

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Rhu and Shandon Community Council
Wednesday 13th June 2018
Held in Rhu Community Hall**

In attendance:

Rhu & Shandon CC:

Jack Rudram - Chairman (JR)
Fiona Baker (FB)
Linda Black (LB)
Jean Cook (JC)
Linda Duncan (LD)
Jim Duncan (JD)
Kevin Johnstone (KJ)
Peter Knox (PK)
Tim Lamb (TL)

Councillors/Guests/Public:

Cllr George Freeman (GF)
Cllr Barbara Morgan (BM)
PC Ian Mustarde(MDP) (IM)
PC Fiona Thain (PS) (FT)

Topic	Minute	Decision/ Action
1. Apologies:	Apologies were received from: Olivia Birch(OB), Derek Hall(DH), Andrew Nicholson(AN), Adele McGookin (AM)	
2. Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest	
3. Guest speakers:	<p>3a. PC Fiona Thein presented the police report which can be found in Appendix 1. There were 6 crimes of note listed. In addition there have been 3 tickets and seven warnings issued for speeding.</p> <p>Members pointed out that there is often speeding through Rhu between 7 and 8 in the evening, and on Saturday and Sunday afternoons along the lochside. The traffic hold-ups associated with the sewage works present several potentially dangerous situations. On the A814, motorists are sometimes unprepared for the stationary traffic as they pass Spies Lane. JD offered to speak to the traffic control personnel with a view to supplying a slow-down sign on the bend.</p> <p>In addition motorists are taking a short cut, often at speed, through the village, via Aros Road, Lineside Walk, Station Road and Pier Road. On these narrow roads there is no room to pass in many places. This extra traffic and the traffic associated with the tree harvesting means that residents are having difficulty exiting from their driveways. FT will report the speeding through the village which occurs between 16.10 and 16.50 daily, to her superior.</p> <p>Post meeting Note. After speaking to the traffic managers, JD has had confirmed that a sign "WARNING QUEUING TRAFFIC AHEAD" will be placed around Spies Lane.</p> <p>3b. A report, Appendix 2, prepared by Adele McGookin has been posted on the website. Commodore Mark Gayfer RN will depart HMNB Clyde on June 19th and be replaced as Naval Base Commander by Commodore Donald Doull RN. Planning permission has been granted for an Off Site Staging Area to provide the base with the capability to manage the flow of construction traffic.</p>	<p>Action JD</p> <p>Action FT</p>

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	<p>Disappointment was expressed about the conflict between the Faslane day and Rhu Gala, which was celebrating its twentieth anniversary of holding this event on the second Saturday in June. It was felt that this choice of date by the MoD indicated a lack of integration between the MoD and the community. The CC will write to the MOD expressing our concern and enquiring if Ardenconnel Field will be available for Galas in the future. FB offered to draft a letter.</p> <p>In defence of the MoD, BM reported that the conflict was a genuine error. She added that MoD will provide a Christmas tree for Rhu in 2018.</p>	Action FB
	<p>3c. PC Ian Mustarde MDP. He passed on information provided by Chief Inspector Des Kennedy. The MDP and PSOS would like to come to a future meeting to discuss the Rural Watch Scheme and the launch of Project Servator north of the border. Alan Kennedy will contact either the Convener or the Secretary to discuss this. IM also reported that delays in traffic on the A814 have been caused by the introduction of a new Pass system for the base which commenced on 26th May. He also noted that the Neptune 50th Celebrations went well.</p>	
4. Minutes of meeting held 11th April 2018:	<p>GF wished to amend item 8d of the previous meeting; he will supply the correct form of words to the Secretary. With this amendment the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.</p>	Action GF
5. Matters arising from minutes not otherwise on the agenda:	<p>5a: (5a) Laigh Balernock Turbines 16/02662/PP. JR was monitoring the development and had nothing to add. He will continue to monitor.</p>	
	<p>5b: (5c) Road surface, road markings, footpath and lighting at Upper Torwoodhill Road. After the last meeting Cllr Paterson(IP), PK and JC visited the site and IP subsequently reported that Gerry O'Hare had promised that that the water issues would be resolved prior to surface dressing on this road in April/May. No-one was present at the meeting who could confirm this.</p>	
	<p>Post meeting Note. 12th June. There has been no action so far on the road and Cllr Paterson has been asked to pursue this.</p>	Action IP
	<p>5c:(7a). Update to Licensing Procedure Regulations. GF confirmed that the amendments were not significant and there was no need for the CC to comment.</p>	
	<p>5d:(8b). The Conservation Area sign has not yet been re-erected. GF has logged the request to rectify the problem in the system.</p>	Ongoing
	<p>5e:(8d). Beach Clean April 15th 2pm. The beach clean, organized by PK was a success. A bonus was that many local Beavers took part.</p>	

