



# Draft Minutes

Notes of a meeting at 7.30 pm Tuesday 4th September at Ardrishaig Public Hall

Present:

Mary MacCallum-Sullivan (MMS)	Convener
Kenneth MacVicar (KMcV)	Vice Convener
Arthur Barclay (AB)	Treasurer
Catherine Bowe (CB)	Secretary
David Inglis (DI)	
Fiona McFarlane (FMcF)	
Ron Bowe (RB)	Minutes Secretary

1. Apologies:

Neil-John MacLean;  
Lynn MacVicar

Also present:

Sgt Balkeen  
Cllr D MacMillan

**2 Inaugural Meeting** Notes of the inaugural meeting held on 3 April 2018 were approved.

**3. Matters arising** None

**4. Policing**

Sgt Balkeen reported that a total of eight crimes had been investigated in Ardrishaig recently - none of which presented a serious risk to the community.

**5. Planning**

5.1 KMcV reported on a training meeting organised by Argyll & Bute Council and also attended by Fiona MacFarlane. He felt that the event had been very helpful in explaining how the planning system operated and volunteered to act as the contact point for planning issues. FMcF agreed to act as his deputy. It was agreed that particular attention should be given to ABC's long term plan when it would be circulated for comment early in the new year.

**5.2 Canal Swing bridge** It was noted that Bear plans to close the main swing bridge for maintenance. This is scheduled for the period between 2100hrs on Sun 9 Sept 2018 and 0700hrs on Mon 10 Sept. Discussion led to general agreement that - 1) notification of roadworks was not a responsibility of the Community Council and - 2) the signage currently set up by the roads contractor (Bear) was suitable and sufficient.

**5.3 Regeneration of Ardrishaig**

Chair of Ardrishaig Community Trust (ACT) (Hamish Nicol) was invited to update the Council on the work of the Trust. He noted that a new approach to regeneration was in preparation. Details would be announced soon. ACT was also in discussion with Sustrans and Scottish Canals about joint funding educational projects with Scottish Canals (SC). They were also looking forward to the issue of the report on the Public Hall sponsored by ACT which it was hoped would tie in with the regeneration plans.



# Draft Minutes

CB thanked Cllr D MacMillan for arranging the replacement of lifebelts in the Chalmers Street area.

## 6. Visible Changes through Small Projects.

Following the success of the Small Projects initiative up to the dissolution of the Community Council in March it was agreed that a list of possible projects for 2018 [late]-19 be produced. The Council was actioned by MMS to produce a preliminary list by the next meeting. The following possible projects were suggested:

**6.1 Millenium Garden Table** Purchase of a picnic table in the Millennium garden and information signs at entrance from road.

**6.2 Wooden sign posts** AB suggested installation of a suitable number of 150mm x 150mm wooden posts pointing out features of the village which might be of interest to visitors. He thought that a distinctive carving could be cut on each post. AB undertook to get estimates for the potential project.

**6.3 Robbers' Den** It was suggested that routes to the Robber's Den be marked using the wooden (above) signposts. Further discussion led to general approval for a proposal to be put to ACT that an official opening event be held by them, to promote and publicise the Den and the upgrading work undertaken by the Trust.

**6.4 Canal's Level regulator** KMcv drew attention to the run-down condition of the "Waster" – the Canal's Level regulator. It was agreed to speak with SC on behalf of the Community Council to explore the possibility of improving its appearance. He felt that its unusual design would be of interest as a tourist attraction.

**6.5 Spring bulbs** FMcf suggested that planting spring bulbs in the Chalmers Street half barrels would brighten up the street. This was well received by those present and she was asked to investigate how much it would cost, types of bulbs, etc. and report back to the Council.

**6.6 Adult Exercise equipment** The subject of Adult Exercise equipment was discussed. It was agreed that funding should be sought.

**6.7 Smiley face speed warning** A continuing problem has been road vehicles speeding through the village. It was suggested that a "smiley face" speed indicator be installed at the north and another at the south approach to the village. Sgt Balkeen agreed that where they had been installed elsewhere it was recognised that they were effective in reducing traffic speed. A figure of £700 each was mentioned and it was agreed that action be taken to seek funding from ACT.

**6.8 Management of small projects** AB proposed to prioritise the list of costed small projects and allocate responsibility for each to individuals who would report to the meeting. It was noted that the annual allowance from Argyll & Bute Council (A&BC) for 2017/2018 was £613.

**7. KGV fence** P Laing reported that he had taken his efforts to have the extra height fencing for the KGV erected as far as he could. DM advised him to attend ABC at 10.00hrs Thurs 5 Sept at Kilmory where individual requests would be heard at a special meeting.



# Draft Minutes

**7.2 School Brae** It was suggested that the blind corner at the top of School Brae was hazardous to both pedestrians and vehicles. CB agreed to approach ABC with a view to reducing the hazard.

**7.3 Local buses** It was noted that buses from Oban (Route 423) turning near the pier could instead allow passengers with heavy loads to leave the bus at the top of the hill without significant detour and much to their benefit. Add to list.

**7.4 Emergency Plan** The Emergency plan issued in 2013 requires review. It was agreed that this be approached as a small project under Planning and added to the list. The existing "Ardrishaig Community Facebook Page" was not updated sufficiently frequently to be a reliable channel of information for the public. Not all those with an interest in the village are on Facebook.

**7.5 Beacons of light** A working group (consisting of: KMcV; FMcF; AB; CB and RB) to consider how WWI might be remembered was set up to report to the meeting.

**8. Next Meeting of the Community Council:** 7.30 pm Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October '18 in Ardrishaig Public Hall