

Rhu and Shandon Community Council Ordinary Meeting

Held on 11 January 2012

At Rhu Community Hall

In attendance:

Rhu & Shandon CC:

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| Jack Rudram | Convenor | (JR) |
| Pat Pollock-Morris | Deputy Convenor | (PPM) |
| Jean Cook | Secretary | (JC) |
| Colin Caskie | Treasurer | (CC) |
| Gordon King | Minute Secretary | (GK) |
| Martin Ritch | | (MR) |
| Jim Duncan | | (JD) |
| Jayne Burnett | | (JB) |
| Morven Boyle | | (MB) |
| Linda Duncan | | (LD) |
| Fiona Baker | | (FB) |

Guests/Public:

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Cllr Billy Petrie | (BP) |
| Cllr George Freeman | (GF) |
| Cllr Danny Kelly | (DK) |
| Cdr James Leatherby | (JL) |
| Kenneth Smith | (KS) |
| Alastair Moore | (AM) |
| David Barr | (DB) |

Meeting was opened by JR at 1950.

The Convenor welcomed those present to the meeting.

Apologies:

Andrew Nicholson

Guest Speaker:

JL informed the Community Council that there had been some storm damage at St Andrew's School and action was in hand to repair. He is monitoring developments at Rhu Marina and that there is nothing currently happening in the base that affects the area. The second Astute class submarine is due to arrive this year and the new Valiant Jetty will be commissioned. It is anticipated that this may involve a visiting member of the Royal Family. Trees were surveyed in the Woodlea Crescent area in November and a contract was in place to commence remedial work next week. Priorities now lay with trees that had been affected by the storm - those bordering utilities would be dealt with first followed by those posing a risk to safety of persons and property. There were no other guest speakers.

Acceptance of minutes from previous meeting:

The minutes of the Special Meeting held on 29 Nov 2011 were accepted without change. Proposed by PPM seconded by JD.

Update on Rhu Marina Masterplan: Angus Gilmore (A&B Council Head of Planning and Regulatory Services) had replied to the letter from JR (on behalf of R&SCC stating concerns over the marina development).

- R&SCC feel that the point has been made that the neighbours of the development are aggrieved with regard to consultation.
- Land reclamation – no assurance as to what is happening and there is an open ended capacity for infill.
- No revised masterplan has been produced to date.

- There is inconsistency in red outlining of developments. In some cases the **boundary of the land** on which the development is being made is outlined and in other cases it is the **outline of the building** that is being changed.
- There is inconsistency in the requirement for neighbour notification; in some cases it is 20m in others it is 200m.

There was a meeting with The Crown Estates (TCE) and the A&B C today (11 Jan) TCE were not happy to have Rhu Marina Developments (RMD) in attendance. RMD are trying to arrange a meeting in order to develop a Masterplan with the co-developer and the planners are trying to work with both parties. It was reiterated that Masterplans have only to be advertised whereas Planning applications have to be advertised and neighbours must receive notification.

It was decided that JR would draft a letter to Angus Gilmore making the following points:

- Planning department engagement with the public would be welcomed.
- There is an expectation of a 6 week consultation period.
- There are noted inconsistencies in the planning procedures.
- This is a major development and is being treated as a minor one.

The draft letter would be circulated around members for comment.

Opportunity for comments from public:

There were no additional comments.

Correspondence:

A letter had been received that notified of a proposal of accommodation for an extra 500 personnel at the base, which would involve the requirement to build another 4 accommodation blocks. This would all take place within the existing site and have minimal impact.

Planning application for Manse Brae garage, workshop, offices and shop – plans available in the Post Office.

There was a request for support for the planning application for Station Road but as there are local objections it was deemed inappropriate for R&SCC to support either side.

Notification had been received with regard to the presentation of the Masterplans at Victoria Halls on 13/14th Jan for the development at Helensburgh Pier and the old Hermitage Academy. A short discussion ensued and it was thought that a response from the Community Council would carry some weight in addition to personal comments submitted. It needed to be borne in mind that the funding for the leisure facilities would come from revenue raised by the supermarket development. Some of the points raised were:

- There should be no petrol station on the pier.
- The proposed status of long stay parking.
- The swimming pool should be at a central location for accessibility.
- The proposed height of the development.
- Should residential property be incorporated?
- Do we need more retail outlets?
- The design aesthetics for the area is paramount.

PPM urged everyone to look at the Masterplan and think about making a response. JR will collate and submit comments by email. Comments to JR by Sunday evening to meet deadline of 18th Jan. This does not preclude individuals from making their own comments.

There will be a period of instruction and advice for Community Councils at 11 o'clock on Saturday 14th Jan. JR and PPM will be attending.

The application for the Waitrose planning application will be presented at Victoria Halls on 21st Feb at 1030.

GF stated that there had been no support for the Community planning group, all statutory bodies are to bring community planning down to local level. This is not working well and needs to be reviewed. There will be a public meeting on 17 Jan in Victoria Halls at 2 o'clock.

Treasurer's Report.

Presented at the AGM earlier.

Member's Reports

GK reported that many of the street lights that were put out by the storm had been repaired and that the bulk of the debris on the roads had been cleared quickly. There are ongoing issues with blocked drains in the area and he urged the council to conduct permanent repairs to potholes rather than filling with loose tar, which will preserve the roads, avoid blocking drains and save time and money in the longer term.

FB reported that the road sweeper was not getting to the minor roads and Lineside Walk was not well served. The drains are also full of silt. GK to contact Stuart McCracken to enquire about sweeping schedules.

PPM. Concerned about the failure of consultation about the commissioning of social care. PPM and JC will draft email.

JB. Informed those present that she would be the liaison with the school.

JC. Said that she was trying to get Scottish Power to improve integrity of supply around the area of St Andrew's school and pointed out that the power was out for an extended period as a result of the storm. DK informed the meeting that Scottish Power representatives had visited Rosneath to discuss issues. R&SCC will provide backing to JC letter to Scottish Power.

Councillors BP, GF, DK – Nothing further to add.

John Fenney will continue to upload information to the website.

AOB. JR suggested that the roles of R&SCC membership should be discussed at the next meeting.

DONM. 8th February at 1930 in the Community Hall.

Ordinary meetings for the remainder of the year will take place on the second Wednesday of every second month:

8th February
11th April
13th June
8th August
10th October
12th December

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 2125.