

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Rhu and Shandon Community Council
Wednesday 12th April 2017
Held in Rhu Church Hall**

In attendance:

Rhu & Shandon CC:

Jack Rudram (JR)
Pat Pollok-Morris (PPM)
Jean Cook (JC)
Gordon King (GK)
Brian Fleming (BF)
Linda Duncan (LD)
Jim Duncan (JD)
Olivia Birch (OB)
Tim Lamb (TL)
Andrew Nicholson (AN)
Peter Knox (PK)
Jayne Burnett (JB)

Guests/Public:

Cllr Maurice Corry (MC)
Cllr Robert MacIntyre (RM)
Cllr George Freeman (GF)
Cdr James Leatherby RN (JL)
PC Willie Lavery (MOD) (WL)
PC Raymond Thompson (RT)
Mary Trille (MT)
Kenny Trille (KT)
Katharine Mcleod (KM)
Kevin Johnstone (KJ)

Topic	Minute	Decision/ Action
1. Apologies:	1. Apologies were received from or on behalf of: Fiona Baker, Derek Hall, Maggie McCowan and Insp Coleen Wylie (Police Scotland).	
2. Declarations of interest:	2. There were no declarations of interest.	
3. Guest speakers:	<p>3a. PC Ronald Thompson: (RT) introduced himself and talked through the incidents that Police Scotland has dealt with in the area during the last 2 months. Full report can be found at Appendix 1 to the Agenda.</p> <p>Residents from Church Place raised their concerns about parking at school run times. Church Place has become inaccessible to residents at certain times of day and this is causing increased tensions which has led to a breach of the peace. Drivers are becoming aggressive when asked to be considerate and residents have been verbally abused while children were present. The children coming out of the school through the churchyard, are unable to cross the road safely due to vehicles being parked nose to tail with engines still running. Visibility is impaired to drivers and pedestrians by people parking on the corner opposite the church gate. Some drivers are driving too quickly in the vicinity of the children and someone is likely to get hurt.</p> <p>KT asked what could be done and suggested that police pay a visit at 1445 on a school day</p>	
	GF pointed out that parking issues had been decriminalised and signs had been erected for a similar situation in Garelochhead and	

	<p>was aware that such issues can be difficult to resolve.</p> <p>The council have limited power and the police would only become involved if there was dangerous parking or a public order offence was being committed. GF informed KT that he had been involved with similar issues at Church Place in the past and would provide him with details of the adopted roads and private roads in that area.</p> <p>A meeting with Rhu Primary had been suggested but the school does not want to be involved.</p> <p>GF confirmed that he would seek advice from Council officers and return to KT as soon as possible.</p>	GF to pursue.
	<p>3b. Cdr James Leatherby: Presented the brief for the Naval Base and the report can be found at Appendix 2 to the Agenda.</p> <p>PPM asked if there was any news on the naval estates in particular the Mackenzie estate.</p> <p>GF said that he was waiting for further information.</p> <p>MC reported that there was a 'future accommodation model' and had asked for a pilot scheme in this area and develop a programme of building in the local area for the expected increase in the military population.</p>	
	<p>3c. PC Willie Lavery reported that there is a news article about the relaunch of Rural Watch. The MOD will be putting up additional signage to highlight the initiative.</p> <p>JB reported that she believed that there had been intruders in the grounds of her house near St Andrews School. JB added that something should be done about the continued fly-tipping near the Peace Camp on the other side of the wall</p>	
4. Minutes of meeting held 8th February 2017:	<p>4. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th February 2017 were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed AN and Seconded JD. The minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.</p>	
5. Matters arising from minutes not otherwise on the agenda:	<p>5a. Telephone Box. Although the telephone box is working there are problems with drainage and water collects in the base. The box sits on council land but it is BT's responsibility to ensure that it is fully serviceable. JC to contact BT and point out that the box at present is not fit for purpose.</p>	Action JC
	<p>5b. Tree Felling. FB wrote a comprehensive letter to Scottish Woodland and is waiting for a reply. The route for removing the timber has not yet been decided but, at present, Station Road and Pier Road is the only one viable. Work still needs to be done and a public meeting has been requested.</p>	Ongoing
	<p>5c. Cycle Path Markings. RM reported that work is ongoing to see what can be done to improve the cycle path. The poor state of the old A814, which forms part of the cycle path was raised at the Area Committee on Tuesday 11th April by a Shandon resident. Kevin McIntosh agreed to look into this. GK reiterated his comments regarding traffic priorities. RM will make concerns</p>	Action RM

