

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Rhu and Shandon Community Council
Wednesday 12th June 2013
Held in Rhu Community Hall**

In attendance:

Rhu & Shandon CC:

Guests/Public:

Pat Pollok-Morris	(PPM)	Cllr George Freeman	(GF)
Jean Cook	(JC)	Cllr Robert MacIntyre	(RM)
Gordon King	(GK)	Cllr Maurice Corry	(MC)
Jayne Burnett	(JB)	Cdr James Leatherby	(JL)
Fiona Baker	(FB)	Sgt Bob Magee	(BM)
Ronald Sandeman	(RS)	Edna Muir	(EM)
Linda Duncan	(LD)	George Wilson	(GW)
Jim Duncan	(JD)	K Whaley	(KW)

Topic	Minute	Decision/Action
1. Apologies:	1. Apologies were received from or on behalf of: Jack Rudram, Scott Weir, Andrew Nicholson and Audrey Butler.	
2. Minutes of meeting held April 10th 2013	2. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 th April 2013 were considered.	The minutes were approved (JB & RS) .
3. Matters Arising	<p>3a. The Barge Memorial Garden. The burn alongside the garden has been cleared as part of the road and drainage and repair works in Station Road that were conducted after flooding had damaged the road surface in Station Road in mid April. This work has tidied up the area to some extent but no specific work has been carried out on the garden itself.</p> <p>3c. Scout hut. Cllr Robert MacIntyre was due to give an update.</p> <p>3d. Flooding in community area. A dedicated line has been introduced by A&B Council to report blocked drains. When a report is made a date is given for work to be carried out. Several blocked drains have been reported,</p> <p>3e. Japanese Knotweed. Jean has produced material for a leaflet but unable to access a map of the area. GF will try to obtain a suitable map for inclusion.</p> <p>3g. Rhu Bowling Club. EM attended a 'disappointing' meeting to discuss the way ahead for the site of the Bowling Club.</p>	<p>AN to get quote for work to be done and continue dialogue with Alistair Hope.</p> <p>Item missed</p> <p>JC to report progress at the next meeting</p> <p>JB volunteered to assist JC in pursuing information.</p>

Simon Miller, representing Luss Estates was unsure of the legal position if the Bowling Club ceases to function, He agreed to look into this. Should the ground default back to Luss Estates., then 3 options discussed:

- i. All neighbours take over small piece of the area.
- ii. Consideration for one neighbour to take over the whole area.
- iii. Luss Estates to take back the ground

Simon Miller on behalf of Luss Estates agreed to erect a security gate until the legal aspects of ownership were settled.

Resident John Fraser has written to Luss Estates asking what their intentions are for the future use of the ground.

3j. Data Protection. JC has registered R&SCC as required to comply with data protection rules at a cost of £35. General advice for other organisations wishing to register is to do it by phone as completing forms on the website takes in the order of 6 weeks and not necessarily successful.

R&SCC has registered.

3l. Pot Holes. Cllr Robert MacIntyre that progress is being made with the continued improvement of the roads. Torr Crescent, Artarman Road and Armadale Road have been properly resurfaced and painted.

3m. Conservation Charter. JD wrote to Linda Robertson who is responsible for Conservation areas. A Charter for the area should have been drawn up sometime since 1997 but has not yet been done. A review of Charters is due in 2015 but there is no guarantee that this will be done. JD had recommended that R&SCC should assist in producing the review and appraisal. After 6 weeks there was no reply so he followed up with further correspondence and still no reply. Rather than be seen as constantly raising objections to a multitude of projects, this is seen as an opportunity for the Community Council to be positive and proactive for the area. The Community should be involved in deciding what features are worth preserving and we should get the ball

R&SCC unanimously supports JD's position.

rolling. JD enlisted the assistance of FB who may be able to co-opt other architects for ideas and to draft something up. It was suggested that they contact Nigel Miller from Helensburgh Community Council about similar work done in Helensburgh where their documents were adopted by the Council 4-5 years ago.

3n. Matters Arising. There were no further matters arising.

4. Guest Speakers

4a. Sgt Bob Magee reported that there had been no serious incidents in Rhu and Shandon. Since the last meeting the Police have received 11 calls for Shandon and 47 for Rhu. The usual mix of traffic violations have been observed; 1 drink driving, 4 using mobile phones, 6 speeding, 1 failing to wear seatbelt, 1 without insurance and 1 driving without due care. It was pointed out that the Police were using an unmarked car in the area for monitoring traffic in the 30 mph zones. A description of the car was not given for obvious reasons. Other incidents included 3 missing persons and 2 reports of flares being used on the water. Gunshots were reported but turned out to be someone practicing the use of starting gun for yacht races.

4b. Cdr James Leatherby. JL updated the Council on a number of items and provided briefs on some new ones, as follows:

- Senior management changes since the last meeting have included Captain Alistair Willis assuming Command of HMS NEPTUNE from Captain Jack Tarr last month and Commander Ian Riches joined as the Base Executive Officer on Monday (10 June)
- Captain Willis has already met the Argyll & Bute Council (ABC) Forces Champion (Cllr Corry) & attended yesterday's Helensburgh & Lomond Community Group meeting.
- Good work continues under the Armed Forces Community Covenant (AFCC) and the associated Grant Scheme (funded by Westminster) - the Awards Board for which will be co-chaired by Councillor Corry and above-mentioned Commander Riches
- The Base has not been involved with Argyll & Bute Council (ABC) in either any Emergency or Business Continuity issues since the last meeting.
- However, the Base is aware of an ABC proposal to close the Haul Road (the

A817 – Lomondside to Greenfield) for 8 weeks for bridge repair work, starting Mon 5 Aug 13

- Base support for Rhu Gala suffered, as last year, by its clash with another local event.
- Armed Forces Week (led from Nottingham) starts w/c 24 Jun 13, culminating with Armed Forces Day itself on Sat 29 Jun 13
- Today, 12 June, is Faslane Peace Camp's 31st Birthday

5. Planning Matters.

5a. Cove Wind Farm. Planning papers are to be published on the Council's website on 13 June and a decision will be made whether a public hearing will take place at a meeting of the PPSLC next Wednesday. If a hearing is agreed, then FB will represent R&SCC.. In this case it will be convened fairly quickly irrespective of holidays and would be expected to take place with about 2 weeks notice. There was a 'Big Debate' in the Victoria Halls which was about wind farms in general rather than specific plans.

