

APPROVED MINUTES

Cumrae Community Council

(Meeting held via Zoom)

9th September 2021 @ 5.00pm

1. Present

Graham Wallace (Chair), Lisa Christie, Crawford Gillan.

Also present: Cllr Ian Murdoch (NAC), Scott Ferris & Margaret Kennedy (IoCTA), dam Lyon (L&M) plus 3 members of the public.

Apologies received: Alex Caldwell, Cllr. Tom Marshall

2. **Draft Minutes.** The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th June 2021 were proposed by Lisa Christie and seconded by Graham Wallace.

3. Police Report

None presented at meeting.

Post meeting: *The following update (June to September) was received:*

Current Meeting Figures: 10/6 – 09/09/21: Number of incidents in total - 73

Number of Crimes identified - 8

Comparative Figures from previous year: Number of incidents in total - 77

Number of Crimes identified – 15

(Further breakdown available upon request.)

4. Matters Arising

- a. Fly-tipping, Recycling/ Bulk Waste Facility:- CCC will continue to pursue this with the Council. Cllr. Murdoch has also been pursuing on community's behalf. **Action** – CCC to pursue with NAC.
- b. Japanese Knotweed:- Following a response from NAC stating that it would only treat Japanese Knotweed on its own land further correspondence from CCC had been sent to NAC to strongly request that they co-ordinate the control/eradication of the Japanese Knotweed with all owners of affected land on the island and that it was unreasonable to expect the volunteer CCC to undertake this task. It was further pointed out that roadside verges had been recently cut by NAC resulting in the further spread of the Knotweed. Photo evidence was provided. **Action** – Continue to pursue NAC to take actions necessary to control and eradicate Knotweed and to prevent the spread through the cutting of verges containing knotweed.

5. Brief Reports of Meetings Attended

- a. Cumrae Ferry Users Group:- A presentation had been given on the new ticketing system and a copy of this will be made available on the CalMac website. The mobile phone app will be available with both Apple and Android phone systems and both Apple Pay and Google Pay would work. CalMac is currently working on the concessionary ticket process and it was agreed that the whole issue of concessionary travel and ticketing on the Cumrae route needs to be very carefully considered to be functional and accessible to all users. The new ticketing system is due to go live on 1 March 2022. Questions were asked about how residents would be made aware of the new system and how CalMac proposed to launch the product. It was suggested that along with the

online update hard copies could be provided at the Garrison plus leaflets. Inclusion in the CrocTalk community newsletter was suggested and MSG are to be approached on the basis that CalMac/NAC perhaps support the production cost.

There appear to be many still ignoring the face mask rules/staying in car rules and this is to be raised again with CalMac along with clear signage being requested in the ferry office.

b. Hunterston SSG – no meeting

c. Peel Ports Liaison Meeting – no meeting

Whilst no meeting of the Liaison Group had been held, 2 presentations on proposed major developments on Peel Ports land at Hunterston had been given.

The first involved the proposed development of the former coal yard site and use of the jetty for the manufacture and distribution of a new design of undersea power cable to service wind farms and solar farms on the basis that current manufacturers cannot meet current demand. The developer, XLCC, has estimated the creation of 900 jobs. The manufacturing plant would include the development of a tower – the highest such man made structure in Europe apparently.

The second presentation was in respect of a Cryogenic Storage facility for power reserve/back-up supply to the grid. Again this would be a large scale development but provide only limited job opportunities on completion (7 – 9 jobs).

It was emphasised by all attending the presentations that EIAs for each proposal were an essential requirement.

Further details and copies of the presentations are available upon request to cumbraecouncil@gmail.com

d. North Coast Locality Planning Partnership – no meeting

e. Islands Plan Engagement Group – this NAC/Community Group was set up following the last meeting of the Cumbrae Community Group to explore the islands’ post covid recovery needs and develop a 10 year plan based on identified/agreed priorities. The first action to be undertaken is “sense checking” of previously identified priorities through community engagement. It was emphasised by CCC that every effort had to be made to ensure as great a number of residents as possible had the ability to input to the process and that the opportunity to submit views/opinions be provided both online and via hard copy when possible. An online meeting was held on 24 August. CCC has submitted its response to the draft economic baseline data report presented by NAC and awaits a revised version with hopefully more up to date information and more island specific detailed data which has been requested. Further meetings are proposed with a working group comprising representatives of the island’s organisations and groups to further progress the plan’s development prior to the release of a draft document, based on input received, for further consultation with the whole of the community. All relevant information will be posted on NAC’s website and CCC’s FB page.

Copies of relevant Minutes & Presentations etc. to date are available upon request from cumbraecouncil@gmail.com

6. Standing Items

a. Planning Applications:-

Chalets on Cathedral Ground, College Street – It was noted that the planning application had been called in by the Planning Committee and at its meeting on 1 September the Committee

agreed that it would determine the application. The next Planning Committee is to be held on 29 September. Cllr. Murdoch stated that he fully supported the proposal.

