

Draft Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Rhu and Shandon Community Council

Wednesday 10th August 2022, 1930
Location: Rhu and Shandon Church Hall

Abbreviations:

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| <p>A&B (C) Argyll and Bute (Council) AGM Annual General Meeting ATTG A&B Timber Transport Group HMNB Her Majesty's Naval Base LDP2 Local Development Plan 2 MDP Ministry of Defence Police PFH Plastic Free Helensburgh</p> | <p>RNCYC Royal Northern and Clyde Yacht Club RSCC Rhu and Shandon Community Council SSPCA Scottish Society for Protection of Cruelty to Animals TPO Tree Protection Order TTMP Timber Transport Management Plan</p> |
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In attendance:

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| <p>RSCC: Andrew Nicholson – Vice Convenor and Chairman AN Jean Cook – Secretary JC Thomas Baylem – Minute Secretary TB Alastair Moore AM John McGall JM Kate Smith KS Laura Freeland LF Olivia Birch OB</p> | <p>A&B Councillors: Cllr. Mark Irvine CllrMI</p> <p>Guests: PC Drew Ormond cDO</p> <p>Public: Ken Davidson KD William Moorhouse WM</p> |
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| Topic | Minute | Decision/ Action |
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| 1. Apologies | <p>RSCC: Fiona Baker – Convenor FB; Linda Duncan – Treasurer LD; Jim Duncan JD; John Clarke JCI; Tim Lamb TL Linda Black LB</p> <p>A&B Councillors: Cllr. Ian Shonny Patterson CllrIP Cllr. Maurice Corry CllrMC</p> <p>Guests: Mark Fitzsimmons CdrMF</p> | All acknowledged with thanks |
| 2. Declarations of interest | <p>TB restated his interest in the Torr Farm matter due to being an immediate neighbour and acquaintance of the landowner.</p> <p>JM stated an interest in issues related to Rhu Bowling Club, the current owners of the site being old school friends.</p> | All declarations of interest acknowledged with thanks |
| 3. Guest reports: | | |
| a) Police Scotland | Received from Caroline McDonald and available on the RSCC website. Four crimes and 26 incidents reported. One arrest made in connection with a theft of ornaments and cash from a home. | Acknowledged with thanks |
| b) HMNB Clyde | JC is in communication with CdrMF concerning the ongoing issue of exposed cables at Rhu Spit, and is hoping to get a direct contact from BT to pursue this further. | JC to follow up on Rhu Spit issue. |

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| c) MDP | Report given orally by cDO. The Rhu spit site is increasingly busy and MDP are looking to be more proactive in ensuring public safety and managing use (e.g. parking). No major new concerns around the peace camp, though there have been recent protests and a gathering is expected to take place on Saturday 13 th August with food and music. cDO suggested Craig Callaghan as an A&B contact for RSCC seek advice from regarding Aldonaig. | Acknowledged with thanks. TL was suggested as a possible RSCC representative on the Rhu Spit issue. |
| 4. Minutes of the previous meeting June 8th 2022 | Proposed by KS; seconded by AM. | Agreed unanimously |
| 5. Matters arising from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda: | | |
| a) Defibrillator sign for football Club | JC has re-stated the request, first made in 210915-000250, for two new signs to alert the community to the defibrillator installed on the wall of the Rhu Football Club. following a request for clarification from Raymond Kane of Roads and Infrastructure Services. | JC to follow up. |
| b) Green Island felling | No progress since last meeting. | JC to follow up with Iain Catterwell ATTG Project Officer |
| c) Road Safety | Details of road survey have been collated and provided by AM. | None |
| d) Rhu Beach Cleans | The anticipated beach clean in Rhu did not take place; however PFH and Rhu marina are attempting to organise one for the near future. | KS to update |
| e) Peace Camp | There was no update from CllrMC as a follow up to the discussion around the peace camp at the previous RSCC meeting. | JC to contact CIIMC |
| f) Rhu Ellen Cottages | It is possible that this is an issue for Scottish Water – CllrIP to follow up | CllrIP to follow up |
| g) From AGM | Permission has been received from Governance Officer to waive paragraph 9b of our Constitution, to allow the current Secretary and Treasurer to remain in post until the next election. | |
| 6. Planning matters: | | |
| a) Rhu Lodge 21/02709/PP | Still awaiting a decision on this planning application. CllrMI suggested contacting Peter Bain – Head of Planning at A&B C. | JC will follow up |

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| b) Ferry Point change of use | <p>A planning application for a second new property on Ferry Road in the grounds of Rhu Lodge (to be named Boathouse) previously obtained approval, with conditions relating to sight lines. The applicant raised another application (21/02709/PP), calling for the conditions to be reduced. R&SCC objected to this planning application.</p> <p>The Roads Department's has now responded to the applicant's request for variations to the site lines conditions, stating that if Boathouse is to be built, the applicant will be required to legally acquire the land that all the other residents of the shared road own and meet the cost of works to bring Ferry Road up to council adoptable standards (currently not met for the number of properties) before starting work on Boathouse.</p> | None |
| c) Demolition of workshop 19/02479/PP | <p>A Conservation Area Demolition Order (22/00520/CONAC) has been posted by A&B and the decision is pending. A new telegraph pole has been erected on the pavement on Manse Brae, but is not yet connected to the Beechwood properties. Concerns around safe access and school related parking around Manse Brae were discussed. CllrMI advised a representation can be submitted at any time on planning issues.</p> | None |
| d) Duneira change of use | No update since the previous meeting | None |
| e) Other significant planning matters | <p>Bowling Club Demolition</p> <p>The demolition order 21/01502/dom4 for the demolition of the Bowling club building was granted on 28th June. The methods statement is only released to interested parties, which does not include neighbours. WM maintains that no access to the site via Inchgower Grove will be permitted by the local residents.</p> | CllrMI to follow up with Stewart MacGregor of A&B C |
| 7. Other Matters: | | |
| a) LDP2 | This remains with the reporter to make recommendations. JD has advised RSCC that a response can be expected in Spring 2023, with final formal adoption of LDP2 by A&B C next summer. | None needed until the reporter has responded |
| b) Torr Farm | FB circulated an update to members ahead of the meeting. The consultation meeting held Friday June 10 th was attended by representatives of RSCC and comments on the draft management plan were submitted to Mike Strachan shortly thereafter. A revised draft management plan will be circulated in due course. RSCC has advised A&C Council that a TPO for Torr, Aldonaig and Aldonwick Glen should be progressed in full. | None |

