

# Reports Pack for December 2023 meeting

## Item 3a Police Scotland

Community Council – Rhu and Shandon Community Council Meeting

Dates Covered – 01 October-5<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Report Submitted by – Caroline McDonald

Officer Attending -

Reported Crimes of Note					
		Location & Brief M.O	Detected Y / N		
18/10	Theft by House Breaking	Glenarn Road, Rhu. Theft of tools from garden property. Enquiries complete.	N		
1/11	Road Traffic	Manse Brae, Rhu. Drive Motor Vehicle with No Insurance. One male charged.	Y		

	<b>44 incidents dealt with by Police Scotland during this period. Calls include Public nuisance, Assist members of the public, Concern for persons, Abandoned Vehicles, Road Traffic Matters, Disturbance, House Alarms and Neighbour disputes.</b>
<b>New &amp; Ongoing Initiatives</b>	
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<b>Update on previous issues raised</b>	
1	

<b>Feedback - Current issues raised</b>	
1	

<b>Feedback - Equality and Diversity Issues Identified</b>	
1	

Attending Officer add name to form, and obtain a copy of minutes of previous meeting?

Update form with details of any issues raised and return to Sgt Martin Miller

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## Item 3b HMNB Clyde- to follow

Nothing to report

## Item 3c: MDP Report to follow

Rhu and Shandon Community Council  
December 13th 2023

[Type text]

## **Reports Pack for December 2023 meeting**

### **Item 7a: December Forestry Report**

Following the storms on 7<sup>th</sup> October, A&B repaired the culvert at the .bottom of Station Road. They reported that this had been blocked by a hanging basket which had found its way into the burn.. The revised TTMP, dated 4<sup>th</sup> August 2023 was finally posted on the A&B website on 17<sup>th</sup> October. The ATTG contact is listed as Iain Catterwell who is no longer in post. No replacement has been appointed.

The cutting down and removal of the larch trees infected with Phytophthora Ramorum started in mid October. This highly destructive algae-like organism causes the death of a wide range of trees and shrubs, not just larch, although this is where it has had its greatest impact in the UK. Trees in the wetter parts of the UK are most susceptible, because the pathogen requires water to spread and infect its host. Scottish Woodlands have chosen not to post the bio-security poster available to download from the Scottish Forestry Website advising the public to clean leaves and mud off shoes and bicycle tyres but we are assured that the forestry workers are following strict bio-security guidelines.

There have been 3 reported breaches of the TTMP so far; two involving vehicles travelling outwith the allowed times, and a third, before 7am on 9<sup>th</sup> November, involving a empty timber truck and trailer unable to make the turn at the roundabout between Pier and Station Road. For the record it takes just over an hour for timber truck to load and return down Pier and Station Road.

Three local residents have contacted the Community Council with concern about the proposed commercial woodlands at Letrault and Stuckenduff. They were all advised to contact Mike Page. One has met with Mike Page and received assurances that existing access will be maintained and drainage will be considered carefully to avoid contributing to the existing flooding problems already faced by Shandon residents. There are also concerns about planting on the deep peat land and the protection of archeological features.

Possibly as a result of the above interventions, Scottish Forestry has informed the Community Council that an Enforcement Order has been issued to Scottish

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Woodlands. No further road building work to be undertaken until screening option has been issued. Grant funding for fencing work already done is being withheld.

**Report from the Emma Gray from Scottish Forestry** who is the Operations Area Manager covering Argyll, Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park.:

“Letrault & Stuckenduff;: We received an updated copy of an archaeologists report on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> December. We are in the process of reviewing the information from this report with a view to make a screening opinion decision once we are satisfied the advice and request cover the outstanding issues”.

### **Other Timber Transport Issues**

A loaded timber transport vehicle was observed entering A814 by the County Hotel. We assume that this had travelled down Sinclair Street and turned into King Street West, most likely coming from the Bannachra Muir, commercial woodlands beyond Blackhill, which is being managed by Scottish Woodlands. I reported this to Raymond Kane who asked for details of date and time.

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### **Item 7b Long term Forest Plan for Luss Estates**

The Community Council has responded to RDS on this.

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### **Item 8a: Christmas Lights Switch on Event.**

This was spearheaded by Alastair Moore, ably assisted by Jeannette Loram and Arnold Bretman in star roles and Jim Duncan, John McGall and Jean Cook who helped with the setup and clear up.

Compere Andrew Broadbelt, owner of the popular Beano Disco Group provided live DJ contemporary and Christmas music with projected sound and lighting . He organised very well received children's dance competitions ..

There were performances on the main stage by the A capella choir Tartan Harmony, Rosie Green, Sophie Ramsay and Sancha Fernandez-Vidler and the Helensburgh String Ensemble.

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At 7pm the lights switch-on was performed by Rhu primary School children Emmy, Robyn, Alexander, and Liam.

The Olde Christmas Shoppe provided the three dancing elves and there was a surprise visit by 10 year old Elise the Donkey and owner Fiona.

There was Chair-o-Plane ride, a Lucky Hammer Stall, Helensburgh Toy Shoppe, the Olde Christmas Shoppe and the Café at Kilcreggan Hog Roast Stand.

Sponsorship for the event came from many sources. Cdr Peter Noblett, RNBC confirmed the supply of the tree and Ground Control Coulport cut, delivered and erected it. Babcock International provided and delivered the safety barriers. Gilmore and Aitkin provided wood for various purposes. Mather Hire, loaned us a cherry picker which helped in the set-up process. Argyll and Bute provided extra lights and the stage, which was willingly erected and dismantled by Robert Dundas. Anderson Engineering provided and set up the generators, Mandy again provided first aid cover and the Helensburgh Co-operative Society donated gifts for the performers and helpers.

This was a real community event.

On site were Rhu and Shandon Parish Church providing free hot chocolate, and Rhu Primary School who migrated to the site after their afternoon Christmas Fair in the Church Hall. Also in the afternoon, Blairvadach Outdoor Centre provided an opportunity for the community to see their facilities and Royal Northern Yacht Club opened its bar to visitors and served mulled wine, Rhu Inn served mulled wine during the event and from 9pm to 12am it held a Christmas Party Night