

Mull Community Council Meeting

9th August 2016, 7pm, An Roth, Craignure.

Present: Billy McClymont, Allan Cameron, David Pollard, Susan Campbell, Willie Hume, Cameron Anson, Steve Willis, Rory Forrester, Jim Corbett, Joanne MacDougall and Juliet Vines.

In Attendance: PC Dominic Grierson, Cllr Mary-Jean Devon, Cllr Alastair MacDougall, Seonadh MacKenzie and Jenny Reddaway.

Apologies: Fiona Brown, Jane Stevens and Graham Alexander.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Proposed: **SC**

Seconded: **JC**

MATTERS ARISING

- **RF**, referring to verge cutting, expressed surprise that this was taking place unnecessarily on straight sight lines and suggested this could be reviewed
- **MJD** advised that many complaints had been received from those loving the wild flowers in the verges as well as those maintaining the cut is necessary for safety.
- **WH** advised that the verges needed a double cut as a single cut would result in vegetation falling over. **WH** further advised that the verges used to be cut three times a year and it has gradually reduced to the present day single cut. Two tractors had come over to do the cut; one had broken down and a replacement hired.
- **JC** reported that the bracken was well over the Loch Buie road in places.
- **BM** considered that the verge cutters were doing a great job but pointed out that the verge cutting issue came up every year. **BM** asked if the bracken could be sprayed.
- **AC** advised the best time to spray bracken was around the end of July when it was a maximum growth.
- **JC** suggested that particular hot spots be identified.
- **JM** advised that bracken was used as a biofuel in Germany and **BM** suggested it might offer a business opportunity for an islander.
- **MJD** raised the issue of cemeteries that were full not having the grass cut until October and that people were having difficulties in finding graves. She had asked if the cut could not be done in July and had been advised that this would ruin the grass.
- **CA** suggested that local communities might do the cut in graveyards that were not in use; this was thought to be a good idea by **RF** and **JC**. **BM** suggested an item be placed in R&A.
- **AC** said that the standard of grass cutting was not as good as it was. **MJD** reminded those present that currently the staffing level was four people down
- **BM** suggested that **SW** should write to Derek Crook to get an additional resource to get the grass cut in the hot spots and also to enquire as to the staffing situation.

- **DP**, referring to discussions about the lift on the Coruisk, advised that the flit van was now in place and he had sent a message to NG, thanking him.

POLICE REPORT

Date of Report: - 12/07/2016 – 08/08/2016. PC Dominic Greirson

<p>Crimes/Offences that have occurred in community area since last meeting</p>	<p>For period 12/07/2016 – 08/08/2016 Total number of incidents recorded = 54</p> <p>Crimes / Incidents of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>LB30 – Tobermory area:</u> <p>27 incidents recorded, of note:</p> <p>Offensive printed notes left at various loci in Tobermory – enquiries continue.</p> <p>Theft shoplifting – solved</p> <p>Road traffic collision (minor injury) after vehicle was taken and driven away. • <u>LB31 – Craignure area:</u> <p>12 incidents recorded, none of note.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>LB33 – Salen area:</u> <p>3 incidents recorded, none of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>LB34 – Bunessan area:</u> </p>
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	<p>12 incidents recorded, of note:</p> <p>1 minor road traffic collision</p> <p>Report of vandalism at Iona Abbey, no criminal damage established.</p>
Updates on any actions from previous meetings	
Incidents of note or crime trends	<p>Divisional priorities remain as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public Protection - Serious Crime & Terrorism - Violence, Disorder & Antisocial behaviour - Road Policing
Forthcoming events	

- **DG** advised that there had been a slight increase in minor road traffic collisions and congestion.
- **AC** raised strong concerns about the level of Police cover on the island, citing a recent incident at the filling station in Salen. This had been reported using 101 service at 9.30am and **AC** had been told that no Police officer was available until 6pm; he was later informed it would be 8am the next morning before an officer was available. **AC** felt this was not satisfactory. **AC** also pointed out that, when he was robbed last year of several thousands of £s of goods, no-one came out. **DG** agreed to pass this on to his Inspector.
- It was suggested that Sgt. Mark Stephen, who has now been away for a year, be asked to the next Community Council meeting to give an update of the situation and **DG** agreed to write to the Inspector with this request on behalf of the Community Council.

MULL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN/PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING.

