

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Rhu and Shandon Community Council
Wednesday 11th October 2017
Held in Rhu Community Hall**

In attendance:

Rhu & Shandon CC:

Pat Pollok-Morris (PPM)
Jean Cook (JC)
Gordon King (GK)
Brian Fleming (BF)
Olivia Birch (OB)
Maggie McCowan (MMc)
Peter Knox (PK)
Andrew Nicholson (AN)
Fiona Baker (FB)

Guests/Public:

Cllr George Freeman (GF)
Cdr James Leatherby RN (JL)
Insp Matthew Webb (MW)
PC Ian Mustarde (IM)
Gregg Small

Topic	Minute	Decision/ Action
1. Apologies:	1. Apologies were received from or on behalf of: Jayne Burnett, Jack Rudram, Linda Duncan, Jim Duncan, Tim Lamb, Derek Hall, Cllr Barbara Morgan, Cllr Iain Paterson and Edna Muir.	
2. Declarations of interest:	2. There were no declarations of interest.	
3. Guest speakers:	3a. Police Scotland. Inspector Matt Web has recently been appointed as the local area Inspector and introduced himself to the Community Council. He talked through the items on the report at Appendix 1 to the Agenda explaining that the level of detail was appropriate for public consumption. MW said that he was keen to develop a close relationship with the CC and he intends to appoint a specific Liaison Officer to each of the Community Councils in the area. He pointed out that the particular Officer would not be able to attend every CC meeting because of shift patterns. When asked about the subject of speeding MW replied that the Traffic Division based in Dumbarton was the main team dealing with motorists but local officers are being trained in the use of speed cameras.	
	3b. Cdr James Leatherby: Presented the brief for the Naval Base and the report can be found at Appendix 2 to the Agenda. FB asked if Ardenconnel fields would be available for Rhu Gala next year and JL suggested that she should approach the Base Executive Officer in the new year.	
4. Minutes of meeting held 9th August 2017:	4. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 th August 2017 were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed OB and Seconded AN. The minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.	

<p>5. Matters arising from minutes not otherwise on the agenda:</p>	<p>5a. (5e) Car in Quarry Knowe. The car is still there and is believed to be not on public ground and as such cannot be forcibly removed. The issue has been highlighted to the authorities and it is felt that the CC cannot make any further meaningful contribution.</p>	<p>Issue closed</p>
	<p>5b. (5f) Defibrillators. JR spoke to Mrs Sheenah Nelson on 24th Sep regarding fund raising for defibrillator box. There are sites under consideration but couldn't say where.</p>	<p>Ongoing JR</p>
	<p>5c. (5g) Structures on the Peace Camp. There was still no answer on the number of structures that would be permitted on the Peace Camp site.</p>	<p>GF</p>
	<p>5d. (5g) Siting of Metal Storage Container (retrospective): 15/03082/PP. It was reported at the April meeting of the CC that permission for this container had been refused and it will have to be removed. It is believed that the decision has not been appealed and the container is still present. The Helensburgh Green Belt group are pursuing the issue. JR to write to Howard Young to support enforcement action.</p>	<p>JR write to Howard Young</p>
	<p>5e. (5i) Laigh Balernock Turbines 16/02662/PP. JR wrote to Howard Young regarding community benefit from the project and suggested that it should be shared out among the affected communities. To date there has been no response.</p>	
	<p>5f. (5m) Spoils from the development of Rhu Lodge. JC has written 2 letters to Howard Young who has had difficulty finding the area and doesn't consider the dumping as a problem. SEPA, Marine Scotland, Argyll and Bute Council, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) and the Queen's Harbourmaster have all been informed. There is a concern that areas of knotweed may be buried by the earth and there is vegetation growing on the surface. GF said that Howard Young had lost his Enforcement Officer and would be unable to do anything. GF suggested that the CC should write to Angus Gilmour to express the CC's concern regarding the lack of an Enforcement Officer.</p>	
	<p>5g. (8b) Christmas Lighting. JC wrote to Mark Calder about the CC's concerns that there would not be a Christmas Tree on the village green this year. The CC has been assured that there will be a tree this year.</p>	
	<p>5h. (9) Helensburgh and Lomond Area Committee (HLAC) Meetings. There was a proposal that HLAC should hold meetings with Community Councils and JC wrote to say that we were happy with the way things were already. At the last area committee meeting it was decided that a meeting with the Helensburgh CC would take place on 2 Nov as a trial. There has been some confusion as to where these meetings would take place.</p>	
<p>Model Constitution</p>	<p>6. Formal Belated Adoption of the Model Constitution. The Model Constitution has been adopted.</p>	

