

## MULL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held at An Roth on Wednesday 4th July

Present: Billy McClymont, Ben Reade, Andrena Duffin, Iain Campbell, Susan Campbell, Nancy Somerville, Adrian Stephens, Alexander Anderson, Fiona Brown, Pam MacColl, Sarah Padley, Moira Westland, John Maughan.

Apologies: Jim Corbett, Lindsay Macdonald, Josh Liddle, Moray Finch.

In Attendance: Councillor Devon, Elizabeth Ferguson, (Chairman of the Ferry Committee), PC Grierson.

Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th June were proposed by S.C., seconded by I.C.

### Matters arising

Fiona Brown attended the meeting of S.W.M.&I D. about the Tiroran Woodland Croft project. It was a well attended meeting with a lot of interest shown in the proposed Crofts. It was thought this would be an ideal project for the new SPZ proposed by the Council.

B.M.suggested Morvern Gibson should be asked to the next Com.Council meeting to update us.

### Police Report.

PC. Grierson reported that in the Tobermory area there had been numerous concern for persons calls, a male reported for road traffic offences after a collision and various road traffic matters. In the Craignure area various road traffic matters and a male reported for a road traffic offence following a collision. In the Salen Area various road traffic matters.

There is a high volume of traffic on the Island leading to some congestion.

PC Helen Mason is now in the Tobermory Station, other candidates have been interviewed and it is hoped to have 5 officers based on the Island, although the on call commitment is to be reduced.

I.C. commented on the state of the Police Station in Tobermory, it gave a bad impression of the Island. It is hoped that Property Services will do something about it.

### Ferry Committee Report

Susan Campbell gave a report of the AGM of the M.I.F.C.

Neal Goldsmith has retired as the Chairman of the Committee and was thanked for his hard work and dedication. Elizabeth Ferguson was appointed in his place.

Finlay MacRae and Iain Erskine, from CalMac, attended the meeting. The STAG report, to be completed by November was welcomed, but it was noted there was a need for an interim solution to provide an early/late boat all year. Breakdowns are more frequent, e.g. the radar failure fiasco.

There was no manager on duty in Oban to relieve the situation. A new manager is now in place.

RET has had mixed results and needs to be reviewed. No decision on freight charges as yet.

Haulage companies asked that the booking system should be decentralised & returned to Craignure because of long telephone delays.

Elizabeth Ferguson, Chair of the Mull & Iona Ferry C0mmittee, reported that the negotiations for an early and late boat throughout the year had taken five years so far. The difficulties were the working hours and budget. Also a number of issues with the Criagnure pier are causing concern, A&B Council have surveyed the pier as a new timetable would necessitate the boat berthing there overnight. Extra money needed if the boat was to be berthed in Oban. It was agreed that there was an unquestionable need economically for an early/late boat.

STAG is carrying out an interim review as well as a long term one as changes are needed now. It would be at least 9 years before the long term plan could be implemented.

E.F. is hoping to meet with the new Transport Minister.

B.M. confirmed the benefit of three smaller vessels giving a shuttle service rather than the suggestion of two 102 metre ships with which the infrastructure of the Island could not cope.

I.C. asked if the link to the outer Islands could be restored.

M-J.D. noted that the Bute service now carried more pedestrians than the Mull one as improvements have been made to their service .

E.F.said the Craignure pier was at the end of it's life and although dues had been paid to A&B Council it had not been well maintained. A review of fares for commercial vehicles has been ongoing since 2014, a Government working party was set up in 2017 but so far no result. The Islands Bill should help us.

#### Councillor's Report.

The advertisement for new Doctors has been circulated and the response looks promising.

The need for a new High School was discussed.

The competition for the Primary Schools to design a new flag is being judged. Councillor Devon is looking for local businesses to sponsor a flag pole at each school.

A vote of thanks was recorded for all those who helped with the new beach at Tobermory.

Especially Lyn O'Donnell, Garth Reade, Andrew Padley, John Macdonald and Ian Erskine at Calmac. 50 tons of sand was donated.

M.W. is on the beach committee and they are looking in to encouraging responsible dog owners.

There have been complaints about dog mess.

Something must be done about the state of the railings and the lack of flood defences on Main Street. Also the pavements are in a bad state. A letter to be written to A&B Council.

I.C. reported that the temporary traffic lights and parking on Breadalbane Street made it an unsafe route for children walking to school. Also the Council buildings needed attention.

F.B. suggested there should be a feasibility study to find a central position for a new High School to avoid children from the Ross being sent to Oban.

#### Lochbuie & Croggan road.

A letter had been received from residents complaining about the verges being overgrown making the passing places and oncoming traffic difficult to see. The rhodies and bracken are too thick.

A&B Council to be contacted.

#### Fountain

Ben Reade reported that the proposed ideas had been refused and he was working on new ones.

M-J.D. said he should encourage Scottish Water to help.

#### AOB

There are worries about the shortage of grave spaces especially in Tobermory. The planning permission to extend Beadoun Cemetery has lapsed. M-J.D. has been interviewed by the Press to highlight the problem.

The repairs to Dugald Macphail's Monument have been completed with enough money left for an explanatory board.

Moray Finch asked for the C.C's support for new road signs at Ulva Ferry. There is increasing pressure on parking and need for a warning sign by the pier.

B.M. agreed a letter would be sent to A&B Council.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 1st August at An Roth