeds NAC Roads have confirmed that they will monitor the situation and report back on any measures that could be taken if deemed necessary.
- vi. VE Day Celebrations: The last proposed meeting of the group formed to progress the VE Celebrations on Cumbræ had been postponed to await the outcome of the funding bids submitted to support the planned events.
Action: CG
- vii. Cemetery Gates: It was noted that whilst NAC have now rebuilt the gate pillars at the vehicular access after they had been knocked down the gates had not been reinstated. NAC had advised that they do not plan to refit them. It was agreed the gates were necessary and that NAC should be approached with a request that they again be provided.
Action: CG

- **Brief Reports of meetings attended and matters being pursued**

i. North Coast & Cumbraes Locality Partnership: Presentations, updates and reports were received on a variety of topics relevant to Cumbrae including:

- a. GP Contracts
- b. Community Wealth Building – an initiative to use the economic levers available to anchor institutions including procurement, employment, financial powers, land assets and ownership models to better develop wealth with local roots and ownership. The aim is to retain a greater proportion of the money spent in the local area and it will include assisting local companies and businesses to be better positioned to win contracts from the larger buyers in the area etc.
- c. Local Development Plan (LDP2) – An update was provided on NAC’s LDP2 which, as previously reported, was formally adopted late last year. Still to be clarified is the way that Local Place Plans, which are community led, will be introduced and developed and the influence they will have on the overall planning process.
- d. Stress & Anxiety in Younger People – good mental health in the young was emphasised as being just as important as physical health, both combining to result in well-rounded healthy adults. Some of the current local initiatives were outlined, particularly within schools, and reference was made to the importance of intergenerational work and young people volunteering.

An update on the CIF funding availability was also provided and agreement that £30k of the funding earmarked for Millport Town Hall be now released to fund further work on the project.

Copies of all Agendas, Minutes, Presentations etc. are available on the Locality Partnership website at: <http://www.northayrshire.community/your-community/north-coast-cumbrae/meeting-papers/>

ii. SSG Hunterston: An additional meeting of the Hunterston SSG was hosted by ONR attended by the Ayrshire Civil Contingencies Team at the power station to provide an update on the Hunterston graphite core damage and associated safety cases for Reactors 3 & 4 and an update on REPPiR 2019. This meeting resulted from the postponed meeting late last year. ONR provided an update on the current position at Hunterston (both reactors are currently shut down for safety inspection purposes) and detailed responses to a range of questions put forward by community representatives from Fairlie, Cumbrae, Largs and WK on the issues affecting the graphite core and the decision making in allowing the reactors to be brought back into service. ONR emphasised the rigorous interrogation of safety planning that took place between themselves and the operator EDF before any switch on would be authorised.

There was also discussion about the Emergency Planning arrangements, currently under review, in the event of a major nuclear incident at the station (REPPiR2019). General concern has been expressed about the proposed emergency arrangements by community representatives and councillors and acceptance of the plan has been postponed by NAC pending receipt of further information. It was noted that there is little or no reference to Millport/Cumbrae in the existing plans except to state that we are not included in the DEPZ and our OEPZ designated gathering point is at Vikingar along with Largs/West Kilbride etc.

Action: GW

iii. Your Voice, Your Say: A drop-in session was held in the Garrison to explain a new pilot online initiative to allow people to raise discussion subjects and to join discussion

forums with other members of the community on matters of concern in relation to NAC's services. It was explained that a large number of residents in Millport may not have access to the internet and/or may not wish to join such an online discussion forum. It was also unfortunate that various attendees both at the time and since have been unable to access the website. NAC suggested they may come to a future CCC meeting to provide further information on the initiative. Further information can be found at: <https://nay.communitychoices.scot/>

- iv. IoCTA: The initial joint meeting arranged by CCC with IoCTA and CCDC on campervan/parking issues had taken place and it was agreed that we would further explore the impacts of the decriminalisation of parking on Cumbrae; potential sites and funding opportunities for providing off road campervan parking and facilities for waste disposal. It was also noted that as more financial pressures came on local councils there would be a corresponding and increasing cut back on the provision of services on the island. With a total pop'n of around 1300 the increasing burden on local residents to support all of the necessary facilities previously funded via the council is becoming, if not already, unsustainable. Resulting from this it was agreed that other opportunities for sourcing sustainable funding need to be urgently investigated.

