

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2020 IN BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**1 SEDERUNT:** Linden Hunt (LH) (Chair); Alan Bell (AB); John Hainey (JH); Cllr P Henderson (PH); Gwen Campbell (GC); Laura Cunningham (LC); Tom Davidson (TD); PC Graeme Gordon

**2 APOLOGIES:** Carol Bell; Mhairi McKenna

**3 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** Approved as an accurate record, proposed by TD and seconded by GC.

### **4 MATTERS ARISING**

Wood on beach – PH has raised it with environmental health, who have been down and looked at it twice. They are unable to uplift the wood without permission from the landowner, it is thought the land is owned by Robert Dalrymple. Scottish National Heritage say that the wood is not sited in an SSSI. JH said that 3 posts were not replaced around the putting green, and he has sent photos to SAC complaining about this. There is apparently going to be no rope fencing along the edge of the putting green. PH will follow this up, and will ask for more posts to be erected to prevent tractors going over the putting green. PH reported that the fly tipping signs are going to be reinstated.

LH said that the rubbish in the layby has now been uplifted.

The flashing lights at the end of the village are now working again.

Caravan in Onslow Place – PH reported that someone from Housing has been down but no-one answered the door, so they left a letter. There is now a water outlet onto the street. LH has been back in touch with SAC, who have said they may need to get the police involved.

AB reported that CB has sent a letter to John Greenhill asking him to have the work done by the end of the month. Most of the work has now been prepared but has not been erected because of the bad weather.

BRICC have now submitted an application for funding.

PH reported that Transerv have been down to clear the mess caused by the tractors coming out of a field onto the A77. JH said that tractors are still coming out of the field and making a mess. If the problem is ongoing action will be taken.

PH reported that the doggy bags only come in flat packs and not on a roll.

### **5 POLICE REPORT – PC GRAEME GORDON**

Inspector Ian McColl and Sgt Ben Legge are now working in the area.

There were 9 incidents from 1.1.20 – 24.2.20, including one crime which was detected: one silent protest, 3 road traffic incidents, one dog on road, one false call, 2 warrants and one domestic incident.

JH said that lorries are still exceeding 40mph along the A77 corridor.

LH asked about the blue tape which is used at incidents, saying it is never removed following the incident, and is only adding to the litter around the countryside. PC Gordon will suggest removing the tape as part of the procedure.

### **6 TREASURER'S REPORT - AB**

Balances: Treasurer's account £4858.77; Reserve account £10.76; Current account £220.00; Harbour account £1916.35.

AB reported he is now able to get balances and has a telephone number to get in touch with the bank. He also has electronic access to 2 of the 4 accounts. The previous bank statements are being sent out.

### **7 COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND – one application from BRICC**

### **8 CARRICK FUTURES, BCF, KILGALLIOCH**

Carrick Futures – no meeting

BCF – no meeting

## **9 BALLANTRAE TRUST - AB**

The project around the Kings Arms is ongoing; a valuation report is awaited, and application to Scottish Landfill is being discussed. Community shares are also being discussed; each shareholder would have one vote regardless of how many shares they have. PH stressed the importance of keeping very accurate records regarding ownership of shares. Application has gone in for windfarm money. The Trust will not be running the pub; a manager will be appointed. AMcA has had about 20 applications of support from SAC, MSP's, businesses, etc.

## **BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION – LC**

LC reported that the defibrillator has now been installed. It is not locked, but an alarm goes off if the lid is opened. It is maintained by the British Heart Foundation under a system called Connect. LC is the defibrillator guardian. CPR training needs to be arranged by the community. AB suggested fitting a camera for security. PH said that none of the defibrillators all over Ayrshire have been tampered with.

Booking forms have been amended with the changes mentioned last month.

A report is going into the Stinchar Valley Magazine trying to drum up support for the community association, and it has also gone on Facebook. So far there has been no response.

New tables, teapots, coffee pots, mugs, etc, have been purchased for the hall. New chairs will probably also be purchased. Rubber feet are missing from some of the current chairs and this causes damage to the floor.

