



Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 5th February 2019 in Ardrishaig Public Hall

Present:

MaryMacCallum-Sullivan(MMS)Convener	Lynn MacVicar (LMcV)
Kenneth MacVicar (KMcV) Vice Convener	Fiona McFarlane (FMcF)
Arthur Barclay (AB) Treasurer	David Inglis (DI)
Catherine Bowe (CB) Secretary	Ron Bowe (RB)
Neil-John MacLean (NJ)	Cllr Sandy Taylor (ST)
	Police Sgt Martin Balkeen

Apologies:

Donna Mallan (DM)

2. Notes of Previous Meeting: Approved by NJ and seconded by LMcV

3. Matters arising: None

4. Policing:

4.1 Sgt Balkeen reported that there have been 34 calls to the police in the area since 1/1/19 - one only being a crime report.

4.2 A house fire in Ardrishaig – police and firemen called to attend the scene, but no casualties were involved.

4.3 There is concern about the high number of Internet frauds. The callers are extremely convincing on the phone, managing to convince even those householders who are very aware and internet savvy. A team of Special Constables is being recruited to deal with this fraud.

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

5.1 Budget 2019-20:

The recent Scottish Government funding has removed pressure on our budgets, which could have seen the “loss” of Council services and jobs, albeit there remains an enduring challenge for local government in the years to come in the face of reducing budgets. One question to be addressed by the Council on 21 February, is whether to increase Council Tax charges by up to 4.79%, as opposed to the planned 3%. The additional 1.79%, if applied, would realise an additional £858K for the Council coffers.

5.2 Dental Services – Mid Argyll:

HASCP is looking to create a new independent General Dental practice in Lochgilphead. It is hoped that the new practice will be open within one year from now. Meantime the



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recruitment of a Public Service Dental dentist, who will work at least in part at the Mid Argyll hospital, is in progress.

5.3 Road Closure - Ardrishaig:

- a. Kilduskland Road / Park Road closure was put in place in light of concerns for the stability of the fire damaged building shell, and the risk of collapse into the road. Demolition has begun and the road will be open as soon as it is safe to do so.
- b. Responding to criticism of lack of information flow, the Council's Facebook page will be updated daily, reporting on progress, 'opening' or other important news.
- c. Concerns have been expressed about the speed of traffic along West Bank road which is being used as an alternative route – single carriageway and no footpath. Council staff are in attendance at busy times when they help to moderate and achieve traffic calming. A request for temporary 'sleeping policemen' has been rejected in favour of the 'attendance' solution.

5.4 New Way to Showcase Argyll & Bute:

www.abplace2b.scot a new website providing information on services, schools, jobs and things to do in Argyll and Bute has been launched. This is building on the successful #abplace2b which is used by the Council, its partners and members of the public on social media. It is hoped to direct positive national and international attendance to the area.

5.5 Brexit Preparation: – civil contingency planning and business continuity -

- a. The Scottish Government is investigating if action is required to mitigate potential adverse impacts of withdrawal from the EU including a "no deal" scenario.
- b. One of the biggest risks for our area is recruitment and retention of workforce in our key sectors which is heavily dependent on EU nationals. There appears to be a low level employed by the Council.
- c. Another key risk is food export licences. If exports to EU States require the same level of processing as non-EU countries, this will incur a significant resource to produce an additional 500 licences/week averaged out over the year.
- d. There are 3 levels of preparedness for local authorities between "establishing, developing and ready". Argyll and Bute Council are currently categorised as establishing and working towards developing.

6. Community Council Terms of Reference:

MMS read out excerpts from the document and this can be found on A & B website.

7. Treasurer's Report:

AB gave a report to the Council of our expenditure in 2017 - 2019 and the Balance left in our account on 5th February 2019 is £1344.98. There being no questions from the members, the report was accepted and the Treasurer was thanked for his time and effort. Balance sheet proposed by MMS, seconded by CB and approved by the members.



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8. Gala Day: 20/7/19

Craig Lang, organiser of Gala day, asked for ideas for a parade and floats, and will be grateful for any help that we can provide on the day.

9. Planning and Regeneration:

9.1 The erection of the 3m high fence works are due to start on 6 February 2019. Thanks to Peter Laing for his determination to get the project completed.

9.2 AB asked for a vote on a new drainage ditch to be excavated to prevent excess water on pitch and create a soak away. A suggestion to repair the pathway at the same time, and a composter for garden rubbish, at present being dumped over the wall into the park, from nearby houses. There was a show of hands and the majority agreed. The estimated cost is £1000.00.

9.3 The Egg Shed building is due for completion in April. There will be a car parking area at the old Mellex Yard. The Steamer terminal will have a Grand re-opening at the same time.

10. Other Community Council Activities:

10.1 Facebook Page – Adam Barclay, who is the administrator, explained that it is a snapshot of what ACC is doing at this moment in time. The page is monitored and whatever goes on it, has to be approved by him and ACC. So far, 80 people have subscribed to it and it has a link to ACC's official website and to SC. It will have the monthly minutes, dates and times of activities, e.g. coffee mornings, musical evenings, meetings etc. Also, news on our Visible Projects for 2019.

10.2 Tommy, at the War memorial, which had fallen over (or blown over) is in safe keeping and will be re-erected.

10.3 Establish who owns the ground with the Memorial stone commemorating Peter Campbell, a surgeon, who died in 1771. The enclosure is next to the Tool Hire.

10.4 It is proposed to investigate and record Ardrishaig's heritage, and a small working group has been set up. LMcV, KMcV, FMcF, RB and CB have volunteered.

10.5 NJ has obtained barrels for the flowers, and has asked for someone with a motor saw licence to cut them in half. He will be re-reimbursed by the Treasurer (AB) for them.

11. Any Other Business: None

Next Meeting of the Community Council will be held in Ardrishaig Public Hall at 7.30 pm Tuesday 5th March 2019.