



Sandbank Community Council
Minutes of Meeting 15th September 2016
Sandbank Village Hall

Present

Convenor; Sue McKillop (SM), Vice Convenor Iain McNaughton (IM), Secretary; Stephanie Auld (SA), Tom McKillop (TM), Margaret Hill (MH), Steve Inglis (SI) Eric Large (EL)

Members of Public

Liz Neilson, George Neilson, Judith Moen, Gary Hart, Winnie Dick

1. Apologies

Cllr Bruce Marshall, Bill Rankin

2. Police Report

PC David McPhee gave report. Since last report only 17 calls in total ranging from noise complaints, Road Traffic matters. From these only 4 Crime reports, 1 Breach of Peace, 1 driving whilst under the influence of drink or drugs, 1 breach of communications act, 1 vandalism.

3. Jim McLean – Sandbank Scene

Former General Manager at Dunoon Observer. Feels that the printed form of the Scene can be part of the Community Information Link.

This is all still in early stages at the moment. The question is the name “Sandbank Scene” mentioned in the Constitution as owned/belonging to Community Council? **SM/IM** as far as we are aware it is not. Jim McLean is looking to run this as a commercial venture, however the paper would still be free. The core area would be Sandbank and peripheral areas. Looking to produce 4 to 6 times a year. **EL** what would be the proportion of adverts to articles, Jim McLean advised 60/40. **TM** advised that it would need to be made clear that it is not being run/produced by the Community Council. **TM** what is the distribution plan, Jim advised that he would be looking at paperboys/girls. Jim advised that his next step would be to talk to some more advertisers again. **EL** when does he envisage getting started, Jim advised hopefully this year if not it will be February/March 2017. **IM** asked if SCC could be given some credit as a patron, Jim advised that yes this is possible. **SM** advised that if he would like to keep in touch and keep us up to date and then when he is a bit further along can come back to a meeting to update us.

4. Declarations of interest

None



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5. Minutes of meeting on 16th August 2016 and matters arising

- All covered under the agenda items

Minutes of 16th August 2016 proposed by **TM** seconded by **SM**

6. Treasurer's Report read by TM

BR reported:

Balance b fwd from July	£5548.36	August	£5397.36
Income	£ 34.00	Income:	£ 462.76
Subtotal	£5582.36	Subtotal:	£5860.12
Expenses	£ 185.00	Expenses:	<u>£ 246.59</u>
Total	<u>£ 5397.36</u>	Total:	<u>£5613.53</u>

7. Councillor's Report

Cllr BM

I feel I have to apologise to the Sandbank community with regard to the length of time it has taken to have the repair work carried out on the sea wall and monument which was damaged in January this year. I have constantly pressed officials to ensure that the repair would be paid for by the perpetrators insurance and still nothing had been done by mid-August. I made further enquiries and approached Police Scotland myself and it transpires that incorrect procedures were carried out. Stories of Dunoon have the contract to carry out the work and they have agreed to speak to Andy Thom who can assist in the design of the repair work. I have concerns with regard to on street parking meters proposed for Dunoon Town Centre and many local residents have voiced their concerns too. Dunoon needs local people to support the shops in the town centre, meters will drive them away. I have said the same to Kilmun CC and they are writing to object and will raise within the Caucus.

The Biomass Plant at Dalinlongart is likely to be developed this coming Autumn/Winter. Fergus Tickell of Northern Energy has been in touch and I understand financial backing has now been secured.

Cllr GM

Advised that he has contacted Paul Farrell regarding the monument as well. SM asked if the lantern on the monument will go back on, Cllr GB advised that it should be.

With regard to the amount of light coming in to the gardens on Cromlech Road, he has been in touch with Proprietors of the houses there, the council purchased a portion of the land previously, however the people that own the woodland will be asked to clear the wooded area.



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Change in the walking route to school, 10 families in Sandhaven have been effected with the new footpath at Lochan Avenue. The cost of this is going on to the families. The 3 mile limit was at the first phase of Sandhaven. The footpath being added has now meant that the limits have been changed to include the 2nd phase of Sandhaven. Cllr GB will continue to investigate and push to have this rectified.

Boundaries are going to stay the same for Cowal. This was a result after public consultation.

Kelpies are coming to Cowal Fest, The Rotary club are going to help with the lighting. The Heritage center is going along. The community orchestra is going strong and another concert will be happening soon. The Church in Sandbank is closing on 31st May 2017.

Torlochan site is now up for ownership. Cllr GB will forward on information to **SA**

8. Community Councillor's Business

SM I will start with the good news and say that we are delighted that the local boundary changes are not now going ahead and things will stay as they are. Mike Russell says that it was down to the fact that councillors, no matter what their political differences worked together. I think that the community councils also had a part to play in making the feelings of the people known.

We have six people who are applying to join us on the CC which is good and takes the number up to 14 including our two co-opted people Eric and Steve.

Next item is the Hearing for the retrospective planning permission at the landfill site, sorry marina.

Tom has been working on the presentation most of this week and while I feel, as do many of us here, that it will make no difference, it may halt further retrospective applications that he has no doubt in the pipeline.

The Hearing is Monday 10am till 5.30pm and by invitation only as far as I am lead to believe. The PPSL committee are to walk the site first, though to be honest if the weather is bad I don't see them walking far.

Also they will only look at the parts of the site pertaining to the planning permission so anything out with that will not be seen.

I met with the new head at Sandbank Primary recently, Graham Dickie. He couldn't make this meeting or Oct but will be here in Nov which will be good as all our new councillors will be here too.

