

Minutes --- Fairlie Community Council 4 October 2021.

Present – Rita Holmes (chair), Alan Holden, David Telford, David Nairn.

Part of time, Marco Piva, Ian Hunter.

Councillors – Ian Murdoch, Tom Marshall, Alan Hill and eight members of public.

Apologies – from Karla Tully.

Also in attendance - Melanie Anderson and Denise Fraser from NAC.

Minutes of 6th September 2021--- acceptance – proposed by DN, seconded by DT.

Current members step down from FCC as of today.

New members elected to serve – 7 members required, details given by Ms Anderson of NAC.

Rita Holmes, Alan Holden, Ian Hunter, Mairi Mitchell, Malcolm Milne, David Telford and Marco Piva, are the 7 persons who applied for membership, so all are elected to FCC.

RH nominated to remain as ‘chairperson’ nom by Marco Piva, and A Holden.

Ian Hunter to remain treasurer nom RH and Marco P.

RH would act as secretary,

Marco P would act as minute taker.

David Nairn was co opted and invited to assist as an adviser to FCC, on marine and environmental issues. Proposed by RH and A Holden.

Ms Anderson of NAC, reminded the newly elected members of FCC that she would send us a Declaration of Office – which we each should sign electronically and return to her by e/mail. Also she would send us a copy of the ‘Code of Conduct’ for us to become familiar with.

Police Report – sent to us by PC Dominic Murphy.

In September 2021 there were 33 calls and 2 crimes reported. (1 theft reported no one detected, and one motoring offence Dangerous driving on the Moor Road).

NAC Councillors report. All councillors said they would comment on topics as per agenda.

A78 new crossing? There is as yet no fixed date for the new crossing in the village.

Hunterston SSG. See report circulated by Rita for detail.

Main points are – Reactor 3 is due to shutdown for the last time by early November. Reactor 4 will continue to operate into January 2022. After which the formal ‘defuelling period’ will start. EDF will be responsible for defuelling both reactors and dispatching the fuel from site by rail in the normal way. This will take 2.5 to 4 years to complete after which the NDA will take over decommissioning the Hunterston ‘B’ site.

Discussions are ongoing with a view to using space in the ‘A’ station Intermediate Waste Store, to store some of the packaged and sealed waste from B Station.

DT asked if any more detail had been released concerning Hunterston nuclear sites and the DPZ Emergency Planning Zone changes. DT has formally asked for an ‘unredacted’ copy of the DPZ and Emergency Plan using ‘freedom of Information’ route. But has not yet heard any response. The NAC councillors for our area are also trying to get to see an unredacted version. They have also not seen the Off Site plan. DT will ask again at the next SSG meeting.

DT has also expressed concern about any new plan for the defuelling period, and he still thinks that local schools should retain a stock of Potassium Iodate tablets.

Hunterston ‘A’ station ‘Final State’ plan there is now a plan to continue decommissioning A Station buildings including the reactor buildings. This will take at least 20 years of ongoing work hence the building cladding renewal will no longer be considered as necessary.

Progress on emptying bunkers, 4 empty and last one is one third full but has mixed waste which needs sorting prior to encapsulation progress into sealed intermediate waste packages.

Peel Port Liason Group meeting 23/9/21 by zoom. RH and DN attended. No formal minutes available as yet, and not recorded.

Notes have been prepared and issued by Rita. (on 4/10/21)

Topics discussed --- Drillships / noise/ light pollution and departure? DS 4 is due to leave by 17th October. No definite news on DS8 leaving yet. Peel Port noted complaints about noise and lights – but said it is a port, and ships may be docked/ laid up for long periods. Noted that RFA navy ships will regularly be tying up at the jetty. Some noise monitoring has been carried out, but Peel will not release details or comment to the public. More members of public and IM and Councillor Galagher have expressed concerns about the noise which has changed in recent weeks. Now a low rumbling noise which in some cases reverberates in rooms of houses day and night 7 days a week.

TM stated that the original Hunterston Parc development Plan was rejected by NAC and a new revised plan is now out for comment. Chapter 13 of New Plan considers environmental issues.

Other issues

----- Dismantling of conveyor over A78. – still to agree a closure date with rail and road authorities.

----- remaining buildings on the jetty ? These are to remain said Peel.