## **11 HARBOUR COMMITTEE**

Discussion ensued around issues relating to any proposed development around the harbour due to ownership of the surrounding area. PH is on the board of the Clyde Marine Planning Partnership, who are wanting to contact BCC about the harbour. They are doing a Marine Plan for the whole area and want to contact all the harbours.

AB said the steel ladder has been repaired. A bill has not been received for the work. LH will follow this up.

## **12 ARDSTINCHAR BRIDGE**

JH has received a report from PH. The report details a very thorough investigation which was presented to SAC. The residents around the bridge were informed of any potential effects on their walls etc, and relevant information was also passed to SEPA. Barriers were erected to stop anyone going onto the bridge. This is standard procedure for insurance purposes. AB said that one of the risks identified was for people walking under the bridge but this area has not been closed off. PH said that SAC would not have the money to fund such an expensive renovation. SAC own the bridge. Heritage Scotland have said they will help if the community want to make the bridge part of a walking or cycling trail. LC said that John McIlwraith had done a huge amount of work around renovating the bridge, and was told repeatedly that funding would not be granted because of ownership issues. TD said there was some historic funding for the bridge which was paid to Girvan Town Council, then Kyle and Carrick. AB said that the Trust have also been looking at the bridge and hopefully will be able to put forward some sort of proposal for a walking or cycling trail. PH said a letter of ownership can be obtained to help clarify matters. PH also said that Heritage Scotland would pay 33-50% of the cost. External funders will have to be found for the remainder; the external funding officer would help with application forms etc. A business case would have to be made in order to apply for funding. AB suggested that the Trust take this forward, and will bring it up at the next Trust meeting; they will work with BCC and BCA on this. LH said there is some rubbish in one of the arches; PH suggested contacting Tommy Howieson at SAC regarding this. It was also suggested that ARA and SEPA may help with the project, eg SEPA would repair the banks.

## **13 SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL – PH**

Ballantrae Primary School was chosen as part of the wider area network and now has much faster Broadband, as has the hall.

Clarification for school uniform grants – the roll out of Universal Credit meant that some families don't qualify; this has now been changed to give more families access to uniform grants.

Crown Estate money is being paid to coastal regions; Shetland received the most.

Information in the Ayrshire Post about budget cuts is not accurate. £1.2m cuts still have to be made but there is no danger of parks closing. Health and social care partnership have had their budget cut and this needs to be addressed. The level of council tax has still to be decided. There is going to have to be massive change; in the last 2-3 years £34m has had to be saved. LH said she does not mind council tax going up a bit so long as services are not cut. 42% of the budget goes to schools and education, and 43% to health and social care. The cuts have to be made from the remaining 15% which covers everything else.

PH reported that SAC is the highest recycling council in Scotland. Tommy Howieson has said there are spare lids if people have broken bin lids. Mixed glass now all goes to the same buyer; it all goes to a recycling plant in Kilmarnock first. Plastic and paper goes to a recycling plant outside Ayr. AB said that the service is very good. Contaminated bins are still an issue, and people will be fined for this in the future. LH said there was a fire at or near the landfill site; there is some debate about what and where this fire was. PH said that the fire service inspect the landfill sites as part of the licensing procedure. TD asked about which bin he should put plastic which blows into his garden; if there is any doubt about where it should go it should be put into the green bin.

JH asked if the fire service check fire hydrants; it was confirmed this is done regularly.

LH asked if CB had contacted South Ayrshire Paths Initiative re work needing done on the coastal footpath. This should be addressed to Gregor Scobie who runs the Community Payback Team.

**14 CORRESPONDENCE** – as circulated.

#### **15 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

SAC are going to clean the tennis courts in the next few weeks.

PH said that roads have been damaged by the bad weather; an improvement programme is in place.

JH reported that the footpath between the school and the Foreland is in a very bad state. PH will follow this up.

Arran Avenue to Shore Road has an area of bad flooding; this will be looked at.

TD said that the road which branches off to the right before the cemetery had a very large hole which was fixed; now another hole has appeared beside it. The hole is on a bridge and there is concern that this will collapse. The bridge is over Kilphin Burn. PH will follow this up.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 31 March 2020