

Mull Community Council Meeting

1st June 2019, 7:30pm, An Roth

Present:

Billy McClymont (**B.M**), Fiona Brown (**F.B**), Andrena Duffin (**A.D**), Iain Campbell (**I.C**), Adrian Stephens (**A.S**), John Maughan (**J.M**), Jim Corbett (**J.C**), Josh Liddle (**J.L**), Susan Campbell (**S.C**), Moira Westland (**M.W**), Pam MacColl (**P.M**), Marie Robertson (**M.R**), Lindsay MacDonald (**L.M**)

In Attendance:

Mary-Jean Devon (**M-J.D**) Morvern Gibson (**M.G**), Moray Finch (**M.F**) Joe Reade (**J.R**)

Apologies: Nancy Sommerville, Sarah Padley

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Proposed: Adrian Stephens

Seconded:

SWMID - Morvern Gibson

M.G reported that SWMID has increased its number of employees from 2 to 5. They now have an Administrator, Finance and Project Officer and Forest Officer.

Woodland Crofts

SWMID advised to put together master plan for the crofting township. Application for £10K will be made to The Waterfall Fund. Croft allocation policy will need to be drawn up. SWMID currently have a draft Forest Plan from Till Hill.

6 SPHN areas identified. Infected Larch has been cleared. 170 felled, but areas need replanted. 202ha of mature timber remaining. Forest Officer has planted approximately 7000 trees.

5ha of native trees have been planted. Half of these have been wax treated to prevent destruction from Weevils etc and the other half has been left untreated. The site will be monitored to help the community understand the effects of chemical/ non-chemical treatment on trees.

The next stage is for SWMID to hold community scoping events. The scoping document can be found on their website. After this process the next consultation will be with Forest and Land Scotland.

Ben Doran

An application to the Scottish Land Fund has been made for the purchase of this site to farm Kelp. An answer should be given by August 2019.

Business plan is based on projections, but it looks feasible.

Sea site is 5K away from Ben Doran slip and is 2ha in size. If successful SWMID intend to meet with the local fishing community. There is scope to create extra work for small fishing businesses. It is hoped that by creating new employment opportunities will encourage families to stay in the Ross.

M.G has requested a letter from MCC in support of their application to the Scottish Land Fund.

Columba Centre Update

SWMID lease half of the building and are now at full capacity. It is currently being used by Rural Housing, SWMID staff have to offices, Hot desking and a community gym which is due to open 2019. The remainder is used as and arts and crafts retail space and is occupied by 10 individuals from the Ross of Mull.

POLICE REPORT

North Mull

32 Calls: RTA, Fire, Search and Rescue assistance, disturbance Main Street Tobermory.

No calls of note. 2 crimes recorded.

Craignure

6 calls: Animals, RTA, concern for persons.

No calls of note. No crimes recorded.

Salen

4 Calls. RTA.

No calls of note. No crimes reported.

Ross of Mull & Iona

18 Calls: RTA, Theft, Animals,

No calls of note. 1 crime recorded.

Updates since last meeting

Telephone Contact was made with two companies who use the large wood lorries on Mull. Both were made aware of the complaint re speeding lorries on the island and both agreed to feed this back to their drivers.

Incidents of note or crime trends

A call was made to police regarding the derelict house on Erray Road (opposite the school gates) A small quantity of cannabis were found within the property along with signs that persons are continuing to use this as a meeting point to use alcohol and drugs. The property continues to be an issue. Extra patrols in the area and within the property are continuing. Is it possible to approach the council to erect some fencing around the property in an attempt to discourage entry?

TRO

Meeting set for 12th June, 10:30am, Corran Halls, Oban where decision will be made. **A.S** reported that Shiona Ruhemann has consolidated public objections and sent them to councillors.

It was agreed an Island Impact Assessment should be carried out before conclusion is drawn. MCC have repeatedly asked that a decision is deferred until this assessment has been carried out, but this has not been taken on board. It was requested that **A.D** contact Mike Russell and ask him to write to the 8 councillors who will be sitting on the panel. **A.D** will also write to the European Small Islands Committee for Support.

A.D to present a petition objecting to the motion with approximately 500 local signatures. **A.S** to notify the press to attend meeting.

COUNCILLORS REPORT – Mary-Jean Devon

M-J.D spent 5 days in Inverness looking at the Sturrock Report (Bullying within NHS Highland)

2 of these days were spent putting together public apologies. There is a new interim chair on the Health Board, Professor Boyd Robertson. Multiple changes have been made for the better since his appointment including changed to the whistle blowing service.

