

Fairlie Community Council – Monday 07/08/2023, h. 07:30pm, Semple Centre, 45 Main Rd, Fairlie

The meeting is declared open at **07:31pm**

Attending:

FCC: Rita Holmes (chair), Marco Piva (minutes secretary), Alan Holden, Arran Hewlett, Malcolm Milne, David Telford, David Nairn, Ian Hunter

NAC: *none*

Police: *none*

Press: Calum Corral (Largs and Millport News)

7 MoP

Apologies: Mairi Wyatt (FCC); Cllr Todd Ferguson, Cllr Alan Hill; Cllr Ian Murdoch; Cllr Tom Marshall; Cllr Eleanor Collier (NAC)

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

Police Report: No Police present, the report was not received.

NA Cllrs' report: No Cllrs present.

1. Coastal Path application No. 23/00414/PP

[Notes from Rita Holmes pasted below]

Planning Officer: John Mack

Regeneration Officer: Greg Brown

Louise Kirk: original access officer, now head person

Comments were to be in to NAC by 30th June 2023.

Main concerns locally

- i access for construction work
- ii start date

GB informed me that AECOM did design and would advise/oversee the selected contractor.

Contractor procurement process ongoing; tenders to be in by 18th August 2023.

NAC looking for competent contractor through internal review of tenders.

NAC hoping work will start late September 2023.

NAC anticipates work will take 16 weeks.

Marine Licence was applied for 15 weeks ago and was expected to be granted by now, however slow progress, but should be through soon.

Largs Yacht Haven given permission for land it owns.

Kelburn Estate which owns land from bridge at south car park to north end of Fairlie House plot of land has been held up due to change of legal person. No problems anticipated.

GB could not 100% say that Causeway would not be used for access, but highly improbable that it would be.

The Contractor will decide on where to access, most likely by Bay Street.

[copied and pasted notes end]

MoP (Ferry Row resident): Who owns the land (the rocks) in front of Ferry Row? Residents only own up to the sea wall.

MoP: Largs Yacht Haven own up to the high water mark.

DN: Check Ordnance Survey Map. It may have no owners, or it may belong to Kelburn Estate.

MoP (Ferry Row resident): Years ago, Ferry Row residents were told that the path would not run against the wall. No further communication received.

2. North Southannan Estate forestry: felling and restocking/Kelburn Estate forestry

[Notes from Rita Holmes pasted below]

This is preliminary to an Application going to NAC.

Forestry Scotland contacted us to alert us to the plan and deal with any local concerns along with its own assessment.

Tom Chadwick is contact at Forestry Scotland and he appreciated our concerns regarding impact on Fairlie. He put me in touch with the Applicant's agent Ray Simpson
RS discussed route for removal of timber and stacking of timber.

It is/ was proposed to bring it from Areas 1 and 5 across fields then via Southannan Farm track with plan to stack it behind residents' houses on Montgomerie Drive.

I stated that FCC would deem this proposal totally unacceptable as it would negatively impact on those people near and adjacent to the farm track for an indeterminate period.

Southannan Road junction with A78 is also dangerous to exit. Other roads from Montgomerie Drive to A78 pose problems for heavy timber lorries.

I suggested past Diamond Hill and onto Dalry Moor Road.

He said it was too waterlogged, near gas pipeline and pylons. However, it could be considered.

He later suggested bringing timber down Southannan Farm Lane by tractor and stacking it elsewhere. No site specified.

RS now on two weeks vacation.

NAC has informed me that David Hilditch (access and active travel manager/regeneration) is contact with regard. to route selected. dhilditch@north-ayrshire.gov.uk; He has been in touch.

Kelburn Estate Forestry

This has more impact on Largs and Ian Dippie is closely monitoring it.

He will get in touch if anything significant transpires.

[copied and pasted notes end]

Ian Dippie stated that the existing pathways in that area will be respected and maintained. With regard to N. Southannan Forest, Area 1 is the S. side of Fairlie Glen (there, trees that need to be felled will be felled); Area 5 is at the front of Diamond Hill.

RH: light machinery will be used to avoid damages to the existing road, the railway bridge and the gas pipes.

2 MoPs (residents of Montgomerie Drive, adjacent to where the timber is supposed to get stacked): this would impact massively on their income – and for an undetermined time – as they both work from home. They will contact NAC (RH to assist) in order to make this known.

DN: a number of sites are under discussion as potential nature preservation areas; some of them are around Fairlie, one of which being the woodland uphill from Southannan roundabout; will provide FCC with a more complete list.

3. RAS – Recycled Aquaculture System

[Notes from Rita Holmes pasted below]

Bakkafrost proposes this for Hunterston Construction Yard

Representatives gave us a presentation a few months ago.

