

Fairlie Community Council – Monday 01/11/2021, h. 07:30pm, Zoom meeting

Attending:

FCC: Rita Holmes (chairperson); Marco Piva (minutes taker); David Telford; Alan Holden; Malcolm Milne; Mairi Wyatt

NAC: Ian Murdoch

6 MoP

Apologies: Ian Hunter, Karla Tully (FCC); Tom Marshall (NAC); Dominic Murphy (Police)

Approval of October minutes: proposed by RH, seconded by MM

Police report, read by RH as forwarded by PC Dominic Murphy: in Oct, 21 incidents (17 incidents in Oct 2020); 1 crime: theft

DN: personally reported a witness harassment; this has already been dealt with

Councillor's updates: IM will comment on individual agenda items as suitable
Cllr Timothy Billings (from Arran, Cons Party) motion re. damage that dredging does to sea bed and local environment. IM observed: took 3 years to get Marine Scotland to agree that dredging permits require EIAs (see Southannan Sands). Insists that local Cllrs should be represented on Clyde Marine Planning Partnership
DN: NAC is 1st Counc in Scotl to pass such a motion, will contact papers to highlight this

1. Clyde Marine Planning partnership - update

DN attended a meeting re. environmental protection. Plans to bring NAC Cllrs on Clyde for awareness, as he did a few yrs ago; this may happen after NAC elections (22nd May 2022). He has been trying, with support from IM, to get representation in Clyde Marine Plan Part, and failed; Community Councils have statutory right to be involved. There should be a budget to challenge their refusal on legal basis. Need to send a formal letter to NAC to ask for funding? RH to find out from NAC legal dept. if feasible.

2. Remembrance Sunday

IH will lay the wreath on behalf of FCC

AHo: it will take place at War Memorial, ppl asked to maintain social distancing; normal service in the church to follow

3. Bonfire and fireworks

Taking place on Sun 07/11 at Community Gardens; bar, bonfire, music

4. Hunterston SSG update

Reactor 3 to come offline at the end of Nov, R4 before 7th Jan 2022

2 facilities to be built: one for storing and packaging of lower level waste, no decision re. its precise location. Permission will be asked to NAC for using Hunterston A store.

MoP: possible a consultation Hunterston/PeelPorts for use of PeelPorts land to reach rail link (stretch of A78 between roundabouts will also be used)

RH confirms that this will be discussed

AHo: using A78 is already allowed

RH 4 flasks would circulate on A78 each week from start of defueling

AHo: they will be escorted

RH There was no mention of the Offsite Emergency Plan

DT Why can't NACllrs get an unredacted copy of it?

IM was told that redacted sections only contain personal data of individuals. The plan is led from S. Ayrsh. Asked (supported by AHi) to have DEPZ extended to 20 km (rejected), asked for emergency plan, asked what should be done for people to be aware of the existence of an emergency plan

DT disagrees with the fact that an authority with a power station within its borders has subcontracted the creation of an offsite emergency plan to an authority that does not

RH We were never told where the potassium tablets are

MW Is there a standard procedure for all nuclear sites in UK?

AHo: Not formally, but ops are very similar everywhere

DT: How many nuclear sites in UK have a village within a mile?

IM: NAC could only set DEPZ within limitations set by EDF

DT: Law says that NAC should be free to set it as it decides

RH will ask again why NAC couldn't extend the zone. Officer (advised by Public Health England and by EDF) stated they needed to follow EDF guidelines

Next SSG on Thur 2nd Dec.

5. Hunterston Parc proposed developments update

Nothing new.

Competition open for grid stabilisers

If Hunterst estate has consented for the plan for battery storage, why are further grid stabilisers required?

AHo: they are competing to supply GridCo with a system, but only one (albeit quite big) is required

MoP: there is funding from UK Govt for proposals for Net Zero/Green Energy. What about proposing to take one of the existing generating sets, remove the turbine, replace it with a flywheel and make it into a synchronous compensator, which would be already connected to the grid?

RH EDF seems unwilling to invest in this

AHo On paper it is fully feasible, and it would not interfere with defueling

Jackie Pearson and AHo to write a letter to site director (Cc EDF) re. this proposal

AHo suggest to also contact Electrical Design section in East Kilbride

6. Hunterston Jetty and DS8

No news

Mr. McSporran (PeelPrts) wrote letter stating that the fact that we got info re. DS4 leaving was exceptional, and this will not happen again

MoP: There is a rumour saying that DS8 should be away by Christmas

MP: The skips have been removed from the jetty, so there may be something happening soon

MoP There was a survey of the jetty today, re. various levels. Possibly for cable-laying facility

AHo After DS4 left, the noise level changed

Memorandum of Understanding enables NAC to spend some money (from national UK budget) on projects related to Peel

IM 10 mill pledged by Scottish Enterprise for Hunterston decom, recently it came to light that they actually are for anything done there

DT will draft a letter to NAC; draft will be circulated to FCC members before it is sent

7. RES3

No news yet; been waiting for updates from Cllr Gallagher or from Viscount Kelburn: is there excess money? If there is any, how will it be spent?

MoP (Mr Billy Kirkwood) offers to find this info. Block of flats under construction will be completed in March 2022, not earlier as expected as NAC have not undertaken works to upgrade the culvert, which they are legally obliged to complete. Second block and further

housing presently pending. A company (can't disclose who) would like to bring business to Fairlie in area behind petrol station, but all is pending as works are suspended
IM had understood that NAC and Transport Scotland had agreed and set money aside for those culvert works, but Network Rail have been holding them up
MoP (BK) has heard that NetwRail have agreed to the works being done. Will look for clarifications then contact IM. Also, suggests to have something done to enhance the crag at the back of new block of flats.

8. Rigghill wind turbines update

Gone to Reporter as NAC rejected and company appeals. Lengthy objection filed by Grosvenor Associates on behalf of Skelmorlie CC and residents of Routenburn Rd ("Red Rd"), which would be severely impacted by transportation of turbines (they'd need to widen it by 4.5 to 6 metres throughout!). This will not be decided quickly
IM This would be the largest onshore wind turbine ever operational. Should be offshore. The turbines will also have to cross Fairlie and Largs causing major disruptions and possibly permanent damage/alterations

9. Proposed fish farms

MoP SEPA seem uninterested in respecting SSSI

MW Such fish farms are being closed/not allowed in most countries. Wild salmon are returning to the Clyde, they would be driven away.

MoP Could we raise awareness before this goes to planning? Suggestion to consult FoFoC and Fairlie Coastal

AOB

+Coastal path:

MoP: AHi said he would have a meeting in Oct re. continuation of path: any news?

Would it be possible to have some notes saying that cyclists should dismount on Ferry Row for health and safety reasons?

AHi had said he'd ask NAC to remove/hide signs for cyclists until completion of path; residents of Ferry Row might be liable if an accident happened along Ferry Row

+ War memorial:

MoP: it requires maintenance (the hedge is not nice, and the metal railing has been removed).

Asking FCC to ask NAC to maintain it

DN: Fairlie Community Trust could invest in the restoration of the railing

DT: it was built by Lord Glasgow as a private memorial (reason why the names are listed by rank and not alphabetically). Not sure who looks after it now.

MoP (BK) will ask Lord Glasgow for information; NAC have been maintaining it in recent years anyway

The meeting is closed at 09:56pm

The next FCC meeting is on Monday 6th of December 2021 at 07:30 pm via Zoom (link for MoPs will be provided on request; MoPs present at this meeting and those who have already expressed their interest will receive it)