

**Minute of the
Rhu and Shandon Community Council
9th April 2025
Location: Rhu and Shandon Parish Church**

IN ATTENDANCE:

RSCC:

GUESTS

John Mc Gall – Convenor	(JM)	Laura Freeland	(LF)
Jean Cook-Secretary	(JC)	Shellie Montgomery	(SM)
Fiona Baker(FB),	(FB)		
Arnold Bretman	(AB)		
Susan Castle	(SC)		
Hilary Lancaster	(HL)		
Allan David MacFadyen	(ADM)		
Rob Stuart	(RS)		
Scott Weir	(SW)		

1. APOLOGIES:

Received from David Lang(DL), Cdr Jon Fletcher(JF), Calum McNichol (CMcN), Nick Barton(NB), Cllrs Mark Irvine, (CllrMI), Shonny Paterson.(CllrIP), Maurice Corry

2. CO-OPTION OF SCOTT WEIR

Proposed by JM, seconded by HL, approved unanimously

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

4. GUEST REPORTS:

- a. **Police Scotland:** The Police Report was posted and circulated. In summary there were 27 calls to the police between 05/02/2025 and 04/04/2025. There were three Crime Reports (CRs) for fraud and six CRs relating to road safety and road crime, most of which was dealt with by way of fixed penalty notices. There were three CRs for vandalism and two for conduct toward the police.

The police have asked that the Community Council help the police by following them on social media channels, and in particular by reporting anyone suspected of drink or drug driving or antisocial behaviour.

Reports should be made to [crimestopper-uk.org](https://www.crimestopper-uk.org) or 0800 555 111.

They would also like help with Public Protection by reporting to them all concerns regarding potential victims of Domestic Abuse or vulnerable persons who may be being exploited or who may need additional crime prevention support. These reports can be made in person or anonymously

b. HMNB CLYDE:

Shandon Culverts / Toe Ditches:

- West Coast Cutters (WCC) have undertaken short-term remedial work following storm damage.
- Quotes received from Network Rail for long term solution including re-instatement of hillside and to make the area safe & compliant.

- MOD queried scope & Network Rail confirmed clearing of toe ditch etc is not included and will provide a separate quote.
- Report received from WCC 1 Apr following Chapel Burn culvert survey, MOD currently awaiting costs. Report from the survey has not been provided to Base Executive Officer as of 8 Apr 25.
- MOD awaiting report/costs from WCC following land management survey for surrounding area.
- 8 Apr – discussions undertaken with wider MOD stakeholder group to establish the requirements to make good with a view to sell off land parcel.

Rhu Spit Breakwater:

- No time frame for replacement. DHI intend to place warning signs in the interim period.

Ardenconnel Wood:

- Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) believe that the drainage ditch to north of the wood is not on DIO land.
- Correspondence shared with David Lingers, Vice Chair of Rhu and Shandon Community Trust(RSCT)will be introduced to DIO.

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 11TH FEBRUARY 2024

The minutes were accepted as a true record

Proposed by ADM and seconded by HL

Agreed unanimously.

6. MATTERS ARISING

Item 5

- **DEFIBRILLATOR SIGNS.** ongoing
- **Notice Board:** It is expected that this will be erected in the next two or three weeks.

END OF MATTERS ARISING

7. PLANNING MATTERS

25/00185/PP: has been withdrawn.

8. FORESTRY AND RELATED ISSUES

• BLAIRNAIRN

RS pointed out that the proposed commercial woodland is within the sensitive area of the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park (LL&TNP). As a Schedule 1 Forestry project it is likely to have significant effects on the environment. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) consent should not be given as a consequence of EIS screening by Scottish Forestry (SF) in consultation with RDS Forestry. It was noted that of the 729 new conifer woodland creation schemes subject to EIA screening by SF, only 4 were deemed to require EIA consent and subjected to a full EIA. The

environment of this scheme must be determined openly and with full input from and consultation with the public.

