



Ardrishaig Community Council Public Meeting
Tuesday 10th January 2023
Ardrishaig Public Hall
Start 7pm

Apologies:

Mary MacCallum Sullivan, Douglas Philand (Argyll & Bute councillor)

Attendees:

**Christine MacIntyre, Fiona Hoad, Susanne Hawkby-Whitwell, Fiona McFarlane,
Gillian Hogarth, Lix Armstrong, Blair Johnston, Ross Weir,
Jan Brown (Argyll & Bute councillor)**

Ardrishaig Community Council welcomes all to the meeting

Approval of last meeting minutes from 15th December 2022.

Proposed: Ross Weir
Seconded: Fiona Hoad

Actions from previous minutes:

a. Forestry Land Scotland Parking Charges

Gillian reported that she was in communication with Richard Stein, the secretary of West Knapdale CC and that he had drafted a formal letter of complaint to Forestry Land Scotland concerning the proposed introduction of parking charges at Achhabreac, Dunardry, Barnluasgan and Ardcastle car parks. The meeting approved Ardrishaig CC joining in the letter of complaint and for Gillian to liaise with Richard Stein on this and to see if other local community councils might also get involved in challenging the decision.

Jan Brown, the community councillor, offered to help find who to speak to in Lochgilphead and West Loch Fyne CCs.

Gillian Hogarth to report further at the next meeting.

b. Ardrishaig Public Realm Improvements Update.

The most recent update appeared to be contained in an article in the Argyllshire Advertiser from the previous week and this was discussed. During the discussion, it transpired that whilst local gossip rumoured that there was a problem with the size of the new bus stop, with it potentially not being long enough to accommodate one size of bus, it wasn't clear whether this was, in fact, the case. Jan Brown volunteered to ask about this and find out how the CC could receive updates directly. Christine agreed to contact Anna Watkiss at Argyll & Bute Council to ensure that the CC is updated about progress of the works.

c. Morrisons parking and other main road parking issues.

There have been problems with parking around McColls shop when the Morrisons van arrives to drop off orders. This has led to disruption both in the area between the shop and the Public Hall and on the main road. Lynn explained that the area beside and behind the shop belongs to the shop but that it is difficult for her to police/enforce parking in that area. The problems with the Morrisons drop offs is exacerbated by the closure of the car park because customers pull up beside or in front of the shop to collect their orders as well as lorries that pull up in front. The situation should improve once the car park is reopened.

d. Pedestrian Crossing.

There was a brief discussion about the possibility of asking about the provision of a pedestrian crossing once these works were finished, with an approach to the council planning officers to check whether this would be an option. BEAR have already said that there is not a problem with having a pedestrian crossing on a trunk road.

e. King George V (KGV) Park Update.

Blair provided an update outlining that work was ongoing to start the Ardrishaig KGV Community Park Association. The intention is to work with the council to improve the area, which was originally meant for a community green space, and make it usable for the community and to reach out for volunteers and engagement with the local community, including the school. The park itself is currently condemned with the wooded area unsafe with windblown trees etc, no maintenance has been done on the paths, the grass area is unusable as it's too boggy and children can't play there. The biggest requirement is to work on drainage, which will require grants and planning, in conjunction with Amenity Services within the council. The aim is to put in a footpath from the small car park to the children's play area, with picnic benches. Children don't currently have access to the green area to kick around because of drainage and are currently restricted to a tarmacked play area in the school grounds. It was agreed that Blair would try and have a presentation for the next community council meeting.

When the works are complete the space will make a good community area for events including the Gala Days.

f. Community Garden Update

Lix reported on the proposed community garden project which also sits within the KGV Park. Project organisers have been working with the Council's community development officer and amenity services and have received mentoring and support from Scottish Gardens and Farms, who work with over 100 community gardens all over Scotland. Most households in Ardrishaig should by now have received a flyer outlining the project and its goals.

