

North Knapdale Community Council

Minutes of the North Knapdale Community Council meeting held on the 21st August, 2018 at 7:30 pm at Crinan Coffee Shop:

In attendance: Iain Ritchie, Andrew Wilson, Ross Ryan, Richard Stein, Heather Williams, Grant Lees, Sergeant Iain MacNicol, Mike Macintyre, Boyd McNab, Alexi Murdoch, Mike Kelly, Norma Kelly, Alan Hutchison, Kate Walker, Graham Walker.

1. Welcome: The Convener welcomed everyone.
2. Apologies: Dougie Philand, Donald MacMillan, Fergie and Ann Anderson, Catherine MacLennan, Sue Hillman, Chris Pursloe, John Grafton.
3. Approval of minutes of last meetings: the minutes of the May meetings were approved.
4. Police Files: Sergeant Iain MacNicol:
 - i) Tayvallich: incidents included several community alarm call-outs, and a dropped 999 call (probable accidental dialling). A lost dog at Arichonan was reunited with its owner. A parked vehicle had its mirror clipped by a van or campervan. Youths were causing a disturbance outside the Coffee Shop on 18/7. This was not reported until the next day. It is better to report annoyances at the time than retrospectively.
 - ii) Crinan: Police attended a disagreement between a coach driver and his passengers. The situation was diffused. The honesty box at the pontoon was blown up by (a) youth(s) using a banger. Dogs were reported to be left in a hot car, but the owner returned within about 10 minutes. A report of an abandoned car turned out to be a legally parked vehicle. A report of poaching was received, and a man was warned.

- iii) Bellanoch: A mountain bike crash in the forest turned out to be for minor head injury. A lost dog was returned. An injured dog was taken to the police station, and then on to the vets. A complaint was received over loud music. Advice was given in regard to dogmess.
- iv) Achnamara:SSPCA was called to assist in the case of an injured deer.
- v) Various scams were reported; these particularly relate to the purchase of i-tunes vouchers, also phone calls about the payment of tax bills, and road tax. The Convener thanked Sergeant MacNicol for his time.

5. Matters arising/ correspondence: there are a number of protocols to approve stemming from the reformation of NKCC in May:

- i) The secretary reported that NKCC was now signed up to the Information Commissioner's Office. This will incur an annual charge.
- ii) It was agreed to adopt the Declarations of interest Policy.
- iii) NKCC had been contacted by Mid-Argyll Youth Development Services, and it is hoped that Lynn Johnstone will attend our November meeting and inform on MAYDS activities.

6. Co-option of Ross Ryan: Ross had missed the elections. It was agreed that he should be co-opted, and this was proposed by Richard Stein and seconded by Iain Ritchie.

7. Planning issues: Richard raised a potential conflict in relation to a planning application submitted by Crinan Harbour Association of which he is a board member. Ross Ryan and Iain Ritchie are also members of the Harbour Association.

- i) Mike Macintyre raised some local disagreement to this unusual application for a Certificate of Lawfulness relating to boats being beached above mean high water springs. It was agreed that if any representation were to

be made by NKCC to the Planning Department, it should take into account both sets of views. The Secretary suggested that NKCC had little to add on this occasion, and it was best, as suggested by Ross Ryan, to solve the disagreement as a community at the Harbour Association level.

- ii) Iain Ritchie had written a letter expressing his personal views on the matter. The Planning Department had treated this as representation from an official consultee, and Iain agreed to ensure that the misunderstanding was cleared up.

8. Knapdale North Opportunity Trust: Iain Ritchie had attended a meeting with Enerco who are scoping a wind farm near the existing one at Furnace:

- i) **Iain Reported:** ‘Enerco Energy representative in Scotland, Alan Mathewson, is meeting with local groups to discuss the possible installation of a wind farm in Argyll and Bute. The site of the possible wind farm for 30 turbines (50 megawatts) is in Glasvaar south and impacts on 5 landowners.
- ii) Discussions have taken place with A&B Council, Scottish Natural Heritage, SEPA, and Historic Environment Scotland. A pre-scoping meeting was held in June and feedback given. The resulting scoping document will be issued by mid-August explaining the proposal and the studies that will be carried out before a planning application around January 2020.
- iii) It is expected that the planning procedure will take around 1 year followed by 9 to 12 months design etc and construction will start around January 2023.
- iv) The metrological mast has been installed.
- v) The turbines will be at least 150m high. The impact on the surrounding area in terms of visual impact, noise etc will be evaluated as part of the next phase.
- vi) It is expected that turbines etc will be delivered to Scotland through Campbeltown and transported to the site through the Cruach wind farm.
- vii) The power will be routed to the Cruach substation. SSE will upgrade the Pylon lines by 2023.
- viii) The wind farm will have a visual impact on North Knapdale.’
- ix) **The Secretary noted that R. A. Clements in Oban had lodged accounts etc with Companies House for KNOT. The cost for this had been £180.**

9. Parking: not much progress has been made here, and NKCC were still awaiting a new order from Argyll and Bute Council for the shop car park. It was agreed to pursue the matter with the Council.

10. Road issues: Line painting on the Canal side, pot holes, and drainage:

- i) Line painting had begun on the canal side but appeared to have stopped. The carriageway may be too narrow for lane markings.
- ii) Achnamara road is still dreadful. Graham Walker reported that the Achnamara Village Hall consultation (AVH) had recognised that the state of the road was one of the key elements holding back and threatening the development of Achnamara's community. It was agreed that this road should be the Council's priority.

11. AOCB:

- i) NKCC has re-joined Heart of Argyll Wildlife.
- ii) EE introduction of 4G should be imminent. Crinan was to get top-up funding for an extra mast.
- iii) This led to a question about Achnamara, and whether it would receive 4G. AVH' consultation had identified poor connectivity as a further impediment to the village. It was agreed that NKCC would support AVH in their endeavours.
- iv) Issues relating to Scottish Canals were raised, including: the jetty below the Hotel, the Fishing Pier, and Dunardry Bridge. It was agreed to ask someone from Scottish Canals to attend the next meeting.

12. Date and venue of next meeting. Achnamara Village Hall, November 20th, 2018 at 730 pm.