It was agreed that we should object to the scheme unless it is submitted to a full EIA..

- **Alternate Haulage route-**

A meeting was held on March 27th 2025 in the Civic Centre with Mike Page(MP), Scottish Woodlands (SW) and Adam McLean (AMcL), Gresham House(GH). The venue was arranged by CllrMC who was in attendance along with AB, JC, JM and RS. MP promptly provided a report which the secretary circulated to the Community Council. .

Several suggestions were made by those present to fully reflect the content of the meeting. It was agreed that the amended version be sent to AM and MP. When they have approved, the report will be posted on the website.

In the report MP agreed to provide R&SCC with a copy of the report produced last year for the STTS application to investigate provision of an alternate haulage route. This will also be posted when it is received.

As a result of information provided at the meeting, it was agreed that we contact the tenant farmer to ascertain if an approach from GH would be appreciated.

CANT REMEMBER WAT WE AGREED ABOUT CONSULTING LE??

Following the meeting, MP arranged to meet with DL and RS to discuss access to discuss access provision for LL&TNP, damage to a dyke , removal of INNS and the spread of Sitka Spruce too close to Aldownick Glen. This useful meeting has taken place.

9. ROADS ISSUES IN RHU AND SHANDON.

- Speed monitoring. SM updated the meeting on her progress to monitor speeding. The Just Giving page raised £495. She has investigated various companies. It was agreed that it would be useful to be able to monitor the speed on other roads as well as the A814 in the village, but it this was where the first exercise will take place..
- The meeting with RIS has yet not taken place.
- Pedestrian Safety on Pier and Station Roads. LF reported on a useful telephone call with Raymond Kane (RK), Traffic and Development Officer RIS. RK agreed that the speed map provided by RIS needed to be revisited but it was unlikely the 20mph limit on the above roads will be reconsidered.

.As an alternative for pedestrians for a small section of this route, LF described a stepped walkway between Torr Crescent and Laggary Road. RK agreed to a site inspection to improve the safety of this route.

10. UPDATE ON ARDENCONNEL WOODS.

Report by Rob Stuart (Vice Chair RSCT). This is published on our website.

The purchase of Ardenconnel Wood has not yet taken place due to final agreement on the boundary. The Community Engagement survey conducted in conjunction with the LP survey generated 345 responses and this yielded useful information including the names of over 100 people who volunteered to assist with the formation and running of the charity. A grant to the Neighbourhood Ecosystem Fund has been submitted and to the British and Irish Botanical Society followed by a plant

identification day in May.

Also RSCT has begun working with Friends of Duchess Wood and Helensburgh Community Woodland Group to establish a Woodland Cluster.

11. LOCAL PLACE PLAN. Report by Fiona Baker

The analysis of data is ongoing. There will be a community meeting to discuss the results, The submission date for the completed plan is 30th June 2025. and

12. TREASURER'S REPORT-FROM DAVID LANG

In summary. Online Banking is now in place. The balance at the February meeting was £5021.95. Since then £367.00 has been spent on activities connected with the LPP, £140 on room hire, and £24 on domain registration leaving a balance of £4490.95. There are still a couple of payments.

13. CORRESPONDENCE: Report by Jean Cook

- Supporting Community Fund- closes May 26th- details circulated

14. COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS. NONE

15. PUBLIC QUESTIONS: NONE

16. MEMBERS REPORTS

- **JC . Beach Cleans were held on March 15th and April 5th with 11 and 12 participants, organised again by Clare Dickson, who borrowed flags to advertise the event from the Grab Trust.**

The schedule for the rest of the year is as follows:10th May at 2pm, 7th June at 2pm, 9th August at 2pm, 6th September at 2pm, 25th October at 10am.

- **Water Blitz Earthwatch Europe 25-28 April. JM &JC have applied for multiple kits**

17. AOB: None

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

**June 11th immediately following the AGM.
Location: Church Hall**

The minutes of meetings are posted on the website
www.rhuandshandoncommunity.org