David Halfpenny also gave a short presentation on the proposal. The intention is that the council would grant a lease to the Community Garden in the longer term. However to allow work on clearing the ground and preliminary planting to start in the short term, the Council would issue a licence. There shouldn't be as many problems with the waterlogging in this area due to the use of raised beds and polytunnels and it is important to say that this is not an allotment scheme.

It is proposed that a sub-committee of the Community Council be established to help drive this forward and ensure that there is public liability cover whilst this is underway. It will also help communications and reporting back. It was agreed that Lix would submit a proposal to the Community Council for the establishment of the sub-committee and get hold of a copy of the public liability insurance.

g. Millennium Garden Update

Christine asked if anyone knew who actually owns the Millenium Garden as it's difficult to know who can progress repairs to the wall and bench caused by a car. It was also noted that the fence is in poor state of repair and needs replacing. It was agreed to approach Bear to see if they could help. It was also noted that once McColl's becomes Morrisons, which is due to happen imminently, it might be possible to approach Morrisons as they have funds for community projects.

h. Streetlights not working Hermoine Terrace update

It was agreed that Lix will look into this.

Agenda item 4. Correspondence received.

There had been none. It was noted that the police had not issued any police report but should be doing so in time for future meetings.

Agenda item 5. Treasurer's Report.

Fiona reported that there is £2,072 in the income/expenditure fund and £2,208 in the special fund. The Argyll & Bute Council Grant is usually paid in April or May.

The purpose of the Special Fund could be used to replace benches and flowerbeds, or to facilitate the installation of a community notice board it should be used for something that benefits the community. We also need to update signatories on the community council accounts.

Agenda item 6. Planning

No planning notices have been received for the Ardrishaig area.

Agenda item 7. Hogmanay 2023 and other community activities

Susanne reported that she had made a Community Hall Booking request with the aim of the Community Council organising a Hogmanay event for the community. There appeared to be a potential issue with the hall booking as the group which had booked it for a party last year has also requested a booking to do so again this year. Lynn, on behalf of the Ardrishaig Community Trust said that they had to discuss the hall booking requests and decide what to do. The Community Trust agreed to contact Lorraine Campbell the organiser of the last event with the idea that both her and the council could work together for the next event.

This led onto a discussion about the fact that some had complained that the Community Council should have organised something last year, unfortunately due to the new council only being inaugurated on 15th December it wasn't possible to organise anything for the Hogmanay just gone.

There is a desire of the new Community Council to get involved in organising or facilitating more events such as Gala Day, Halloween Parade, craft fairs, cinema nights, Cèilidhs and Hogmanay celebrations. Ross explained that he had joined the community council because he was particularly interested in organising community events and bringing the people of Ardrishaig together.

It was agreed that the Community Council would look into organising a gala day possibly in July but would need to speak to the previous gala day committee which holds materials and possibly funds associated with it. Morag Cupples from the pipe band is the person to contact.

Members from the Boat Club said that they were looking at organising a regatta, probably in August.

Agenda item 8. Improving community engagement and development.

There was a brief discussion about the desire to provide some kind of community newsletter letting people know what's on and perhaps providing details of local services. This would be internet based but possibly also in hard copy.

It was reported that Community Cycling Ardrishaig which is a new community group was looking to pick up where the Bothy had left off and was holding a preliminary meeting in the Eggshed on Monday 16th at 7.00pm for anyone interested.

Agenda item 9. Any Other Business**a. Putting Green**

Blair Johnstone introduced his idea for a putting green project near the train shed and play park on the front, his proposal had previously been sent to the community Trust for comment, but no-one from the trust had seen the proposal at this stage. Blair will resend the proposal to the community trust.

b. A83 potholes

Lix raised the issue of potholes on the A83 and agreed to take it up with Bear.

c. Logo

It was agreed that the Community Council would devise a new logo which was different to that used by the Ardrishaig Community Trust.

d. Next meeting date

Tuesday 7th March 2023 at 7.30pm in the Ardrishaig Public Hall