

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Rhu and Shandon Community Council
Wednesday 13th April 2016
Held in Rhu Community Hall**

In attendance:

Rhu & Shandon CC:

Guests/Public:

Jack Rudram	(JR)	Cllr George Freeman	(GF)
Jean Cook	(JC)	Cllr Maurice Corry	(MC)
Pat Pollok-Morris	(PPM)	Cdr James Leatherby RN	(JL)
Gordon King	(GK)	Audrey Butler	(AB)
Tim Lamb	(TL)	Edna Muir	(EM)
Brian Fleming	(BF)	John Brown	(JBr)
Peter Knox	(PK)	Rosemary Brown	(RBr)
Fiona Baker	(FB)	Jas Judge	(JJ)
Jim Duncan	(JD)	Harpreet Kaur	(HK)
Linda Duncan	(LD)	Douglas Walker	(DW)
Jayne Burnett	(JB)	Eileen Yendell	(EY)
		Mike Yendell	(MY)
		Colin Jackson	(CJ)

Topic	Minute	Decision/ Action						
1. Apologies:	1a. Apologies were received from or on behalf of: Angelina Wassell, Andrew Nicholson, Olivia Birch, Maggie McCowan and Robert MacIntyre.							
2. Declarations of interest:	2. There were no declarations of interest.							
3. Guest speakers:	<p>3a. Representative from Police Scotland: There was no representative of Police Scotland present at the meeting but a brief of reported crime in the area was submitted. Appendix 1.</p> <p>3b. Cdr James Leatherby: (JL) Provided a written report prior to the meeting. Appendix 2.</p> <p>3c. Jas Judge and Harpreet Kaur: JJ and HK introduced themselves to the meeting. They have taken over the running of the Rhu Post Office, preventing it from closure. JJ explained his background and experience. He has medical qualifications and is fluent in a number of languages. Having run a Post Office in Glasgow for 20 years he is an experienced Postmaster and was approached by the Post Office to run our office at short notice. The Rhu office was audited on Monday and was open for business immediately afterwards.</p> <p>The proposed opening times are as follows:</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri</td> <td>9am to 5pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wed</td> <td>9am to 1pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sat</td> <td>9am to 12:30pm</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri	9am to 5pm	Wed	9am to 1pm	Sat	9am to 12:30pm	
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JJ and HK are Sikhs and in celebration the anniversary of the birth of their religion they presented a cake. The Community Council welcomed the pair to Rhu and wished them well for the future; the cake was well received.

4. Minutes of meeting held 10th February 2016:

4. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th February 2016 were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed BF, Seconded PPM.

5. Matters arising from minutes not otherwise on the agenda:

5a. The Police website has Garelochhead as the local Police Office for Rhu and Shandon. This is an error and will be corrected. It should of course be Helensburgh. We will no longer have a dedicated Police Officer for Rhu and Shandon but there is a team of 5 Community Officers who will share a larger area. Our website will be updated with further information. Cllr Freeman pointed out that the Garelochhead Police Office had been closed for more than two years and that the Helensburgh Police Office is responsible for all of the Helensburgh & Lomond Area.

5b. Rosslea Hall Hotel: The Police, Argyll and Bute Council Licencing (Mr Raymond Park) and Argyll and Bute Council Environmental Health (Mary Watt) in conjunction with the hotel management have produced a plan of action to minimise noise and disturbance. The CC will maintain a watching brief but have no desire to duplicate the work of these authorities.

Removed from Future Agenda.

5c. Third Sector Grants: JC wrote to all Councillors in Argyll and Bute to support the proposal to allow Community Councils to apply for Third Sector Grants. GF had continued to pursue this proposal that he had put forward to the Council but was disappointed that the Administration had not supported his proposal to introduce this change in financial year 2016/17. He had now been informed that the proposed change would not happen until 2017/18 at the earliest.

5d. Paths for All. It was too late for a bid in this round of funding The CC will consider getting a group together with a view to formulating a bid in the next round.

5e. 'Heartstart UK' is a British Heart Foundation initiative that teaches people what to do in a life-threatening emergency, under the principle 'simple skills that save lives'. A part of this is to locate defibrillators in communities and then set up training, which will be free and is aimed at the public. Two defibrillators have been confirmed for Rhu; at the Marina and at Rosslea Hall Hotel. Other areas such as Shandon and the upper parts of Rhu are also being considered. It was agreed that we should cooperate with this initiative by helping to set up the Training Days.

Action JC

5f. Road Surface in Rhu. The A814 between Pier Road and School Road is in the Road Asset Management Plan and scheduled for resurfacing within this financial year and will be funded from the Council's Capital Budget.