-----Southannan sands SSSI area. And native oysters – some discussion took place with Peel pointing out the importance of this protected species and the SSSI area. At the meeting DN stated concerns about ecology promises and legislation compliance promises. Marine Scotland have also been considering issues and suggested that an EIA should be done to examine proposals.

DN is to write to Environmental Services Scotland and the new Scottish Environment minister stating our various concerns, including issues WRT tide lines on the maps and any proposed development in the tidal areas.

-----Other current proposals for Peel Port land.

Cryogenic storage for energy storage linked to Hunterston Grid sub. – nothing new to report after the Highview Power presentation to us and councillors. MoP still has concerns about the risks from storage of large amounts (7,000 tonnes ?) of cryogen liquid in an area at serious risk of coastal flooding – from the most recent flood risk maps. Why is this planned plant not sited nearer to the grid sub station and away from the sea.

Synchronous Compensator unit proposals by the Irish company.--- nothing new to report
Second Synchronous Compensator proposals on coal yard and EdF land for cable route.

XLCC sub sea cable manufacturing factory – nothing new since their presentation to NAC and CC's. Since details of the planned factory were made public a number of questions about environmental issues have been raised. RH as noted these and sent questions off to XLCC and NAC. Searching data has failed to reveal any strong links to any major wind/ solar energy plans in North Africa, on which the plan for a 3000 mile cable contract was quoted as basis for this factory. We noted that a similar plan exists for a factory to be built on the East coast of England, quoted as aiming to supply cables for North Sea wind farms.

Hunterston Estate – Battery Power Storage Project. This is a large scale proposal much larger than energy storage and compensator proposals noted above. This plan has had to go to Scottish Government for consideration and approval. A site visit with the representative of the plan applicant happened last week with a FCC and West Kilbride CC chairs.

If this is built as intended, then we surmise that all the other energy related schemes noted above, will no longer go ahead.

Clyde Marine Planning Parnership. DN is still trying to keep tabs on this quango, via his involvement with Clyde Coastal Communities . But it is quoted that some controlling members in CMPP do not want coastal communities, CC's etc to be involved, this is understood to be at the insistence of CMPP 'vested interests.' The minutes of CMPP meetings are private/closed and

controlled whilst still trying to keep local communities out of the Planning Partnership. Councillor Ian M has been trying to get coastal communities involved. Legal - Options being looked at.

Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park. Board has been disbanded. A new group 'Friends of Clyde Muirshiel' is operating as a voluntary body. David N will keep tabs on issues, in particular, environmental issues.

Tennis Courts Fairlie. Mairi is still trying to keep the one court usable, and keep an eye on happenings. But it's a lot of work for one person to keep up with maintenance. The group clean up and weed killing earlier in year was very good and made a big difference, another group clear up needs doing before winter to remove all dead growth.

The tennis committee has no money, and no new members joined this year. A Hill says that a grant is to be made available from Kelburn wind farm community fund. When obtained this could be used to get a new storage 'hut' and toilet building. Tennis committee to try and arrange another group clean up.

Billy Kirkwood offered to meet Tennis committee to offer help with the above building work, as he is involved helping other clubs in N Ayrshire who are improving their facilities.

Dawn Homes and RES 3. Nothing new to report. DT still interested in RES 3 progress if any.

AOB.

----- when to start meeting in person again? No plan for this yet.

----- Calum raised issue of the reduced bus service. Almost non existent on Sundays whilst no trains are running on Sundays at moment. Councillors IM and A Hill agreed that this is a major problem at the moment. Tom M says that Scot Govt has put extra money into funds to keep buses and trains running, but no improvements noted as yet. David N also passed comments on these problems.

----- Coastal Path. – A Hill will talk to concerned MoP about this issue. No funds yet for the next part of the path.

----- Ian M commented on the CC Code of Conduct and requested all involved to please read and comply with the code. No swearing or personal verbal attacks.

----- Proposed Garden Centre – Mr Kirkwood said that revised plans are being submitted after considering the issues previously raised.

----- Denise Fraser said that the Council is offering Community Council awareness training sessions. New members Mairi and Malcolm expressed an interest in getting more information.

Meeting closed at 9-45pm.

Next meeting – by zoom November 1st at 7-30pm.