



# Minutes

Notes of a meeting at 7.30 pm Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December in Ardrishaig Public Hall

## Present:

Mary MacCallum Sullivan (MMS)

Convener

Kenneth MacVicar (KMcV)

Vice Convener

Arthur Barclay (AB)

Treasurer

Catherine Bowe (CB)

Secretary

Neil-John MacLean (NJ)

Lynn MacVicar (LMcV)

Fiona McFarlane (FMcF)

David Inglis (DI)

Ron Bowe (RB)

Cllr Sandy Taylor (ST)

Police Sgt Martin Balkeen

## Apologies:

Cllr MacMillan (DMcM) Donna Mallin (DM)

**2. Notes of Previous Meeting:** Approved by AB and seconded by KMcV

## 3. Matters arising:

**3.1** It was agreed that the Tommy silhouette should remain in its existing position for the coming year. A close eye should be kept on it for eroding of the aluminium.

**3.2** This year's poppy wreaths should be removed when they become soggy and unsightly.

**CB** Unfortunately, there is only one of the three wreaths laid on Armistice Sunday left in situ.

## 4. Policing:

Sgt Balkeen reported that there have been 21 calls to the police in the area recently. Two being crime reports and one of them a road accident.

**5. A & B District Councillor:** Sandy Taylor (ST)

### 5.1 Rural Deal:

a. The Council submitted its rural deal bid to the UK & Scottish Governments on 26 November. Based on the theme of "**Argyll the natural choice**", the bid seeks funding of just under £180M to improve our infrastructure and to invest in the people of Argyll and Bute.

b. The following key growth sectors and project themes have emerged as investment priorities for the Rural Growth Deal focusing on the region's key economic strengths and the critical infrastructure, skills and education required for growth. These reflect findings from the public consultation.

## **5.2 A83 Task Force:**

ST reported on a recent meeting of the A83 Taskforce, when the Cabinet Secretary had made a commitment to:

- a. Review the measures adopted to date to address the potential closure of the 'Rest and be Thankful' due to landslips, and to report back on that review in February. He further committed that if a better solution was put forward, he would follow that recommendation.
- b. He advised that he had appointed Consultants to look again at what was needed to address all transport across Argyll and Bute, with a view to an early bid for Government investment after 2020 (... "when any bid would be considered along with those from other parts of the country, but 'ours' would be one of the first such bids").

For interest, ST reported that the borrow pits (which continue to be excavated), have kept the road open on 40 days, when it would otherwise have been closed. The Cabinet Secretary affirmed his commitment to spend a further £4.4M to the end of 2020.

## **5.3 Budget Savings**

ST reported on the Council's projected budget shortfall for 2019-20, and encouraged members to participate in the Council's budget consultation exercise.

## **5.4 Ardrishaig, Tarbert & Lochgilphead Regeneration**

ST reported on progress to date generally for Lochgilphead and Tarbert, and specifically on the current budget engineering process underway for the Ardrishaig North Realm which is meantime over budget.

## **6 Planning and Regeneration:**

### **6.1 KGV Park:**

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November MMS, KMcV, Donald Bowness (DB) and Blair Johnston (BJ) met with contractor Jamie Miller (JM) to discuss the drainage and possibility of improving the playing surface of the park and cost of the work required. JM agreed to give a quote for ACC to consider. It was decided that an informal working group with a constitution should be set up. It will consist of KMcV as chairman, MMS, PL, DB and BJ initially, though it is hoped that further interested members from the village will volunteer to join. The working group will report back to ACC.

This has been approved by the members of Ardrishaig Community Council.

### **6.2 Ardrishaig Public Hall:**

As ACT continues to consult with the architect and no decision has been made yet, there are no plans for a public meeting until early in 2019 when they will report to the community on their proposals.

There is concern about the appearance of the hall and BJ offered to paint the cafeteria with help from some volunteers. Secretary of the hall committee, Gary Wilson, gave his permission for this to be done.

**6.3** AB has been approached by a volunteer who is prepared to jet wash the street pavements in the spring. DB has offered his services also, using his jet washer and bowser. Both are much appreciated.

**7 Other Community Council Activities:**

ACC Facebook page – MMS prepared to do the necessary admin.

**8. Gala day Roles and Responsibilities:**

NJ has undertaken to invite Craig Lang, organiser of Gala day, to an ACC meeting.

**9.Any Other Business:**

Business Gateway organised by Ian MacFarlane (Oakbank), has organised a young entrepreneurs' trip with 6 speakers on a Calmac Ferry boat – OBAN – COLONSAY – OBAN on 27/3/19. Cost £14.90. Calmac giving hire of the vessel free for day.

**Next Meeting of the Community Council will be held in Ardrishaig Public Hall at 7.30 pm Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019.**