

COLL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Wednesday 11th December 2013 at An Cridhe

1. Apologies: These were received from Alexander Maclean-Bristol (AMB) and Rob Wainwright (RW).
2. Introduction of CCC members
3. Declarations of interest: Kenny MacIntyre (KM) and Dougie Brown (DB) declared interest in items a) Marine Harvest and h) Scallop Dredgers and would excuse themselves for these. Peter Ings (PI) declared an interest in item 12b)
Julian Senior (JS) questioned the wisdom of allowing two fishermen to absent themselves from discussion on relevant topics. Pat Graham (PG) said they could write to the CCC as community members individually.
4. Minutes of previous meeting agreed (to be formally adopted at next meeting)
5. Matters arising:
 - a) Marine Harvest Fish Farm:
KM and DB absented themselves. There was no new update from AMB who had been in discussion with Marine Harvest. PI reported that Marine Harvest had approached Development Coll to do a demographic survey of Coll. Dev Coll declined. Fra MacIntyre had offered to do it in her own time- there had been some discussion as to the legitimacy of that. Understood that it had been left to Fra to do it in her own time.
PG pointed out that if any member of the community was approached and didn't want to participate in the survey, they didn't have to.
JS asked if we were any further forward in calling a public meeting to discuss the fish farm proposal. Doug Young (DY) said that he understood from the last meeting that we were awaiting the Environmental Impact survey and this had not yet arrived.
 - h) (Jumped to item h while KM and DB were out the room). Scallop Dredgers
JS- CCC has discussed the activity of the scallop dredgers around Coll and Tiree. There is concern that they dredge for scallops legally but dredge for spootfish/razor clams illegally. Dredgers damage the seabed and the gear of the local fishermen and JS is proposing that the CCC move to make a 3 mile exclusion zone around the island. Randy Anderson commented that the generators that the boats use to electrify the spootfish are now illegal. JS wants momentum on this issue. PI withdrew his seconding of JS's motion. DY cautioned that prior discussion had thrown up that there were inherent risks in this kind of action as reported by other communities who had tried this. Angus Kennedy also cautioned against the danger of ending up with a no-take zone around the island. ***Action: DY to investigate law and potential solutions/pitfalls***
 - b) Fuel Station (RW): Nothing further to add. PG reported that fuel company had still not had their AGM and CCC should be asking why. ***Action: PG to write to CCFS and ask why no AGM***

- c) CCC Notice Board : RW and AMB had promised to fix it, but this had not been done. Randy Anderson questioned why we need another notice board and PG said we were legally obliged. ***Action: Remind them***
- d) Nurse : RW had asked for this to be taken off the agenda as a nurse had been appointed. AMB was going to ascertain the extent of the nurse's duties- ***Action: chase up on this***
- e) Defibrillators: Julianna Nicholls from the floor agreed to continue the work she has begun in pursuing this issue.
- f) Roads: PG reminded that CCC had agreed to keep roads on the agenda even if there was nothing to report. She reminded everyone of the system of complaints- Roads Dept first, then CCC if no action.
JS commended local decision to start the bin run from East end, so the lorry is empty when it is going over the East end roads.
Randy Anderson reported that in the Spring of 2014 there were plans to redress the road between Glaic and Ceann a'Bhaigh. It will come out of next year's budget, so will be after April.
Angus Kennedy from the floor commended Argyll & Bute District Council on the completed works- the efficiency of the work and how sympathetic they were to local road users.
- g) Planning: PG reported that all community councils in Argyll and Bute have been asked to get involved in local planning. The Coll CC will get training on planning governance and will then have the knowledge to comment on applications.
As Planning Officer, PG will put up any notice she gets, no matter who or what the application is for.
JS pointed out the Sustainable Building plan from Argyll & Bute Council (A&BC) that had been completed a few years ago.
JS commented that none of the A&BC literature is in the library and he thinks it would be useful.
DB thought that Ian Jackson was going to get back to us to arrange for all documentation is in An Cridhe.
There was some discussion re: documentation and agreement that planning applications should be kept in the Post Office.
- h) See above- already deal with.
- i) Marine Scotland Consultation: The meeting had taken place and the consultation was now closed and results were being awaited. It should be taken off the agenda. JS complained about Marine Scotland's flippant attitude and lack of useful information.
- j) Calmac ferries – JS wants the CCC to ask Calmac for figures to justify the addition of a 5th boat in the winter. PG said these wouldn't be available until the end of the season. PG reminded everyone that we need to be aware of the changes of next winter's timetable, which are already set in stone.
DY commented that the Clansman recently had done exceptionally well in tricky weather situations.