In response to a query by a member of the public the process for determination of the application and any appeal process by applicants and/or objectors was explained by Cllr. Marshall/GW.

b. Licensing – None.

c. Cumbrae's 10 Year Plan – see Islands' Plan Engagement Group above.

d. Roads Issues – Previously identified/existing issues continue to be pursued with NAC in respect of road/pavement conditions at various locations within the town and around the island, weeds along pavements/kerbs and the narrowing of the roadway and pavements particularly on the Ferry Road and Inner Circle. Cllr. Murdoch agreed he would come over to the island and meet with members of CCC to enable the problems to be highlighted.

e. Cycle-Path/s - CCC again expressed its frustration at the lack of any progress or recognition of the serious situation resulting from the amount of traffic using the coast road between the FSC and the ferry slip. It was agreed that CCC will continue to pursue this issue. It was pointed out that there is signage in place already identifying the prom from the town to FSC as a shared pedestrian/cycle route. A response had been received from NAC to our latest correspondence but yet again it did not address the points raised and a strong follow up is to again be sent.

f. Millport FPS/Millport Marina/Millport Pier:-

Millport Marina - Earlier in the day a very successful first meeting of the *AGD Millport Marina – Community Stakeholder Workshop* had been held online. The meeting was well attended and very positive in its support of progressing the marina, and associated, developments. It is recognised that this is a key development that will boost the socio-economic growth of Cumbrae. The key actions from the meeting were:

1) Establish a Project Group for regular Marine tourism discussion/ meeting and coordination of proposals for the Millport Marine Tourism - Community to Advise

2) Explore Operational Model and identify whether by looking at wider working models (Castlebay /Oban / Campbletown / etc) a sustainable and resilient structure can be identified for Millport – incl role of Cumbrae Sports Centre - Community/NAC to jointly explore

3) Develop the Proposals including Shore Side / Pierhead including options for growth and expansion that would deliver a successful Marine tourism facility able to unlock the AGD funding and support CWB /Regeneration of Millport. - Community/NAC to jointly explore.

A further meeting to progress this will be held in October.

Millport FPS – Several positive meetings have been held to further examine/refine the design of the FPS shore side structures etc. and a further update meeting is planned for 10 September with public consultation online and at the Garrison the following week. All information about proposals/design/progress on the FPS is available at <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/community-safety/flooding/millport-coastal-fps.aspx> or via links on CCC's Facebook page.

g. Cumbrae Community Resilience Team (CCRT)/MSG Update – None

h. Millport Town Hall:- MTH reported as follows “Millport Town Hall are delighted to announce a contract has been signed with McLaughlin Construction for the regeneration works.

Work will commence soon after the September Weekend. It will be a long job approximately 40 weeks. The charity would like to emphasise that all building regulations will be adhered to. The

safety of the community is paramount during these works and will be governed by Health and Safety directives from the Roads Department, the Department of Health and through the site Safety Officer. Please bear with us, the disruption will be worth it in the end with a fantastic building that can offer something for everybody.”

- i. CCDC Update:- It was noted that the card payment system funded by HIE via CCC/MSG had been installed. The campervan site was proving very popular and continued to receive good reports and reviews from its users. It was noted that this had taken many campervans off the main road on the front however a few continue to camp on the road. As part of the discussion a particular issue raised was the number of campervans now using the pier and it was agreed a further request be sent to NAC for signs to be erected discouraging campervans and highlighting the facility at the Garrison.
- j. Watersports Centre Update (The Wave):- Report received “Work on the WAVE continues as per our last update; Job description and advert prepared and ready to go for NAVT funded project development officer; Evening Swim event to highlight our work will coincide with the September Weekend Fireworks.”
- k. IoCTA Update – The meeting was updated by SF/MK on arrangements for September Weekend and it was confirmed that the firework display would go ahead as planned.

7. Agenda Items.

- a. Community Council Elections:- The formal announcement about the forthcoming Community Council Elections has now been released as follows:

“Notice is hereby given that, in terms of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in North Ayrshire, Cumbrae Community Council is calling for nominations of persons to stand for election to serve as Community Councillors.

Seven places are available on the community council and the term of office is four years.

It should be noted that Community Councillors, who must be local residents aged over 16, serve in a voluntary capacity.

Nomination papers can be obtained from the Community Councils page on the Council’s website (www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk) or by contacting Melanie Anderson, Senior Manager (Committee and Member Services) by telephoning 01294 324131/07385 417274 during office hours or emailing committeeservices@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Completed nomination papers must arrive with Committee and Member Services by 12 noon on Wednesday 10 November 2021.

Nominations must contain the name and address of the person nominated and the names and addresses of two proposers, each of whom should be a local government elector for the area. Each nomination paper must be signed by the person nominated and the two proposers.

In the event of nominations exceeding the number of vacancies to be filled, an election will take place via postal ballot. Postal ballots will be available to local electors on request, from Friday 12 November 2021 by contacting the above-mentioned officer of the Council.

The deadline for the return of any postal ballots will be Friday 26 November 2021. Arrangements will be made to allow completed ballots to be returned by post or placed in a ballot box locally.

An Election Results meeting will then be convened by the community council in the week commencing 29 November 2021 (further details to be advised).

Community Council elections are also taking place in respect of a number of other community councils in North Ayrshire.

Please contact the above-mentioned officer for further information.

Craig Hatton

Chief Executive”

8. AOCB

a. Consultation on the Islands Development Bond – The meeting was reminded that in a bid to combat depopulation from the islands 100 bonds of up to £50k are being made available to help families stay in or move to islands (including Cumbrae). You can still have your say on the proposal via this link: <https://consult.gov.scot/agriculture-and-rural-economy/development-of-the-islands-bond> The consultation is open until 25 October 2021.

9. Date of Next Meeting - October 14th 2021 @ 5.00 pm via Zoom.