Action: GW

- **Standing Items:**

- i. Police Report: It was agreed to again request that a brief written report be submitted to CCC ahead of the monthly meeting if the PC is unable to attend.
Action: CG
- ii. CCDC Update: The meeting was advised that CCDC were to hold a public meeting to raise awareness of the issues it was facing with regards to the Garrison, the MHAL flats, the toilets etc. and to seek greater involvement by the community in taking up membership and directorships. It was noted that Cumbrae needs an active, effective and respected community development company in place to help address and take on board new initiatives that could benefit the island community.
- iii. Planning Applications: No applications requiring the input of CCC had been received.
- iv. Roads Issues: Further correspondence, together with relevant photos, has been sent to NAC Roads identifying the serious and potentially dangerous road surfacing and flooding on Ferry Road, at the corner/junction nr. Downcraig on the coast road, at several locations on the west side and at the Targets. Investigation works are to be carried out into the cause of the repeated break-up of the road surface at Balloch Bay.
Action: GW
- v. Hunterston update: Details of when ONR will allow Reactors 3 & 4 to be brought back into service by EDF are awaited.
Action: GW
- vi. Safety Case Assessment and REPPiR (*The Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations*) 2019: The revised REPPiR2019 has not yet been approved by NAC and the council is seeking further information/assurances based on community concerns.
Action: GW
- vii. Cycle Paths
- viii. A request for an update on the current progress on the cycle path proposal between FSC and the ferry slip has been requested and awaited.
Action: GW

- ix. Millport Town Hall - The Trustees are pleased to announce that the Architect has now been instructed to commence work on developing the concept design with a view to applying for planning permission.
- Some of the Trustees visited the Rockfield Centre in Oban which is a project to turn a closed school into a community asset. We are grateful to the funding provided by the Scottish Community Alliance to enable this trip which was very motivating and informative.
- The asset transfer decision from North Ayrshire Council is now overdue and is being pursued.
- The anticipated funding decision from the Scottish Government on the Regeneration Fund application has been delayed because of political Budget dates and announcements.
- The Investing in Communities Fund (ICF) which was a new streamlined communities fund opened in 2019 as part of the Empowering Communities Programme is closed. Scot Gov have announced that at this time there are no plans to launch a further round of the Investing in Communities Fund in 2020/21. This is a blow to a community that is trying to help itself.
- Increased competition due to the number of groups trying to help themselves against diminishing funding sources is a challenge.
- We continue with determination.
- x. Millport FPS/Millport Marina/Pier: The Millport FPS continues to be promoted by NAC with support from ScotGov. The formal consultation and consent process will commence in the near future. The proposed marina development is also receiving support from NAC and has been included within the NAC Ayrshire Growth Deal Strategy for the development of marine tourism. The marina has been promoted as an operation that should be developed/managed by and for the benefit of the local community and more work now needs to be done on how this can best be achieved.
- Action: GW**

- **Agenda Items:**

- i. Waste disposal facilities: no progress.
- Action: GW**
- ii. Church Brae: complaints and concerns about the potentially dangerous and deteriorating condition of Church Brae have been received. The surface is badly breaking up and surrounding trees and shrubs are overgrown. This is to be raised with NAC.
- Action: SH**
- iii. Public Phone Boxes: It was reported that notices had been left in certain, if not all, public phone boxes on the island referring to their potential removal. It was noted that no notice had been made to CCC and on checking with NAC it was confirmed that likewise

had received no notification from BT. It was determined that further enquiries be made to find out what is proposed and what process would have to be followed if the intention is to remove the public phones.

Action: LC

- iv. Dog Park: Enquiries had been received, partly in light of the dog fouling issues, about the desire/feasibility for a dog park in Millport. After discussion it was felt that on the island, with the amount of open space available, this might not be a priority at this time.
- v. Festivals: Enquiries had been received concerning the proposed dates of the Country Music Festival. It was confirmed that no date/s have yet been published.
- vi. Year of Coast & Waters 2020: No report

- **Councillor's Updates**

Cllr. Murdoch had made contact prior to the meeting to advise that he had pursued the issue of dog fouling with the relevant officials in NAC on our behalf.

- **AOCB**

Date and time of next meeting and meeting closed

The next meeting of the CCC will be held on 12th March 2020 at 5.00 pm in the Garrison.