6. Planning Matters: **6a. Ardenconnel Sports Pitch: 15/02729/PP.** The Planning Officer has recommended to the Planning, Protective Services and Licensing Committee (PPSLC) that this application be approved, subject to a pre-determination Hearing. The Hearing is an open meeting, and anyone who made a representation may speak. There were 36 objections on issues including parking provision, lighting, drainage and height of the surrounding fence, and the fact that the pitch is part of an Open Space Protection Area within a Conservation village. It is understood that the school will get free use of the facility during school time and for after school activities. In addition, block bookings for Rhu Amateurs may be permitted. JC will be representing the views of the CC at the Hearing, which will be held at 10.30 on 14th April in the Community Hall.

6b. Siting of Metal Storage Container (retrospective): 15/03082/PP. GF informed the meeting that the Enforcement Officer is dealing with it but is not a formal Enforcement Case at this time.

A number of people have had difficulty with the public part of the Council's planning website. It was suggested that a letter should be written to Angus Gilmore to alert him to the matter which is causing frustration to those trying to use the site. Some of the problems are technical and some appear to be due to human error.

JC write to
Angus Gilmore

6c. Wind Mast: 16/00230/PP. CC will maintain a watching brief monitoring mast following approval.

6d. Sea Lochs Trail; Rhu Plinth: 16/00174/AMSC. Plan Approved.

6e. Persimmon House Proposals: Glenoran Road. JR and several other CC members attended the pre-application and submitted comments at the time. 85 homes have been proposed by the developer which exceeds the planning allocation of 60 as described in the Local Development Plan. The road access arrangements are appalling and completely unacceptable. Drainage and flood prevention are big issues which will have to be considered in the planning process. There would be increased pressure on the school's ability to cope with extra demand. GF highlighted that the capacity of local schools was considered by the Council when large residential planning applications were being considered. The CC will be monitoring the planning application and will react accordingly.

7. Other Matters: **7a. Update of Broadband.** JC has written to Brenden O'Hara requesting hard facts but no response has been received. GF said that he has been pursuing high speed broadband on behalf of a number of communities in his ward and had sent an email to his contacts in Livingston who are dealing with this project to request an update. He expected further information to be made available soon.

7b. Horticulture/Open Public Spaces (Rose Bed and Barge Memorial Garden). There is no council money available for rose beds. PPM suggested that the rose beds be grassed over and planted with bulbs and in order to minimise the requirement for maintenance. LD said that the school couldn't do anything on H&S grounds. PPM proposed that the roses should be removed and replaced with bulbs. Seconded by JB.

Action PPM

The Barge Memorial Garden is in its usual run down state FB said that she was prepared to go along and do something. It was suggested that the CC approach Alastair Hope and request that the Barge Memorial Trust arrange maintenance of the garden.

JC write to Alastair Hope

7c. Rhu Post Office. Overtaken by events.

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

8. There were no comments from the public.

9. Treasurer's report:

9. Treasurer's Report: There have been no transactions in Community Council Account since the last meeting. The invoice for the seat has been paid, leaving a balance of £100.

These figures represent the final end of year figures.

Opening Balance:	£ 1,738.23
Income:	£ -
Expenditure:	£ -
CC funds:	£ 1,738.23
Seat Fund:	
Opening Balance:	£ 475.00
Seat Paid:	£ 375.00
Balance:	£ 100.00
Total funds in bank	£ 1,838.23

There was a discussion on what to do with the remaining £100 from the seat fund. It was agreed that since the money was donated specifically for the seat it should not be spent on anything else without the permission of those who donated. JR asked LD to contact the people who donated and to offer a *pro rata* refund or gain consent from them to use the money towards an alternative cause.

Action LD

10. Correspondence:

10. Correspondence had been circulated as and when it was received. JC continues to send out Newsletters. JR and JC have received, on behalf of the CC, replicas of the memorial medal for the Queen's birthday.

11. Website and related issues:

11. Website: Nothing significant to report. JR thanked JC for her continued good work on maintaining and updating the website.

12. Councillors' reports

12. MC. Reported that £150 funding had been made available for repairs and renovation of the Shandon War Memorial.

There are issues of pedestrian access to the Royal Northern and Clyde Yacht Club for the Rhu Gala this year and road management will have to be put in place.

There are problems with the lighting of the footpath between Aros Road and Ardenconnel Pitches. MC has highlighted the issue with the Base Executive Officer as it is the MOD's responsibility to maintain this footpath.

13. Members' Reports:

13a. PPM has obtained permission from OSCR to dissolve the playground charity.

13b. GK said that the drain at Orphir has now been cleared and this has reduced the amount of water lying on the adjacent road. The drain cover remains too far below the road surface and is causing vibration when heavy vehicles drive across. Additionally the resident of Orphir is concerned that this has the potential to cause damage to his car.

GK to contact Head of Roads.

13c. JC. The Community Hall Committee is holding their AGM on Tuesday 19th April. PPM said that she would try to attend.

Stuart McCracken has been informed of the presence of Field Orchids in the verge on the A814 and has been requested to avoid the plants when mowing the verges.

