

**Fairlie Community Council – Monday 02/05/2022, h. 07:30pm, Semple Centre, 45 Main Rd, Fairlie**

The meeting is declared open at **07:35pm**

*Attending:*

FCC: Rita Holmes (chairperson); Marco Piva (minutes secretary); David Telford; Mairi Wyatt; Alan Holden; Arran Hewlett; Malcolm Milne; Jackie Pearson

NAC: ///

Police: PC Dominic Murphy

7 MoP

*Apologies:* Ian Hunter, Karla Tully (FCC); Tom Marshall, Ian Murdoch (NAC)

Approval of April minutes: proposed by DT, seconded by MM

Police report Timeframe 02/04/2022 to 30/04/2022. Total incidents: 23 (same period in 2021, 20); total crimes: 2 (same period in 2021, 2). 1 theft of a motor vehicle from Burnfoot Rd (enquiries are ongoing, the vehicle has not been recovered yet); 1 male has been reported for hate speech.

+ How will the renewed double yellow lines on top of the Causeway be patrolled?

PC DM: no special plan, but they will be checked regularly. If any specific issue arises, please contact Police

+ Does the Police have anything to do with the lines for the right turn (coming from Fairlie) towards the Haylie Brae?

PC DM: no, please refer to Transport Scotland

As there are no other questions for the Police, PC Dominic Murphy leaves the meeting

Councillor's updates: No Councillors present; NAC is in purdah, elections will be held on Thursday 05/05

**FCC Advisors**

Mr. Arran Hewlett and Mr. Jackie Pearson are unanimously appointed as FCC advisors.

**1. Hunterston Parc Liaison Committee meeting update**

RH (who is also a member of HPLC): relevant questions asked at meeting have not been answered appropriately.

MoP (resident in Kaim View): there has been a noise survey in their area, but it was due to the Power Station decommissioning works

RH noise survey devices have been set up in her garden for the cable manufacturing facility

RH has shared a letter of complaint to be sent re. HPLC; FCC approves it unanimously. RH to send it.

DT sent a letter to Patricia Gibson MP re. the report re. the incident with the moored drillships that happened in February 2021. Ms Gibson replied that she hasn't been given any dates by which to expect the delivery of the report. Important to not let this be "swept under the rug" now that the drillships have left

JP wrote an independent report, using the data available to him, some months ago, and is willing to share it. Proposes to share it with Scottish Govt. asking for clarifications.

JP last Friday 29/04 saw coal being washed down in the Clyde from the jetty and phoned SEPA about it. He was called back when he couldn't pick up the phone, wasn't called again nor got any answer. Suggests to ask PeelPorts the following questions: Were they contacted by SEPA on the occasion? If so, what did SEPA say about the fact? What is the SEPA-

approved method to clean the jetty when necessary?

JP also saw, in the next days, the jetty being cleaned with a vehicle very similar to a Street Sweeper

AHewl, who was present as an observer at HPLC, was invited to a visit of the PeelPorts facilities.

Statements re. energy generation at Hunterston are unclear

MW wrote to enquire re. the possibility of setting up an Eden Project in Hunterston Parc.

Was told there is one in Dundee, but the possibility has not been completely rejected

+ There are no updates re. the proposed cryogenics project. Worth pointing out that it's a flood risk area quite close to a nuclear power station

+ The conveyor belt over the A78 should be removed by the end of May

+ An independent chair for the HPLC is needed. Cllr Ian Murdoch, whose name had been mentioned for the role, can't be elected as he already is a member of the Committee

## **2. XLCC cable factory 22/00133/PPM consultation event**

+ The consultation event will be held at the Village Hall on Wed 11/05 (2pm to 7pm) and on Thu 12/05 (10:30am to 4pm)

MoP working days, many people won't be able to attend

MoP there was no information re. this until 15/04, when they received the flyer distributed by FCC; planning consultation closed on 21/03

JP this is a 22 Billion GBP project; the cables would be necessary to import energy equal to 7.5% of the national (UK) requirement from Morocco. Having done research, JP contacted Mr. Alan Mathers, Project Director of XLCC, with questions; no answer was received.

JP: cables manufactured in Hunterston would probably use cross linked polyethylene (PEX or XLPE), which is difficult to recycle and has a limited lifespan. The proposed 185mt extrusion tower would be necessary to extrude the volatiles from the material, an extremely expensive procedure. Numerous expert reports that can be found online state that this technology is very close to obsolescence, as there are better, cheaper and greener alternatives that are already being used by European companies.