	known to relevant parties.	
6. Planning Matters:	6a. Siting of Metal Storage Container (retrospective): 15/03082/PP. There has been no change on this issue. PK had previously contacted the planning department but his emails had not been answered, he was asked to forward unanswered emails to GF.	PK forward emails to GF
	6b. Laigh Balerno Turbines. JR had written to the Planning Officer and thinks that the plan is likely to be recommended for approval with a hearing held. It is believed that a new access track will be needed to service the site which does not need further public consultation. GF pointed out that although nothing is guaranteed, if a hearing is called, it is likely to be after the Council elections in May.	
	6c. Other important local planning applications. In Nov 2016, a planning application was validated for the Erection of a dwellinghouse in the grounds of Torwoodhill House. Comments have been submitted with suggestions for improvements. It is believed that the application by Persimmon Homes for houses at the Dobbies site Ardencaple has been submitted but not validated for public scrutiny. The number of units has been reduced from 93 to 75 but this is still in contravention of the local development plan.	Ongoing
	6d. JD commented on the Crown Estates Management consultation. The Scottish government asked how Crown Estates should be managed whether that should be managed nationally by central government or locally by councils or communities. The distribution of revenue generated was questioned. Whether it was appropriate for revenue generated in one area should be transferred to areas not capable of generating revenue. It is estimated that, currently, there is a total annual revenue from Crown Estate assets in Scotland of £14M of which £4M is ring fenced for one Edinburgh retail development and £10M for the remainder of Scotland. RM said that Rhu Marina was mentioned in a presentation and Paul Banks the Coastal Manager for Crown Estates is aware that the community has an interest. It was thought that Rhu Marina plans to raise the current breakwater and construct an additional breakwater on the NW side. JD has already submitted his personal views on the consultation and was asked by the CC to write a letter to invite Paul Banks to share his plans with the Community Council. As this affects the port area JL requested to be kept in the loop so that he can keep QHM informed. As this affects the "Dockyard Port" (see http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2011/1680/contents/made), JL asked to be kept in the loop so that he can ensure that Queen's Harbour Master (Clyde) - QHM - has the opportunity to be properly involved.	JD write to Paul Banks.
	6e. Rhu Marina and Royal Northern and Clyde Yacht Club development.	

	Nothing has yet been published but it is understood that the old building will become 8 flats and there will be additional apartment buildings.	
7. Consultations.	7a. Local Development Plan 2. Mark Lodge is driving the LDP process. First stage is production of the Main Issues Report where the developers supply information. Comments can be made at this stage through the Call for Ideas. The closing date for responses is 21 st April. An extension may be applied for but the Main Issues Report is due in September.	Action JR
	7b. Other Consultations Place Standard Tool– document which shows graphically what people think of an area. It is difficult to see how the results can be analysed, but it could promote discussion. The CC should be aware of the Tool, but no further action required.	
	Unconventional Oil and Gas exploration. Ineos is currently investing in the oil storage facility at Finnart. The Community Council will not make a formal submission. Details are on the website if Individuals wish to make a submission.	
	'Improving Parking in Scotland' Responses can be made by individuals or organisations with a deadline of 30 June. PK asked to advise whether the CC should take an interest.	Action PK
	'Community Justice outcome improvement plan' Responses can be made by individuals or organisations with a deadline of 30 April. JC asked to assess.	Action JC
8. Other Matters:	8a. Key Environmental Features: FB and JR produced draft and sent for comment to Angus Gilmour and David Maclennan. Scottish Natural Heritage have provided some comments and Mark Lodge has had some thoughts. A meeting was arranged but had to be cancelled. It will be re-arranged after the local elections.	Ongoing
	8b. Conservation Area Appraisal. A grant of £3,420 has been approved, but not yet received, by the Council's Area Committee and the sub-committee has plans to approach other organisations for more funding. A quote of £12,000 has been obtained but includes a management plan which is not part of the group's scope of works. The sub-committee continues to shop around for assistance with the completion of the appraisal document.	Ongoing
9. Opportunity for the Members of the Public to Speak:	9. KJ raised his concerns regarding parking in Quarry Knowe. Parking in the cul-de-sac such that would hinder access to emergency services. Residents are end-to-end double parking which is preventing turning in the street and requiring drivers to reverse out onto Lineside Walk. People are reluctant to use parking at nearby space, where garages have been demolished, because of security issues. There is an abandoned car in the street which is creating a hazard and taking up valuable space. GF asked for the details of the abandoned car which can be removed.	GF to follow up.