14. AOB:

14a. AOB. JD reported that there were no developments regarding the Bowling Club, the windows are boarded up and the area is becoming overgrown.

14b. JR asked JC to write to Jas and Harpreet at the Post Office to wish them well and thank them for the cake.

Action JC

15. DONM:

15. The AGM of the R&SCC will take at 1930 on 8th June 2016 in the Community Hall. The next ordinary meeting will take place on completion of the AGM.

Appendix 1: **Police Report Rhu and Shandon – Incidents from 2nd Feb until 12th April 2016**

	Crime/Incident	Persons charged/Arrested
31/1-02/02/2016	Housebreaking With Intent Ardenconnel Way, Rhu	Enquiries are ongoing. Police are appealing for witnesses.
11/02-14/02/2016	Theft of Horse Lineside Walk, Rhu	Enquiries are ongoing. Police are appealing for witnesses.
20/02/2016	Report of unattended surfboard in the water Shandon	Coastguard, MOD Marine Unit and Police Scotland search. No trace.
23/02/2016	Possession of DrugsSmugglers Way, Rhu	1 x Male charged and reported to the PF at Dumbarton.
02/03/2016	Drink Driver Laggery Road, Rhu	1 x Male arrested, charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal at Dumbarton.
18-19/03/2016	Vandalism to motor vehicle Manse Brae, Rhu	Enquiries are ongoing. Police are appealing for witnesses.
04/04/2016	Male causing a disturbance A814 Shandon	1 x Male arrested, charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal at Dumbarton for Breach of the Peace and Littering.

Rosslea House

Licensing Dept have liaised with management and given advice to minimise noise/disruption to local residents. Premises have agreed to make Community Council aware of any planned functions where Fireworks displays have already been booked. Should there be any concerns/disorder at or near premises, then residents should report this to police at the time by calling 101.

Cold callers

General reminder to the public to be wary of any cold callers to their homes, either by personal visit/telephone call or email/text messages, offering to provide services or pretending to be from a bank etc. Never provide personal or bank information when contacted in this way, as reputable companies will never contact you in this way. If you are concerned either you or a neighbour/relative is being contacted them please contact police. Particularly at this time of year we can experience an increase in Bogus callers offering to carry out gardening/maintenance work often at inflated prices for sub-standard work. If you are suspicious of any persons/vehicles in your area call 101.

There have been a few recent Housebreakings in the Helensburgh area, again should you see any suspicious persons/vehicles please report to police. For further Crime prevention advice visit the Keep Safe page of the Police Scotland website.

Road safety – local speed enforcement checks will continue.

Appendix 2: GUEST SPEAKER 2 – CDR JAMES LEATHERBY (JL) – REPORT

JL has provided the following report ahead of the above meeting:

- **Rhu (Ardenconnel) Playing Fields.** The public hearing for the proposed 3G artificial surface pitch is due to take place on Thu 14 Apr 16 in Rhu Community Hall. The Base, accompanied by the CEO of the proposed construction company, will present its case there. This will address the previously expressed fears about light pollution and general appearances.
- **Armed Forces Community Covenant Grant.** From a UK-wide pot of £10M, ABC has secured £333K. Specifically, the list of local successes features:
 - TS Neptune (Rhu-based Sea Cadets) – Replacement Minibus: £15,000
 - Rhu Community Hall – Replacement Gas CH system £20,000
 - BASIC & Cornerhouse Creche (Smugglers Way) £5,900
 - Project 81 Youth & Community Enterprise – Garelochhead: £19,680
 - The Tower Digital Arts Centre – Faslane Cinema Upgrade: £20,000
 - Argyll & Bute Council – Hermitage Park project: £253,000
- **Three Yearly Review and Reissue of the Public Information Leaflet in the Locality of HMNB Clyde.** The Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001 (REPPIR) booklet is about to be reissued to the residents of Rahane, Mambeg, Garelochhead, Faslane and Shandon. This is necessary to meet the requirements of the Regulations. Although amendments have been made to the layout and the format, in order to align them with current best practice, there has been no change to the material content.
- **The Clyde Local Liaison Committee.** The annual CLLC forum took place in the Clyde Off-Site Centre in Rhu on the afternoon of Tue 8 Mar 16. R&SCC was represented by Mr Tim Lamb; Argyll & Bute Councillors were also present. Presentations were made (which included reference to the item above) and questions answered. There were no outstanding actions.
- **Helensburgh Pier Development.** The Economic and Strategic Transport Lead Planner for Argyll & Bute Council has confirmed that the £5M sum announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his recent Budget speech is the sum required to complete funding for the Pier's development, including the swimming pool.
- **Major Naval Exercises.** Ex JOINT WARRIOR 161 will have started by the time that the Council meets in April; increased activity will be evident on the Clyde over the period 7-25 April 2016.