6. Rhu Conservation Charter.

6. Discussed at 3m above.

7. Data Protection.

7. Discussed at 3j above.

8. Cold Calling.

8. Cold Calling. The A&B Council has an initiative to prevent doorstep cold calling; advice and notices are available to help. This is not seen as an issue in Rhu & Shandon.

9. Clyde Local Liaison Committee.

9. Clyde Local Liaison Committee JC attended and although quite interesting there was nothing new to note. The ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) cameras should improve the security of the area as a whole. There was some debate over the ownership and future usage of St Andrew's School but no firm proposals have been made.

10. Helensburgh and Lomond Community Planning Group Meeting. (HLCPG)

10. The HLCPG. PPM stated that there is a presentation on Health and Wellbeing on the A&B Council's website. Comments can be forwarded alone or via PPM. A presentation on Community Planning Partnership is also on A&B's website, a questionnaire will be sent round with the object of getting the community involved and what items are to be discussed. The questionnaire has to be submitted by 28 June.

11. Opportunity for members of public to speak

11. No additional comments or matters were raised by the public.

12. Treasurers Report

12. Treasurers report. The accounts have been transferred to Linda Duncan, the new treasurer. An audited statement of accounts for the year to 31st March 2013 was presented at the meeting. There was no change to the figures since the last meeting but £35 needs to be paid for the data protection registration. These will now be sent to A&B, a condition for R&SCC to receive the annual grant and the discretionary grant.

Income and expenditure figures were accepted.

13. Correspondence

13. Correspondence has been circulated as and when it is received. JC has written a Thank You letter to the Rosslea Hall Hotel on behalf of the Community Council for the use of the room for the public meeting held on 15th April.

14. Members' Reports

14a. GK. A cyclist, Mr Piers Barker, using the cycleway through Rhu had been thrown from his bike while attempting to negotiate pot holes in Manse Brae. He sustained a fractured wrist and damage to his bicycle. Local Councillors had been informed prior to the meeting and Cllr Corry had already contacted Mr Barker. The condition of the cycle path from Helensburgh to the base was considered to be poor and deteriorating. It appears that the cycle path was implemented with an initial one off financial investment but has turned into a long term liability. In addition to the bad surface and inadequate lighting in the winter, the priorities towards the peace camp are positively dangerous. The balance of safety must shift to favour the cycle path in order to encourage cyclists off the road.

JC observed that a large number of the metal utility covers were missing along the old road this presented a further hazard to those using the road particularly children. It was thought that this was the result of metal theft. FB asked if they could be replaced with a material that was not attractive to thieves.

14b. LD reported that the Village Hall AGM had taken place. There were enthusiastic plans to plough back funds that had been raised into improving the facility including fitting a new kitchen. Also she reported that the roof had been repaired.

14c. RS. Still concerned about excessive speeds along the A814. He was outraged at the Helensburgh Co-op's parking policy. He warned people about the fines that are imposed if you overstay the allowed time or return within time limits. He was caught out by returning to the car park within the prohibited period.

14d. JB. Reported that the school finishes on 28 June and that Mrs McKay is retiring. She expressed major concerns about the speed that traffic was entering the 50mph zone from Garelochhead particularly when young children are waiting by the road for transport to school, or mothers with children are trying to cross the road to access the Clyde Nursery. It was felt that if the sign was moved further up the hill, towards Garelochhead it might help deter speeders.

The secretary was asked to write a letter to the roads department, asking if the 50mph sign could be moved further up the hill,

14e. JD gave an update on behalf of the Local Development Plan Sub-committee and the Marina Masterplan Sub-committee. On behalf of the CC, representations were made to Argyll & Bute Council stating our objection to the increase in proposed housing at Blairvadach, the proposed changes to the Greenbelt and the proposed re-designation at Rhu Marina to include High Density housing.

JD also reported that the Marina Masterplan sub-group identified that the proposed Masterplan is in contravention of some 15 of Argyll & Bute policies. JD has been in contact with Crown Estates letting them know about the conclusions.

14f. PPM. Congratulated FB and the Gala Committee on a hugely successful gala.

14g. FB. Thanked all who helped with the Gala. She added that the marquees were great, the dog shoe was the best in years, Cllr Maurice Corry was interviewed on URTV. It was considered that the free entry to the Gala helped the turnout. Having organised the Gala for the last 3 years FB was looking for volunteers to form a new committee and take over the running of the Gala for next year. 13 organisations have shown an interest in the equipment bank and the Gala marquees were available for a fee and on the understanding that any damages would be made good. Long term secure storage for the equipment is being sought and James would be asked if he could help out.

15. AOB.

15a. FB. Thought that the LDP feedback form was off-putting to use for a reply.

15b. JC. Suggested that the R&SCC should have a logo and members were asked to come up with some ideas at the next meeting.

15c The stand-in Chair was given a vote of thanks.

16. DONM.

The next ordinary meeting will take place at 7:30 pm 14th August 13 in the Community Hall.