<p>7. Planning Matters:</p>	<p>7a. Persimmon Housing Development 17/0662/PP. This planning application will be considered at the PPLC next week. The recommendation is that it will be granted subject to conditions contained in the report. The proposal is for 76 dwellings and the conditions will focus on access roads and drainage. Jack Rudram feels that the CC should be represented at the hearing. Correspondence will go out and CC will attend.</p>	
	<p>7b. Other Important Local Planning Applications. Felling of Trees There is an application for the felling of 9 trees in the Shelter Belt at the rear of Gareloch Brae. This is in a tree protection area and although the CC is not concerned the application should be brought to the attention of Jayne Burnett.</p>	<p>JC contact JB</p>
<p>8. Consultations.</p>	<p>8a. Amendments to the Council's Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils. A draft response is contained at Appendix 4. The CC agreed to submit the response.</p>	
	<p>7b. Role of the Scottish Health Council. PPM and MM to formulate a response with JC. The general feeling was that the Scottish Health Council was an ineffective organisation.</p>	
<p>9. Other Matters:</p>	<p>9a. Key Environmental Features: Mark Lodge has produced maps of the area showing how TPOs are laid out and came up with a number of suggestions. The document needs more detail in some areas rather than broad brush statements eg dry stone walling. Mark Lodge says that we don't need to identify listed buildings as the Council has sufficient information already. Jack Rudram will be presenting a revised document, concentrating in certain areas.</p>	
	<p>8b. Removal of Timber from Highlandman's Wood. The roads above the railway will be upgraded next summer in preparation for the removal of the timber. Aggregate will be taken from borrow pits locally on the hill. Campbell Divertie has not yet produced a traffic management plan. The route that the timber lorries would be taking may need to be cleared of overhanging branches. PK and FB are continuing to monitor progress.</p>	
	<p>8c. Road Pollution in Rhu. A monitoring tube was placed on the fence at Rhu primary for one month and results are due back by 13th Oct.</p>	
	<p>8d. Japanese Knotweed Update. Some landowners in Rhu and Shandon have been less assiduous in the amount of spraying and treatment that has been done. The large outbreak in Rhu bay which will be re-treated from the outside.</p>	

	<p>Outdoor Museum Design Panel. FB attended The Area Committee has £55k to spend on pieces of outdoor art over 4 years. There is a maximum of £3k on any one item, £500 to develop and £2.5k towards the manufacture of the artwork. Anyone can apply but it was stipulated that there can be no commercial advertising. OB said that the Art Society want to put something on a plinth made of wrought iron or bronze. The date of the next meeting of the panel is not known.</p>	
<p>10. Opportunity for the Members of the Public to Speak:</p>	<p>9a. Opportunity for the Members of the Public to Speak. GS thanked the CC and commented that he was interested in what was happening in the area.</p>	
	<p>9b. Edna Muir (not present) had contacted JC to say that there had been a small amount of clearing at the bowling club site. Some thoughts as to the future use of the site had been voiced, suggesting that it could be turned into allotments, Men's Sheds or an orchard. Access to the site will be an obstacle for many proposals. JC has written and asked what would be acceptable. JR has had no acknowledgement, for his correspondence, from any of the trustees.</p>	
<p>11. Treasurer's report:</p>	<p>10. Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report is at Appendix 3. The Argyll and Bute Council administration and grant of £659.50 has been received and £15 donation has been paid out for the air pollution test kit.</p>	
<p>12. Correspondence:</p>	<p>11. Correspondence: Correspondence is circulated as and when it is received.</p> <p>11a. Cairndow Community Council is canvassing for support in trying to address the perceived problems caused by motorbikes on the public road network. R&SCC were sympathetic to Cairndow's problems but it was thought that it was within the remit of the Police to enforce the traffic laws.</p>	
	<p>11b. Community Planning Partnership. CC has been requested to comment on the Community Planning Partnership, this is an aspiration and has not been implemented. There is no obligation on CC's and there will be a meeting of the new body on 12 Oct. It was thought that this was not delivering anything useful.</p>	

<p>13. Website and related issues:</p>	<p>12. Website: JC reported that the website was experiencing some slight problems with links not working correctly. These problems have been reported to Spanglefish. JC said that 2548 pages had been viewed in 671 sessions on the website. Views differed on how this quantifies the success of the website.</p> <p>A short discussion followed on how to improve the presence of the CC. It was suggested that a leaflet should be produced or a note inserted into the Community Advertiser.</p>	
<p>14. Councillors' reports</p>	<p>14. GF NTR.</p>	
<p>15. Members' Reports:</p>	<p>14a. GK Commented that the new LED lights along the A814 may be energy efficient and producing less light pollution but has had the consequence that the cycle path is now darker than before. After heavy rain on Tuesday night the path was about a foot deep in water in places.</p>	
	<p>14b. BF Reported that crossing the road at the corner near the Yacht club was difficult because of the speed that cyclists were coming down the hill. Additionally, he stated that cyclists were going too quickly and passing too closely on the cycle path. MW said that cyclists should be cycling considerably on the shared space and could be reported.</p>	
	<p>14c.FB. Reported that the pumping station at the top of Station Road was noisy. She suspected that the pump was in need of repair and has contacted Scottish Water.</p>	
	<p>14d. AN. Reported:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That there had been dumping of spoils at the top of the footpath connecting Armadale Road and Torwoodhill Road Over the years this has made the footpath steeper and is now very difficult to negotiate. AN has sent an email to Jerry O'Hare regarding the issue. 2. Hedges were overhanging roads and pavements in a number of places. JC advised these to be put on the A&BC defect reporting web page. 3. Annual remembrance wreaths would be placed at the War Memorials on 12 November: in Rhu at 1130 and Shandon at 1230. 	
	<p>JC. Reported that there was a disused sewage tank in the beach opposite the Post Office. Scottish Water claim that it is not theirs. The owner of the land should be contacted to find out who is responsible for it, possibly Rhu Marina.</p>	<p>JC to pursue</p>

16. AOB:	15a. PPM suggested that another beach clean should be organised, one that could be done without the logging of items found. If possible involve the school and other organisations. She thanked PK for his work on previous cleans.	
	15b. MW asked if posters could be put up to publicise the 'One Punch Campaign'. He also asked that the Your View Counts survey is highlighted. This survey helps determine the policing priorities of communities throughout Scotland.	
17. DONM:	16. The next ordinary meeting will take place at 7:30pm on Wednesday 13 December in the Community Hall.	