

Minutes of Coll Community Council (CCC) meeting

Wednesday 8th October 2014, 19.30.

1. **Apologies:** Alex Maclean Bristol (AMB)

CCC present: Kenneth MacIntyre (KM); Peter Ings (PI); Dougie Brown (DB); Rob Wainwright (RW); Pat Graham (PG); Doug Young (DY); Julian Senior (JS).

4 members of community

RW chairing as Vice-Convenor.

2. **Declarations of Interest:** None

3. **Minutes of Previous meeting accepted.** Proposer RW, Seconder DY.

4. **Matters Arising:**

a) Roads

Randy Anderson from the floor gave updates on some small issues. RW suggested writing to Argyll & Bute District Council asking for a summary of their strategy for Coll roads. * **PG to action***

b) Planning

Training session had taken place, but was not focussed on planning per se, but more on the constitutional rights of the CCC and the statutory rights with regard to all aspects of CCC business, not just planning. Much more on the basic principles of consultation and engagement.

Colin Kennedy from the floor asked whether planning e-mails could be sent out in the name of the CCC. PG responded that she could send planning notifications to whoever she chose. Colin asked whether that included comments as to what action should be taken on each application. PG responded that she had never done that, a response Colin asked to be minuted.

There are no restrictions on who planning related e-mails can be sent to as an individual, so long as the e-mail and all comments in it are strictly personal and not CCC endorsed.

JS asked that if notifications were to be sent out by e-mail, then it should be to all in the community, not just a select few. RW pointed out the difficulties of this.

Note to be made that anyone who wants on the list should provide their e-mail address

Colin Kennedy clarified the statutory notification and there followed some discussion over the legalities.

Much discussion on the process of using e-mails to disseminate information. **Agreed that official CCC e-mails on planning would NOT be sent out to a wider audience than CCC members.**

JS made a plea that the planning documents were not kept in the Post Office- no space, unsuitable site. DB suggested there may be a legal reason they are there.

Some discussion ensued as to how to obtain planning notifications and read them. ***PG to ask council whether copies can be put in more than one place.***

RW raised concerns over who would take responsibility for such a discussion. Can CCC ask that Post Office provide a suitable area for the plans to be consulted?

c) Scallop Dredgers/Razor-fishing

Nothing to report. Randy commented on a report from the Oban Times.

d) Calmac

New winter timetable out- RW summarised. PG commented on RET being rolled out all over Scotland. A weather station is to be installed on the end of the pier to report weather directly to Oban. Calmac bringing in new booking system in Spring.

Discussion on potential second sailing in the summer- a suggestion from Calmac. Colin Kennedy raised the block booking problem. CCC have brought it up with Finlay Macrae. Calmac are addressing the issue.

e) Middle Pier Toilets

Council have had them refurbished. Km said that Councillor McCuish reported that he had heard they had been sold. No confirmation of this as yet. If sold, must have been a private sale.

RW- pointed out that tap at middle pier had been switched off.

JS raised complaint with Scottish Water demanding reinstatement. PG reported that it was due to shortage of water. Colin Kennedy said that a leak in Cranston's garden had caused huge loss of water. Some discussion on Scottish Water and their handling of the issue. Juliet Conway from the floor offered to provide contact details for someone to chase it up. ***RW will chase up- pressure to be applied urgently***

f) Community Housing

Remains a Development Coll (DC) project. A question arose re: site selection process. Nobody has been yet to look at sites from the Community Land Fund.

Colin Kennedy posed the question to the acting Chair- Did he believe that DC are acting in the best interest of the community.

RW responded that to the best of his knowledge, he trusted DC to act in a fair and equitable manner.

Colin then described a situation where he said DC approached him for a site for a turbine and he offered a site on more than one occasion. He paid money to clear planning issues and offered a site for free. DC did not hold a public meeting, did not respond to Colin. He offered a 60kW turbine and wayleaves to DC that would also allow An Cridhe to have free electricity. This had happened in the second week of June.

There followed extensive discussions about the transparency of DC and the differences between DC and CCC and how they operate. Colin raised a question of conflict of interest between RW and the affordable housing. He wanted the CCC to raise the question of DC's responsibility with them.

The CCC felt that there was no satisfactory conclusion to be drawn and PG moved that we proceed to the next issue. DY seconded.

g) Refuse Collection

Nothing to add.

5. Treasurer's Report

- RW read figures from accounts.

6. Village Hall/RecyColl.

JS submitted report on update. Still no copy of lease- **DY to ask AMB where he got with this.**

7. Scottish Islands Federation

Nothing to report.

8. Village Parking

Discussed at previous meeting. JS intended to take photo each week but hasn't done so yet. He considers a sign to be a knee-jerk reaction. There are no boats- JS doesn't think there is an issue.

Juliet Conway from the floor raised the question of parking space at the school. The area outside the Manse is private, so there is no question of police intervention. The owners of the derelict cars there will not move them. KM asked whether the new space put in there was for parents or teachers. Suggestion that it be brought up with Parent Council.

9. Relationships with other island bodies.

Considering lengthy discussions had already taken place on the DC/CCC relationship, PI requested clarification on the relationship between CCC and the Coll Community Fuel Supplies (CCFS). There has not been an AGM for 2 years and PI believes that the CCFS should be written to asking them to hold one to report on their accounts and activities. Randy Anderson reported that the profits

mentioned by PI were needed to upgrade pumps. ***PG to write to CCFS asking when next AGM is to be held***

10. Correspondence.

- 1) A questionnaire had come in about criminal justice and social work. CCC were not involved, so would not complete it.
- 2) Offer of free office furniture. CCC has no office.
- 3) Four letters from Angus Kennedy:
 - Requesting the ban of ipad devices at meetings. CCC decided not to implement a ban, but this is ***to be confirmed by vote at next meeting***
 - A letter asking about phone mast profits being put to AMB. PI commented that DC should be examining it and the issue was put on hold until AMB's return for February meeting.
 - Raising the question of whether individual's names should be used in the minutes. A discussion ensued about this as a policy and a vote took place- the vote was "Should names in CCC minutes be anonymous?"
 - 5 agreed that names should be kept in the minutes. 2 abstained. 0 disagreed.
 - Evidence of alleged collusion in a letter from Angus Kennedy- collusion between AMB and the Scottish Government over mobile phone mast. To be left until AMB return.

Colin Kennedy from the floor said that DC had not followed proper protocol again. Some further discussion on transparency of DC meetings and mobile phone mast.

11. Questions from the Floor

- Colin Kennedy asked what the CCC policy was on formal complaints. His complaint submitted at a previous meeting had not been dealt with. The complaint is therefore to be raised at the next meeting for proper discussion **when both parties are present**, which was why it had not been discussed before. ***The CCC need to formulate a policy on how such issues are dealt with in the future.***

12. Any Other Business

None

13. Next Meeting

Wednesday 10th December 2014