Other meetings attended include Planning meeting, Ambulance meeting 21st May and Child Care meeting in Salen delivered by Wendy Brown Lee.

M-J.D reported that A&B council have assured the public that necessary works will be completed in time to provide 1140 care by August 2020.

Moray Finch reported that as a result of A&B council plans, MICT plans for wrap around childcare has had to take another direction, MICT are now considering the provision of an outdoor nursery and are looking at public areas such as Aros Park.

Mention was made to the current ferry service disruption, as 2 boats are in the shipyard for emergency repair.

M-J.D suggested inviting Paul Wheelhouse to the next transport meeting to give community opportunity to enforce how serious the lack of investment has been in the service and how this impacts island life.

M-J.D reminded councillors about planned retirement party for Alex Livingston in Tobermory.

An advert has been placed to fill the position of Street Sweeper.

SAS REPORT – Fiona Brown

Meeting held to discuss SAS response times to Ross of Mull as relief paramedics were being located in Tobermory. Assurance was given that every effort will be made to locate staff closer to Craignure in future. A suggestion was made that SAS/ NHS apply for a house in Lochdonhead to solve problem. The SAS will come to the Ross of Mull to reassure the community on their plans. A date is to be arranged.

B.M reported that interviews for GP's will be held on 26th June. 3 very robust business cases have been presented. Mary-Jean Devon, Billy McClymont and Iain Campbell will be on the panel.

MICT Report – Moray Finch

M.F reported that the Fionnphort to Creich Hall is nearly complete and a celebration will be held at the Ross of Mull Gala. A new defibrillator has been installed in Glen Iosail (Supplied by Friends of Glen Iosail) and one in Lochdonhead Primary School

The industrial site in Tobermory should be finished by October 2019. The next stage is to assign the units and take deposits from interested parties.

The Scottish Land Fund has approved the application for the 200ha forest site (Ardura) beyond Lochdonhead. MICT intends to harvest the current commercial forestry and restock area with native broadleaf. There are also plans for a small amount of community woodland croft sites.

MICT are hoping that community groups and schools will use the site for outdoor activities.

The first meeting for 'Plastic Free Mull' was held on 23rd May. 8 individuals attended.

CRAIGNURE PIER

First meeting of the 'Craignure Marine Infrastructure Liaison Group' held with MCC in attendance together with MIFC, CalMac, MJD and other Councillors from the Harbour Board; Transport Scotland and A&B officers. BM expressed view that progress has been made. They have agreed to look at the proposals for interim solutions ,that were not included in the STAG report, and to cost them using in-house resources so that they might be considered alongside other options in the forthcoming business case for the pier. M.F requested at the meeting that a time-line for this be produced and attached to the forthcoming CMILG minutes. On the subject of pier maintenance, an undertaking was secured at the meeting that the pier and marshalling area lighting would be improved to the satisfaction of CalMac.

I.C reported that Calmac appeared supportive on matter, as were Transport Scotland.

J.R expressed the view that he had little confidence in the Council to deliver interim solutions.

RECRUITMENT

There are currently vacancies available. Joe Reade from the Mull & Iona Ferry Committee is looking to become a member. MJD queried that as no co-option was noted on the June 2019 agenda, the decision will need to be deferred for 14 days. A.D explained that community councillors had previously been emailed regarding Joe's co-option and they were supportive. JR was therefore welcomed to the Community Council. MCC is also looking to recruit a member from the Ross of Mull. **B.M** expressed disappointment that Alexander Anderson has resigned.

J.C stood down as vice chairman but will remain as a member.

A.O.B

Norman Hickson from Craignure Bay Community Group is seeking funding from The Scottish Parliament Investing in Communities Trust to carry out a study on the impact of the Craignure Pier development on the community. The deadline for the application is 14th June. **A.S** will work with Norman to provide the financial details. Members happy for Norman to take charge of the application and submit on behalf of MCC.

J.C reported that A&BC have rejected campsite plans but have agreed to the extension of the original shop but not to the proposed café space. They are currently still waiting for building warrant for shop extension.

CHARTS have added MCC to their mailing list.

A&B council have granted permission to roads being closed on Mull for the Rally 11th – 13th October.

Rebecca Munro is happy to make signs like those on Ulva for the old graveyard at Aros. She has volunteered to do this for free.

A.S to pay KFT for interpretative board for McPhail Monument.

M.J.D requested that another sign is made to prevent campervans from travelling up Erray Road in Tobermory and getting stuck. The sign should also reinforce the speed limit. All agreed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

3rd July 2019