- **DP** advised that the meeting planned for that day to review the full report had not been quorate. It had been hoped to go through the full report and list all of the items.
- **DP** stated that the summary was very good and covered the points raised in both the verbal responses and the survey. There is no action plan in the summary.
- **DP** had also received from Sian at MICT the final report. **DP** stressed the need to disseminate the contents and to look at the ways to move forward. He noted that some of the items were

statutory and, as a joint initiative with the Community Council, input from the Community Council was needed. **DP** suggested that there be a presentation and discussion at a future date.

- **SW** advised that Sian's report had been published. This needs to be circulated as we have to be seen as consulting with the community again. **BM** advised that hard copies of the report were required as the document was large (90 pages).
- **MJD** queried some of the Argyll salary figures in the full report.
- **SW** explained that in the "Participatory Budgeting" programme there was one fund which was divided into two, totalling £1.5million. MICT and the Community Council will have control of the budget.
- **BM** reported that MICT will finance the post.
- **DP** was concerned that the requirement to go and do further consultation might take another year though he accepted the need to do so. He feared that the list would be a "wish" list and it was necessary to prioritize.
- **SW** advised that the feedback from the Ross of Mull and Ulva Ferry development plans would be fed in in due course.
- **DP** referred to the need for off-road parking in the 2012 report. **SW** felt three or four more viewpoints would be good but this has to come from the community.
- **DP** and **JV** volunteered to represent the Community Council on the Community Plan Steering Group.

MOTOR HOMES/CHEMICAL TOILET DISPOSAL PROBLEMS (POSTER UPDATE) (JS)

- JS was unable to attend the meeting. JR had been in contact with JS regarding the poster content for a short piece on the UK Camp Site forum and advised that the information was with Brian Swinbanks; he was very busy, though, and the poster was not yet completed.

FIONNPHORT CAR PARK CONSULTATION

- **CA** advised that no progress has been made with regards to the proposed public consultation on the proposed charging for parking at the top car park in Fionnphort. **AM** confirmed that discussions were ongoing.
- **CA** was aware that brief discussions on the possibility of community ownership of the car park had taken place before he joined SWMID prior to his joining; he agreed to ask about this again.
- **BM** felt the car park would be a good earner for the community and asked that **CA** go back to them and obtain a statement for the next Community Council meeting.

MCC TENT UPDATE

- **JC** reported that, if people erect the marquee themselves, the Community Council would not be liable in the event of an accident, however, if, say, a pole broke, then the CC would be responsible.
- **SW** had found out that is covered to a certain degree for public liability
- **JC** asked if A&BC had a Community Council policy for public liability and **MJD** agreed to investigate.

- **RF** considered it would be better to insure the tent and charge people to cover the cost.
- **JC** advised that the marquee was stored with **AC** but that he stored the flooring. The tent was a bit scruffy and could be improved with a lining. One pole would need some work over the winter. The cost for hiring was £250.
- **MJD** asked if the lady organising the MacLean Gathering next year had been in contact; **JC** confirmed this.

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- **AM** reported that he had been in touch with Amenity services over the bin collections; many bins had been overflowing. The Council said that this was fly tipping, not as a result of the lack of vehicles. The backlog has now been cleared.
- **AM** was also getting more complaints about the Doctor situation. **BM** advised that the whole situation was going to be reviewed in the light of developments.
- **MJD** advised that because of traffic problems at the Eas Brae bridge in Tobermory, the Council would be putting in place a Traffic Order to prevent parking; this will be in place before the start of next year's tourist season.
- **MJD** advised that Argyll Training, working out of Oban and funding apprenticeships, will not receive money from the Scottish Government's Employability Fund. The loss of this organisation was felt to be detrimental and **SW** was tasked to write supporting the organisation.
- **MJD** advised that a plaque commemorating the Pilgrims' Progress from Australia to Iona had been installed in Iona school.
- **MJD** advised that a new group for people with mental issues had been formed called Mull Safe and Sound; their first meeting would be on 19th August.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **DP** offered feedback on the move of the Post Office in Salen into the Spar. Initially, there had been opposition but the general feedback has been positive and the staff have been very helpful. **DP** had also found that some people were not aware of the Post Office function in the Spar and suggested a sign would help. **SW** reported that there was a sign, but it was not illuminated. **RF** agreed that the staff were doing a fantastic job.
- **JC** reported a very large hole on the Lochbuie road. **WH** gave **JC** the contact phone number in Lochgilphead to make a complaint.
- **SW** reported that, at the Directors' meeting the Craignure pier had been discussed and MICT were in favour of community ownership
- **MJD** reported that Jessie's bench was now in place.
- **CA** advised the Ross of Mull and Iona Gala fortnight had been a great success and expressed thanks to the Gala Committee and to PC Clare Chalmers who was heavily involved.

The meeting closed at 8.36pm.