

**Fairlie Community Council – Monday 07/07/2025, h. 07:30pm, Semple Centre, 45 Main Rd, Fairlie**

The meeting is declared open at **07:33pm**

*Attending:*

FCC: Rita Holmes (chair), Marco Piva (minutes secretary), Alan Holden, Gaye Nelson, Malcolm Milne, Ian Hunter

NAC: Cllr Ian Murdoch, Cllr Tom Marshall

Police: Sgt Donald Fisher

5 MoP

*Apologies:* Jackie Pearson, Mairi Wyatt, Arran Hewlett (FCC); Cllr Eleanor Collier, Cllr Todd Ferguson (NAC)

**Approval of June minutes:** the minutes were distributed but, likely due to some IT issue, weren't received by FCC members; they can't therefore be approved. **ACTION:** MP to forward the June minutes to the whole FCC, everyone to read and approve them as soon as it's practical.

**Police report for June:**

8 crimes were reported, some of which were found to not be crimes

+ 1 theft from a house, under investigation

+ 1 breach of anti-harassment order linked to someone in England (the enquiry is ongoing)

+ 1 theft of fuel (which was later paid for)

+ 1 theft of number plates (which were later found)

+ 1 failure to stop after an accident (no criminal behaviour was established)

+ 1 case of assault, threats and abusive behaviour by an intoxicated individual at the train station (police were involved during the event)

The Kelburn Festival took place over the last weekend (4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> of July). The traffic was congested on Friday the 4<sup>th</sup>, but besides that very few issues were reported.

IM was reported 1 complaint for noise this morning (July 7<sup>th</sup>), stating that loud music could be heard at a very late hour. He also verified that the various shops in Largs thrived over the weekend thanks to the presence of the festivalgoers.

MoP heard one festival participant complaining about a train being cancelled with no advance warning on Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup>.

RH: are there any updates on the accident that left an overturned vehicle at the foot of School Brae about one month ago?

DF confirms what already communicated by email – the vehicle had been stolen; the driver had fled the scene but was later apprehended.

DF: the 20 mph limit is very likely to be applied between Craig Hill and a point South of the traffic light at The Causeway, no exact timeframe has been mentioned.

AlHold: is there a chance that speed cameras may be installed to facilitate policing of it?

DF: no information as it is a road managed by Amey. The policy states that "road safety is aimed to reduce casualties and injuries".

TM: NAC stated that the 20 mph limit will be applied for 1 year on a trial basis.

*As there are no further questions for the local Police, Sgt DF leaves the meeting due to personal commitments, reminding everyone that he can easily be contacted via e-mail if any issues requiring Police attention arose.*

**NA Cllr's Report:**

IM:

- + To answer a question asked last month: the XLCC planning consent will expire in May 2028.
- + Concerning the concrete batching plant application that requested a 24/7 operation permit: it was not a full application but a request for information. The 24/7 permit seems unlikely to be granted, in case the application is made.
- + Battery storage facility at Hunterston: IM asked at the latest NAC meeting why it is still not operational and considered not complete, and when it is expected to start operations. He was answered that it is considered still under construction; NAC officers stated that they will be contacting the company for updates.
- + Questions were asked about the soil quality at the new Ardrossan Campus, as well as information about the additional costs (additional 27.8 million have been allocated); the work hasn't started yet. The answer is that the site has been signed off as safe for construction, no further details were given. IM asked what is expected to be the final cost, as the sum seems to be increasing constantly. He is waiting for an answer.

#### 1. **Coastal path, pavements and planters**

RH received brushes and shovels from NAC to maintain the coastal path

MoP will collect the contact details of volunteers to assist with the upkeep

RH: Hunterston B have offered to send some people to assist if necessary

Marine Craft Services have offered money to support the maintenance of the planters in the village.

RH: Is there a grant from the NAC for this?

IM: There is no funding. Individuals or organisation may adopt a planter, as it was done at the train station. Also, there is no personnel to assist with the weeding along the roads. As stated in the past, there are 9 individuals in charge of maintaining the whole of the North Coast (including Cumbræ), and cemeteries are the priority

MoP: Many pavements in the village, especially on the North side along the A78, are overhung by branches.

IM: It's the landowners' responsibility. For those along the A78, in order to have them reminded, contact both NAC and Amey.

#### 2. **Hunterston SSG**

The next meeting will be held in early Sept

The revised constitution is with NDA for final approval

The next Scottish Sites meeting will be held on Tuesday the 26<sup>th</sup> of Aug, 2pm.

AlHold asked at the June meeting what were the plans to free the debris vaults. The answer that he was given at the SSG was that it is the responsibility of the decommissioning authority.

#### 3. **Crosbie Wind Farm and UK Government consultation on ETSU/noise guidelines**

UK Govt are holding a consultation re. noise guidelines; they seem to be wishing to permit higher levels of noise

IM: if this consultation passes and if the legislation that would follow it goes through, the chances of having it changed at a later date are extremely slim; if there is a wish to comment on this and suggest revisions or changes, this needs to be done in this phase

#### 4. **Battery Energy Storage System at Kelburn**

Kenneth Gibson MSP seems to think that it will not happen

David Boyle Viscount Kelburn confirmed that it is very unlikely

5. **Recycled Aquaculture System/Stability Island/Concrete Batching Plant/Green Hydrogen**

RAS and Stability Island have been approved, no further news

No updates on Green Hydrogen and Concrete Batching Plant except for what mentioned by IM during his CII's report

6. **XLCC**

The contract to import energy from Morocco (Western Sahara) will not happen. XLCC stated that they will still build and operate on Hunterston Parc land, to produce various types of cable. The investment from Chinese investors appears to be still in place. The "silent ship" that would be used to load and transport cable from the factory is said to be under construction.

RH, personally, thinks that it is not going to happen. However, tenders are still being looked at.

**AOB**

MoP: The benches along the footpath at the Mound have weeds growing through them, and the path atop the Mound is also overgrown

MoP: Contact PeelPorts who will take care of this.

**ACTIONS:**

+ MP to forward the June minutes to the whole FCC, everyone to read and approve them as soon as it's practical.

The meeting closed at **08:27pm**.

The next FCC meeting is on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of August 2025 at 0730 pm at the Semple Centre, 45 Main Rd.