DN and MW are looking into it.

Su Cox of Bakkafrost phoned me. This week they will submit application for earthworks alone. She anticipates rest of application ie design and technical to be submitted in next few weeks, and if granted approval, to go ahead with whole project second quarter of next year. I expressed our dismay at yet another “part application” rather than whole project. The fresh water supply problem has not been sorted out as yet.

[copied and pasted notes end]

At meeting with FCC, Bakka had stated that fresh water would be sourced from Knockendoon

DN Knockendoon is earmarked as a potential nature conservation area, and in any case the infrastructure to take water past railway and road is not present.

DN Impact of this would be big. SNH and Marine Scotland should not allow this, with the likely impact of contaminants, at the mouth of a smolt run that leads directly into the only protected area for salmon in Scotland (in the Loch Lomond area).

DT This partial application suggests yet another attempt to put a plan past NAC via “salami slicing”.

RH Su Cox of Bakka stated that the land has already been checked for contaminants, and that a further, more formal check will be done

DN The land is contaminated by asbestos.

DN and MW to keep an eye on this.

4. Proposed base station upgrade at North Southannan Farm at VF 85933/CTIL12425722 (KA19 OEA)

[Notes from Rita Holmes pasted below]

This is part of Vodafone network.

If we have comments, they have to be filed by 11th August 2023.

Looks like the main difference will be the height of it.

[copied and pasted notes end]

AlHold Looks like it won't have much of an impact

No action.

5. Screening request for “Stability Island” project 663775

[Notes from Rita Holmes pasted below]

Highview Power Ltd. This is for synchronous compensator and flywheel in noise insulated shed 70mx20m and 16m in height. Site 1.54 hectares/15,400sqm. There is also external plant.

[copied and pasted notes end]

1.54 hectares is roughly equivalent to 2 to 3 football fields.

DT to look into the proposal.

DN There is an otter habitat in that area.

RH They stated that there isn't much in the way of natural environment, in that area.

DN to provide details.

6. Hunterston SSG A and B

[Notes from Rita Holmes pasted below]

Next SSG is 14th September at the Waterside Inn at 1pm for refreshments and 1:30pm start.

Next Scottish Sites meeting is in Edinburgh on the August 22nd.

Next National SSG Chairs` meeting 22nd Sept

On 25th July EIA screening opinion was sought for retention of the encapsulation facility (for grouting ILW in the stainless steel boxes already in the ILW store). Retention is sought for 20 years. 23/00566/EIA.(Validated 25th July 2023.)

SEPA has criticised Magnox for insufficient categorisation of the bunker Intermediate level waste, before it was put in stainless steel boxes. However, as old vaults were a priority for ONR, there was little choice at the time. At least it is suitably boxed and stored. This has not been mentioned at monthly meetings, as far as I recall.

[copied and pasted notes end]

No further comments.

7. Hunterston Parc Liaison Group/XLCC

[Notes from Rita Holmes pasted below]

XLCC trying to raise funding of £1 billion.

There is as yet no date for the next Liaison meeting.

[copied and pasted notes end]

MoP (Dr. John Riddell, chairperson of the HPLG) confirms that no date has been set; possible but not official that a meeting could be held in September.

8. Swing park and tennis courts

Mairi Wyatt is not present, she will update FCC via email.

9. Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park/Biglees Quarry 23/00575/PP

[Notes from Rita Holmes pasted below]

Newsletter from Friends of the Park circulated.

Biglees Quarry 23/00575/PP

Extraction and processing of stone and blending with manufactured aggregate. Pending consideration. It is lodged as temporary ie. for 8 years.

Agent Johnson Poole and Bloomer, Spiers Wharf Glasgow G4 9TH Alistair Jeal ASC Group. Applicant is Mr Laurie Clark.

It will involve blasting. HGVs will not go through Fairlie.

Do we wish to comment?

[copied and pasted notes end]

Friends of the Park are a volunteer organisation formed since the Councils withdrew.

AOB

+ Overgrown vegetation

2 MoPs highlight that the lane leading from Main Rd to N end of Ferry Row is overgrown with vegetation from the adjacent gardens.

MP The owners of the lands from which the vegetation grows should be in charge of this.

AlHold NAC used to contact landowners asking to take care of it or NAC would do it for a hefty charge

RH FCC to contact NAC for clarifications

MoP This happens all over the village, as always

MM For the trunk road, try to contact AMEY as well.

+ Local news

CC (member of the press): Last weekend, a man from the village was charged with a breach of a harassment order.

The meeting is declared closed at **08:48pm**

The next FCC meeting is on Monday 4th of September 2023 at 0730 pm at the Seemple Centre, 45 Main Rd