<p>10. Treasurer's report:</p>	<p>10. Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report is at Appendix 3. LD stated that there is some money remaining in the beach clean fund because, at the February meeting it was thought that two banners would be required to promote Beach Cleans but only one was required so only one purchased. There is one outstanding cheque and the grant for the Conservation Area Appraisal is yet to be received. The account is due for its annual audit. The Treasurer's report is at Appendix 3.</p>	
<p>11. Correspondence:</p>	<p>11. Correspondence: Correspondence is circulated as and when it is received. Links to consultations are on the website.</p> <p>There are reports of Hemlock Water Droplet being found at Helensburgh Sailing Club and Rhu Spit. This plant, called by some 'the most poisonous plant in Britain' and all parts of the plant are poisonous. The plant has been responsible for the death of dogs in this area. Further information is on the website.</p>	
<p>12. Website and related issues:</p>	<p>12. Website: It was agreed that Health issues should be a separate page on the website. Content will be suggested and approved by PPM and MMC.</p>	<p>Action PPM and MMC</p>
<p>Items renumbered from the first posted Agenda. A Revised Agenda has been posted</p>		
<p>13. Councillors' reports</p>	<p>13a. MC. Reported that the profits from Rhu Gala were to be donated to the provision of defibrillator around the village.. Action is ongoing to find suitable locations. Marine litter continues to be a problem. Work ongoing to improve soft drinks bottles bottle recycling.</p> <p>MC thanked those present for their support over the last 5 years and is keen to continue his support of the CC. He extended an invitation to anyone wishing to visit the Scottish Parliament.</p>	
	<p>13b. RM said:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hall Road resurfacing will be done. • Gerry O'Hare is working in conjunction with Barge Garden. • The wall supporting the road at the corner of Station Road and Pier Road is being looked at. • The Environment Department has £200,000 set aside for beach cleaning in Argyll and Bute. <p>RM also thanked the CC for their support</p>	
	<p>13c. GF. Said that street lights and refuse collection are still a problem. He continues to chase Digital Scotland and BT Open Reach with broadband issues across his ward. He also reported that one box has been connected at Clynder which is giving good connection speeds.</p>	

<p>14. Members' Reports:</p>	<p>14a. AN. There will be an Easter Service at 6:30 am at Rhu and a joint Service at 11 am.</p> <p>If anyone was considering nominating someone for an award in the honours scheme, they should speak to AN for advice on the process.</p>	
	<p>14b. JB has applied for a tree preservation order to cover trees at St Andrews School.</p>	
	<p>14c. TL Thanked the 3 Councillors for their support and commended them for their attendance and assistance over the last 5 years.</p>	
	<p>14c. BF. Reported that a woman had been crawling around on her hands and knees in the drive of the Rosslea Hall Hotel. Police and Ambulance were called and the woman was said to be suffering from 'drink and medication'.</p>	
	<p>14d. PK. Thanked everyone involved for their efforts with the recent beach clean</p>	
	<p>14e. OB. Confirmed GF's observations that there were still problems with bin collections. The inconsistency of collection times is the biggest issue. People are unsure when to take their bins in if they have not been collected. It was emphasized that collection times are between 0600 and 2200.</p>	
	<p>14f. GK. Commented on the amount of litter along the lochside and thought that fast food outlets should take some responsibility for this.</p>	
	<p>14g. JC reported that structures were still being built on the Peace Camp. The mess in St Andrews School still exists. GF asked JC to for email regarding the Peace Camp Structures.</p>	<p>JC to email GF</p>
	<p>14h. JR said that he would be attending an economic forum relating to Helensburgh and Lomond area which will be held in the Parish Halls at 0900 on 19 April.</p>	
<p>15. AOB:</p>	<p>15a. Nil.</p>	
<p>16. DONM:</p>	<p>16. The next ordinary meeting will take place on Wednesday June 14th 2017, in the Community Hall, immediately following the AGM. which will start at 7.30pm..</p>	