5f:(8e) Sewage works

- Scottish Water have confirmed that when the present work is complete, there will be no other untreated sewage outfalls into the Gareloch or Rhu Bay and all septic tanks will have been fitted with tideflex valves. They have no information about private sewage systems which discharge into the loch. SEPA have previously stated that they have no record of the latter and such outfalls only come to light when property changes hands.
- Update on current sewage works

In three weeks time, when the old and new systems are connected, there is a threat that Artarman Road will suffer temporary closure for all vehicles and unspecified longer closure for larger vehicles, Bin Lorries will certainly be unable to access the road. As this is an adopted road, the local authority should have been informed. When JD, as a resident, receives further information he will liaise with GF.

The bus stop by the Off Site Centre has been closed for months, causing inconvenience for those using the bus.

- It was appreciated that
 - SW took an advertisement in the Gala magazine apologising for the delay in completing the work.
 - They supplied the traffic control on the A814 on the day of the Gala.

Action JD
and GF

5g:(8f) Timber Harvesting. The two replies received from Campbell Divertie regarding the timing of the timber lorry movements and school run were contradictory. It was pointed out that it is not possible for a car and a truck to pass on the access road. Traffic light control may have to be reconsidered. PK will continue to pursue. BM offered to help, if we send her an email

Action BM
and PK

5h:(8g). Cycle Route and Access Road from The Briars to Queens Point. The state of this road still presents a problem for residents and base cyclists alike. After logging two potholes, they were promptly filled with a barrow load of tarmac which is unlikely to survive the next heavy rain, and it is probably worse than it was. GF reiterated that if residents were not happy they should use the formal complaints procedure as this will force the Council to investigate and respond.

Ongoing

5i: (8h) Future of the Bowling Club Site.

From the the Land Registry, KJ has ascertained that the two trustees became owners in 2016. This was confirmed by the club solicitor. Maurice Corry believes that the land is owned by Luss Estates. He has offered to set up a meeting of interested parties. KJ will report back on this.

Action KJ

5j:(8j) Update on Local Defibrillators. Three defibrillators have been now installed in our area, all off the main road. Signs are needed if these are to be of benefit to the public. GF suggested that we contact Jim Smith.

Action JR

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	<p>5k:(13)The caravan is still there getting more dilapidated as time passes. It is believed to be on ACHA land. GF will see if he can get some action on this.</p>	Action GF
	<p>5l:(14b) New Data Protection Rules information was received from A&B and two documents, Register of Processing and Privacy Policy, were approved at the AGM and will be posted on the website.</p>	
6. Planning Matters:	There were no significant planning applications in the last 2 months.	
7. Consultations	No action by the Community Council is proposed on the following consultations, but residents are encouraged to submit personal responses, particularly on the first.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal to ban the manufacture and sale of plastic stemmed cotton buds stems in Scotland: Closes 22nd June • Flood Risk Management in Scotland: Closes 31st July 	Action all residents
8. Other Matters:	<p>8a. Key Environmental features</p> <p>This is ongoing..</p> <p>CAA After some confusion the Treasurer has received a phone call asking for the return of the grant of £3420 from the Supporting Communities Fund. An extension to the grant has been under discussion. The Communities Fund comes before the Area Committee on June 21st. For audit purposes the CC needs written confirmation requesting the grant money be returned. The Community Council were unable to obtain the extra funding necessary to complete the project because funding bodies will not give grants for something they consider is the responsibility of the Council to deliver. Since the preparation of a CAA is a Statutory Requirement it has been difficult to obtain match funding.</p> <p>8b: Helensburgh Leisure Centre/ Waterfront Development</p> <p>Members of R&SCC attended the last meeting of HCC when the results of the survey undertaken by HCC were considered. HCC has proposed 7 recommendations.</p> <p>HCC would like our support at the Area meeting to be held on 21st June. . It was pointed out that Skateboarding is going to be an Olympic sport and this should be seen as a high priority..</p> <p>JR will attend the meeting on behalf of the CC.</p> <p>8c: Rhu Post Office</p> <p>This has been closed by the best part of a month. A temporary postmaster is being sought and negotiations are in hand with a potential candidate. It is unlikely that the PO will be open full time.</p>	

