

RHU & SHANDON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Argyll & Bute Council
Development Policy
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Lochgilphead
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Submitted by email to

ldp@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Please reply to:

Jean Cook, Secretary
Rhu & Shandon Community Council
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Shandon
Helensburgh
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6 January 2017

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Jack.Rudram@btopenworld.com

Dear Sir,

Argyll and Bute Planning Service: Advertisement & Signage Policy, Technical Working Notes, 2016

Please find below Rhu & Shandon Community Council (R&S CC) comments on the Consultation Draft of the Argyll & Bute Advertisement and Signage Policy, Technical Working Notes, 2016.

R&S CC welcome the proposed policy and are generally supportive of it. We note from Sections 14.0 and 15.0 that it is Argyll & Bute Council's intention to enforce the policy with particular emphasis on listed buildings.

Detailed comments on various sections of the document are as follows:

1. Section 6.0

We note the comments with respect to posting advertisements on lamp-posts and street furniture. We feel that there should be some leeway for election posters provided they are not posted more than 21 days before the event and removed within 7 days.

2. Section 8.0

It is our view that all commercial banners, or posters, should require permission. Adverts, including political ones that interfere with landscape, historic buildings, or conservation areas again should require permission (e.g. banners on the bank or old PO in Colquhoun Square). If it is a local community event – banners or posters on lamp posts in the town, or signs on the verge – these should be exempt from any formal permission. These kinds of adverts tend to be short term; usually events organised by volunteers for the community benefit/interest and are not lining anyone's pockets. The guidance should clearly state that all local community events are normally exempt from requiring consent, provided they are not erected more than 21 days in advance, are of a reasonable scale for the location, are removed within 7 days, and are not excessive in number. Clearly the requirements of road safety must still apply. In general the R&S CC view is that common sense and pragmatism should prevail.

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3. Section 9.0

Some leeway and common sense is needed with respect to estate agent signs not being directly outside the property for sale as it is not always practical to put the board directly outside the property. The guidance illustrates Rhu Ellen Court. If the sign wasn't at the entrance to the complex and the flat for sale is round the back, there would really be no other way to advertise it with a For Sale board, and this doesn't seem very fair to the seller. In a village such as Rhu or Shandon one drive often leads to several properties and it seems reasonable to erect a board where it can be seen from the road, if only to advise visitors where to turn off. Clearly we don't want a plethora of boards at one point but again, allowing for road safety, common sense and pragmatism should prevail.

4. Section 10.0

Section 10.1 refers to banners and advertisements for special or seasonal events and that consent may not be required provided they are in place no more than 28 days. We would refer you to our comments above under Section 8.0 and suggest that they would also be applicable to this section. The emphasis should be to differentiate between community and charity events and purely commercial interests. Again we would suggest no longer than 21 days beforehand and to be removed within 7 days.

R&S CC hopes that the above comments are useful and would be happy to expand on them, or discuss further, if that would be helpful.

Yours sincerely,



Jack Rudram, Convenor, For Rhu & Shandon Community Council

By email copy to:

*Cllr Maurice Corry, Cllr George Freeman, Cllr Robert McIntyre
Members of R&S CC*