DT XLCC are a new company, therefore they haven't produced anything yet. If they proceed, there should be a bond in place.

MoP The proposal was made in Feb; the prices of materials are much higher now. Will they be able to afford it? Has this been taken into consideration?

MoP They mention a possibility of 900 jobs. What about the jobs in the tourism industry that will be lost in the area?

MP will such jobs be available for local workers, or will they be highly specialised?

JP the jetty is around 50 years old. What is its lifespan? Also, the foundation of the 185mt tower will be on reclaimed land, on sand.

MoP there are no plans for the necessary infrastructure (roads, sewage, transportation), nor there seem to be any plans to prevent or manage possible flooding

RH FCC response to the planning proposal hasn't been uploaded yet, like several others

MoP proposes a public petition to raise awareness, suggesting that the proposed plan may be bordering into an infringement of human rights

AHewl points out that this project goes against the "British energy security strategy" brought forward by the UK Govt, as it would be depending on Morocco

JP also, the cables would need to cross the territory of at least 2 EU countries (Spain and France) to no advantage to them; has this already been agreed? It doesn't seem so

RH proposes a public meeting to discuss this

+ leaflets will be created and distributed to make people aware of the public consultation; the proposed petition to be online

+ noise monitoring is presently ongoing

JP at present, there are US military ships at the jetty; one of them is carrying "dry cargo",

which could be anything from food items to ammunition. What is the security level?  
RH Patricia Gibson MP will be consulted on this

**3. Swing park, tennis courts and storage improvements**

MW takes care of the tennis court, as a member of the Tennis Club who resides by the court. Tennis Club members pay £5 monthly for maintenance of the courts, but MW maintains them on a voluntary basis. In Sept 2021 (*see FCC minutes for that month*), it was stated that “several volunteers” had been identified to help maintain the court. MW was refused by the Club a request for a monthly contribution of £10 towards the upkeep of the courts  
MP In Nov 2020 (*see FCC minutes for that month*) it was mentioned that the pine trees growing in the upper court may be sold as Christmas trees for charity, but this didn’t come to be

MW The wooden shed, in which a fire broke out recently (extinguished by DT), is ramshackle and a constant fire hazard, occasionally used as an unauthorised shelter by youth for any kind of activities. NAC have been contacted on this topic, but confirmed that the shed is a responsibility of the Tennis Club only

**4. Hunterston SSG update**

+ The next public meeting is on Wed 01/06 at 01:30pm at the Waterside Hotel in Seamill; members of the public are invited

+ The next update with EDF will be on Thu 12/05

DT An application to the Scottish Information Officer to get clarifications about the Offsite Emergency Plan has been filed; an answer has been promised and should be received soon

**5. Clyde Marine Planning partnership update**

+ No updates; David Nairn is working on this, but he’s not present to the meeting

DT has written to the Minister, no reply was received

**6. Rigghill Wind Farm update**

+ There will be no updates until late Sept

**7. Garden Centre and Restaurant update**

+ Mr. David Castelveccchi has withdrawn his interest in running the garden centre and restaurant; Mr. Billy Kirkwood (owner of the land) will not start building until there is a concrete interest

+ The planning permission expires after 3 years from the date on which it has been granted

**8. Res 3 / Dawn Homes**

+ Cllr Alex Gallagher, member of the Trust, is standing down from re-election to NAC. Hoping that a new NAC will be appointed to replace him

RH spoke to David Boyle (Viscount Boyle), who has no news

**9. Coastal path**

+ No updates

+ It has been promised that it will be completed, but there is no timeframe

MoP NAC mentioned (*as reported in Sept 2021 FCC minutes*) that NAC would remove signs pointing cyclists to the path at least until completion of coastal path; this has not happened

**AOB**

+ **Double yellow lines on The Causeway**

+ They have been retraced, but people are still parking atop them. Please see Police Report for PC Murphy's answer re. monitoring those

+ **FCC minutes**

MoP Can the minutes be uploaded on the official websites earlier than the following month?

MP to find out

The meeting is declared closed at **09:41pm**

The next FCC meeting is on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2022 at 07:30 pm at the Semple Centre, 45 Main Rd