I wanted to meet with him quite early on as I wanted to know if he was ok with the school being involved with the firework event. He wasn't too happy about the guys but asked what I felt about the children making lanterns. I think it is a great idea and as he has the contact who teaches how it's done and can supply the material, at a



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cost of course, I have left it up to him to sort it. I haven't asked the Trust if they will give money towards the cost of this as the school cannot cover it all, but I am sure they will give something. The idea is, time allowing, that we may run a couple of evening classes for people from the community and parents to come and make their own lanterns. I think that there should be a small charge for this as they get to keep them after the event.

Once the Hearing is over I will post on FB and on the Sandbank Connections , school page and ask for help to build the bonfire and put up stalls.

Robert from Greenock is coming over with his kiddies' rides and a new stall for the adults which involves shooting at something for a prize.

Coast Coffee will be there selling drinks and food and we will be selling hot dogs, soup and baked potatoes.

I will put out an ad on FB inviting anyone else to come and have a stall and if you are talking to anyone please let them know about it.

The charge is £30 for a pitch and included in that is a stall and table if needed. They need to provide their own lighting as it will be dark lol. Deposit of £10 secures the pitch. Last year the Nursery made £100 after giving us the pitch money and were delighted. For anyone who moans at the price please tell them that it all goes towards paying for the fireworks.

I am going to ask John Maskell if he will go round the businesses again to sponsor the event. We also need raffle prizes and tombola prizes. We need to start soon as there are always lots of other events happening and people get fed up of being asked to give all the time.

We now have the paint and wood stain to tidy up the benches and sign at Broxwood and the chains and benches at Lazzaretto Point all we need is dry weather and the Community Service folk available at the same time.

The repairs are finished at Lazzaretto although the light is looking a tad worse for wear. Hopefully it won't stay like that too long as before we know it Remembrance Sunday will be here. On that note are we inviting the school to lay a wreath again this year? I didn't mention it but I thought it was a lovely touch and it may be slightly more organised this year. If so we can order one for them at the same time we order the others.

There is a meeting in the grammar school on Monday night at 6.30 about Struan Lodge the hospital, hospice and homecare and I really think someone from the CC should be there. Myself and Tom will have been here all day at the Hearing so I am not going to volunteer sorry. **SA** advised that she would not be able to attend as this would a conflict of interest for her.

We are hoping to organise another event for funds for the Christmas lights and that should give us the £800 that we need for lights. We made £301 at the last event and



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£72 raised at Holy Loch Inn in a collection jar gives us £373 so far. There are collection jars in both pubs now waiting for your change lol.

Gary Hart will speak to Inverwraps (based in Greenock) about getting signs for the community council stalls, Hi-Vis vests and having these marked up with community council. **SM** to email over logo for community council to Gary.

IM is going to check the tides for 12th November for the bonfire.

9. Local Community Planning

IM letter was sent to the council regarding the proposed parking charges as below:

Dear Sir/Madam,

Members of Sandbank Community Council (SCC) have recently considered the new car parking proposals for Dunoon and are of the view that it would not be in the public interest to impose further charges in the locations indicated for the following reasons :-

Additional parking charges will have the undeniable effect of discouraging people from shopping in the retail areas of Argyll Street, Hillfoot Street, Ferry Brae, etc and utilising the various cafes, restaurants, etc in these areas. Dunoon has a very fragile economy which will only receive further setback if these proposals are implemented and customer numbers fall.

Morrisons supermarket and probably the Co-op store with their free car parks would undoubtedly benefit at the expense of small independent shops and other businesses. More people would be likely to shop there which would be catastrophic for the town and only accelerate the rate of economic decline which has been evident for many years.

Whilst most public sector workers in the Dunoon area such as NHS staff, primary and secondary school teachers and local authority staff at locations such as Milton House, Dolphin Hall, Hill Street, etc have ready access to free car parking adjacent to their places of work, many private sector employees, e.g. shop assistants, are on minimum wage rates and would be severely disadvantaged by having to find free car parking at some distance from their place of work. There could be nothing more divisive in a community than having car parking benefits for one category of workers but not for the other.

It is not clear from the proposals whether there would be parking charges for those commuting to work on the Argyll Ferries. Again, this would be another measure with potentially catastrophic consequences if individuals using ferry and train services to get to work decide that charging for "park and ride" prompts them to leave the Dunoon area entirely.

In light of the above I trust the Council will fully appreciate the repercussions of introducing the new parking proposals and conclude that they would be inappropriate in the current circumstances that Dunoon finds itself.



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One final point I'd like to make is that when undertaking future consultations the Council needs to pay far more attention to detail. In the brochure I picked up reference is made to "Alexander Parade" and "Alexandria Parade" when the correct name is Alexandra Parade. Also, in the brochure various sad and quite transparent platitudes are credited to Councillor Robert MacIntyre. However, on the website, the exact same platitudes are credited to Councillor Ellen Morton. I'm afraid such shortcomings do little to inspire confidence in the professionalism of Argyll and Bute Council.

Planning

IM I can report that there has been only one planning application in Sandbank since the last C.C. meeting - "33 kv connection for Dalinlongart Biomass Plant (16/02336/HYDRO)". Good to see things are happening with this development.

11. Any other Business

None

12. Public Questions

George Neilson has advised that he has a stage 2 complaint with SEPA and they have got back to him that Matt Downs has got buried bark below the so called foundations and they have advised planning that he is not to build on the site until they have looked at this. The council are now trying to come up with ways to help him dispose of the bark. George has the letter from SEPA to confirm that they have advised planning of this. SEPA are claiming that this is not hazardous and George has advised that it is against the regulations. There is no license for him to be able to dump bark, he only has a license for infill. SEPA have not checked or kept records about this site for 9years. George will send this letter on to **SM**.

13. 50/50 Draw

No draw at this meeting as BR not present, carried on to next meeting.

14. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 20th October 2016 at 7.00pm.**