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| <p>c) Forestry</p> | <p>JM provided a report on timber haulage through Rhu and the ongoing efforts of the sub-group to review the process that designated Rhu roads as a consultation route. The intention is to collate this and contribute toward an overall forestry compliant to be drafted by FB. Further road building in Highlandman's Wood is expected in the near future and JC commented that Station Road has just been re-surfaced in preparation. AM explained there is a possibility of a meeting with senior figures at Scottish Woodlands and Scottish Forestry and feels this is a step forward. LF expressed disappointment that another cycle of heavy transport using the road is expected and fears the community may not be aware or engaged with the issue.</p> <p>JC raised 22/01556/TPO: Proposed Felling and thinning of trees, at Darkwood Woodland, Rosneath. This could have Timber Transport transportation ramifications for Rhu.</p> | <p>AN expressed thanks for ongoing work from the forestry sub-group. Sub-group to consider how to best keep the local community informed.</p> <p>JC to register a representation on the Planning Portal.</p> |
| <p>d) Aldonaig</p> | <p>Following an email to the Scottish Government and A&B Animal Health Officers, DEFRA, SSPCA, Environmental Health Officers and the police, 400 sheep were successfully removed from Aldonaig on July 14th supervised by SSPCA. However, recent reports from a dog walker suggest there remain at least 10 sheep on the land, along with much dangerous rubbish such as broken glass. Another email was sent to the same people and the SSPCA have responded to say that have assigned an officer to the case. A fire engine was recently called out to the farm and quad bike riders have been commonly heard on the land. The law is being broken since off- roading can only take place with the owner's permission. The owner and his lawyers have been kept up-to date with events.</p> <p>CllrMI suggested that Craig Callaghan, Amenity Enforcement Officer be contacted for advice</p> | <p>JC to contact Craig Callaghan,</p> |
| <p>e) Shandon TPOs</p> | <p>Nothing to report.</p> | <p>None</p> |
| <p>f) Planning Advice Scotland</p> | <p>JC has looked into the possible offer from PAS and now requests inputs from members regarding a survey that has been circulated by email.</p> | <p>Members to respond</p> |
| <p>g) Place Plans</p> | <p>There is a need for someone to take on this issue. CllrMI offered to support given his expertise on Place Plans and suggested Rhona Gold, Community Planning Manager A&B(C) as a useful contact.</p> | <p>No action was agreed.</p> |
| <p>h) Bin Collections</p> | <p>CllrMC is still working on securing bin collections for Shandon residents who have been without the service for many years.</p> | <p>To review at next meeting.</p> |
| <p>i) Website</p> | <p>Decision on future website developments will be carried over to the new Community Council.</p> | <p>None</p> |
| <p>j) SCCAN Regional Network</p> | <p>A volunteer to lead on the Scottish Communities Climate Action Network. No volunteers were forthcoming.</p> | <p>To review at next meeting.</p> |

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| k) Empowering Educators | Information-sharing meeting held 2 August and attended by FB. TB has agreed to lead on this issue going forward. CllrMI gave a detailed summary of this issue and was very 'hopeful' that the hard work and lobbying by everyone involved will see this process brought back to a more appropriate consultation progress where better solutions can be found to the issues raised. | To await decision. |
| 8. Consultations: | | |
| a) SPT Draft Regional Transport Plan | Closing date 28 th October | No action required as yet |
| 9. Treasurer's Report | Received from LD and circulated to members. There has been expenditure totalling £100 since June, on Hall hire, Data Protection Fee and Auditors gift. | Accepted with thanks |
| 10. Correspondence | Correspondence is circulated by JC as it arrives. An email highlighted clutter in Rhu village has been sent to Jim Smith and Tom Murphy. | None |
| 11. Councillor's Reports | Report from CllrIP received ahead of the meeting includes a report on the current review of the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Byelaws (CllrIP is now an elected board member). The consultation on proposed changes is open until 19 th October and can be accessed at www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/byelawreview . CllrMI had nothing further to report. CllrIP and CllrMI aim to alternate attendance at RSCC meetings going forward. | All received with thanks. |
| 12. Public Questions | Request from a resident for traffic calming measures on Pier Road. CllrMI advised complaints should be reported to A&B C to build pressure for such action. Separate report received of inconsiderate parking blocking in Quarry Knowe. White lines were suggested, but given the time it took to get the roundabout on Pier Road painted, this was not considered an option. | RSCC to consider how to encourage public to submit complaints. |
| 13. Members' Reports | JC reminded members that the next election was on 20 th October and encouraged members to make an effort to get more residents to stand. AN reported that the Church of Scotland has a shortage of Ministers and there is a risk Rhu Church could be closed. Membership currently stands at 200, which has fallen sharply over recent years. | |
| 13. Any Other Business | None | |
| 14. Date of next meeting | 12 th October 2022. | |