- k) Toilets: JS said that A&BC have not done what they said they were going to do which was consult with CCC about toilets. Fred Hall did not come back to us as promised with guarantees of consultation.
KM reported that A&BC have not moved at all on the toilets or pier situation. ***Action: PG to write to Tom Murphy to ask what's going on*** KM understood it to mean the toilets, the whole building and the pier itself.
- l) School Catchment Area: off the agenda
- m) Mobile Phones & Mast: JS complained about the "meeting" that had been held. Julianna Nicholls from the floor complained that the CCC were being bypassed by Dev Coll and the Scottish government. Angus Kennedy from the floor gave a detailed history of the progress and process of the project. The crux being that the Coll site needs to be free and the community had to find the money for the £2000 per annum for energy provision to the mast.
PI said that we need to find out from the Scottish government what exactly is the situation.
Action: PG to get contact details from Angus Kennedy and contact
JS said we need the facts. Angus Kennedy said that the Grisipol site is a desktop exercise and that the location on Martin Smith's ground is better. Angus Kennedy said that the difference in the cost of the sites needs to be taken into account.
Andy Milton from the floor raised concerns about the health implications of a mast near his daughter's house.
Action: PG to visit Martin Smith with PI to ascertain whether he has indeed said no to the government about his site as there was no clear answer
Action: DY to ask Dev Coll for an update on the current situation
- n) Community Housing: Liaise with Dev Coll for latest

6. Treasurer's Report: Report issued.

7. Village Hall/RecyColl: Village Hall- still awaiting statements.

RecyColl- JS submitted report. PG reported that the final lease from the RecyColl lawyer had still not been received. JS responded that he was waiting for CCC as it was their responsibility to provide a date for the lease.

Julianna Nicholls from the floor said that the CCC still does not have a copy of the letter from the Big Lottery fund regarding the village hall and this was vital. ***RW to action***

8. Scottish Islands Federation: Nothing to report in AMB's absence

9. Community Resilience: A&BC requested that CCC take this on. The island must have a Disaster Recovery Plan. The Fire Brigade and Coastguard have already, but no coherent system for the island as a whole. PG recommended setting up a sub-committee to deal with it.

Angus Kennedy from the floor reported that the Emergency Planning Officer had been on island recently and went through the Community Resilience template. She had gone away with a draft and promised to come back with the completed plan. Angus Kennedy will forward details to PG of the contact.

10. Wind Energy Capacity of Coll: JS wrote to A&BC about the sustainability of wind power on Coll. He received a letter from Mr Gilmour of the council and JS read extracts of the response. JS will provide a copy of the letter to PG. JS believes that CCC should be aware of the structure plan and policy for wind turbines and energy production. No further action required.

11. Community Empowerment Act (Scotland) Bill:

PG commented that information on these agenda items should be sent round prior to the meeting so they could be discussed properly.

JS commented that on the 6th November the Community Empowerment Bill had been launched and there was a link to a PDF document. He suggests the CCC should show an interest in the bill.

12. Correspondence

a) A letter had been received from Nicola Sturgeon re: broadband. No action required.

b) A letter of complaint had been received from Colin Kennedy. PI absented himself as declaring an interest. As no-one involved was present, PG proposed holding it over. Neil Smith from the floor asked what the crux of the complaint against the CCC was- PG read out the relevant parts.

c) Dark Skies: PG reported that A&BC had supported Coll's application for Dark Skies status and changed their lighting plan to aid the application. Paula Smalley wrote to formally thank the CCC for their support.

13. Questions from the Floor: None received.

14. Any Other Business: KM asked to bring up refuse collection. The situation has been going on for three years without resolution. A&BC have no emergency measures in place for missed collections. KM has personally been in touch with Mike Russell and Derek Crooks. The excuses are unacceptable as are two weekly collections. There must be something in place for emergencies. The West end recently had to wait 5 weeks for a collection. Randy Anderson from the floor commented that A&BC had done away with extra bins. KM commented that comparative to Tiree, Coll's service was pitiful. There are no spare bin lorries.

JS asked can we consider providing a newsletter to let people know what's going on- people deserve to be fully informed.

JS asked whether we could consider employing a clerk. Perhaps to produce the newsletter?

PI asked where the money would come from.

PG asked if JS could make a business plan to make a proposal for this plan and move it to the agenda items.

11. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 12th February 2014 at 7.30pm. Meetings will be every second Wednesday, every second month.

Doug Young

Minutes Secretary (on the night)