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Longer term, the proposed model for Rhu is a Post Office Local, where the PO sits within a shop. This has the advantage that the PO is open whenever the shop is open. However there are not many possibilities in Rhu.

8d. Update on Peace Camp.

- Street lighting: Officers confirmed to GF that there is no illegal connection at the camp.
- The current situation is that £136K is still owed in terms of Council Tax arrears. No direct action has been taken. The assessors are unwilling to remove these accounts from the Council Tax Register.
- GF has put an FOI to Scottish Water. No response so far despite several hasteners. He has now submitted an appeal to the Information Commissioner.
- The A&B Councillors in attendance declined to answer the question as to whether they felt that A&B are in dereliction of their duty over their dealings with the Peace Camp.

Post meeting note. It was reported at the April meeting that because the site contains some structures which require a building warrant, the site is the subject of an Investigation by the Council's Building Standards Service. This still needs to be pursued.

8e: Knotweed. It is really disappointing that in many places knotweed is growing very strongly. This is probably due to the fact that the Beast from the East stopped other vegetation in its track but had little effect on knotweed, plus many landowners were less than assiduous in their treatment of the weed last year. The Council was reminded that it is not illegal for landowners to have knotweed growing on their land, but they are liable if it spreads to neighbouring land and causes damage.

The cooperation of landowners is essential and they vary in their response to the weed on their land. The log of outbreaks will be updated and all landowners will be contacted for their response.

9. Opportunity for the Members of the Public to Speak:

There were no members of the public present.

10. Treasurer's report:

The Treasurer's report can be found at Appendix 3 on the website. Cheques for £167 have been signed tonight. All of the grant for Beach Cleaning fund has now been spent. Any further spend will need to be agreed by the CC beforehand.

11. Correspondence:

Correspondence is circulated as and when it is received.

Actions JC

- 11th November 2018-A Nations Tribute. Local communities are encouraged to light a beacon on this date. The ideal place for our community would be Rhu Spit. Given that this is owned by the MoD, the Council will approach them to see

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	<p>if they are willing to engage with the community.</p> <p>The 68 page document describing the events planned nationwide for this day was circulated. It is too large to post on our website but a link to it will be sought.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. A questionnaire has been received seeking personal views on experiences of the area CPP from a Masters student at the University of the H&I. JR has made a submission. c. The Secretary has sent for and received an electronic copy of the Electoral Register for Argyll and Bute. d. We are encouraged to fly the Red ensign on 3rd September for Merchant Navy Day. Since we do not have a flagpole, this information will be passed onto the RNYC. 	
12. Website and related issues:	<p>JC reported that three Newsletters have been sent out and that website usage has been fairly constant with approximately 2500 pages viewed in 1120 sessions.</p> <p>KJ reported that he had difficulty accessing the old minutes. JC will make the pages more obvious.</p> <p>JD proposed that the email addresses and telephone numbers of members should not be displayed openly on the website. Seconded TL and agreed unanimously. The generic email addresses of Convener and Secretary will be on the website</p>	Action JC
13. Councillors' reports:	None.	
14. Members' Reports:	<p>PK: Following on from their help in the Beach Clean, PK has delivered at lecture to the Beavers as part of the requirements to gain their "my World" Challenge Badge.</p> <p>FB: A resident of the Coach House, Station Road, is finding it difficult to exit her driveway because of the extra traffic on the road. We need to make sure that Campbell Divertie is aware of all the issues concerning road safety on this road. This should be linked to items 3a and 5g.</p>	Action PK and BM
15. AOB:	None.	
16. DONM:	Wednesday August 8 th 2018 at 7.30pm in the Community Hall.	