

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 30 MARCH 2021 VIA ZOOM

1 SEDERUNT: Mhairi McKenna (MMcK) (Chair); Alan Bell (AB); Carol Bell (CB); Linden Hunt (LH); Laura Cunningham (LC); Cllr Peter Henderson (PH); Lynn Young (Minutes Secretary)

2 APOLOGIES: Tom Davidson; John Hainey; Gwen Campbell; Colin McNally

3 MINUTES: Approved, with the correction that paint has not been obtained for the wall of the pub; proposed by LC and seconded by LH.

4 MATTERS ARISING

MMcK is awaiting a response from Scottish National Heritage re Ardstinchar Bridge.

PH said he had reported the issues related to the speed bumps and the flooding. LH said assessments appear to have been done. The yellow lines will be reassessed.

The parking area for camper vans including chemical toilet outlets etc have been passed by most panels and is now at the stage of going to the full council. It should be passed and should be in place this month. Work will start as soon as possible so that it is ready for the end of lockdown. It will be for camper vans only, not caravans. It will be a trial until September 2021; if it is successful a Traffic Regulation Order will have to be passed.

No work has been done as yet on the Margaret; this is ongoing.

MMcK reported that Glenapp Castle are planning a restaurant in the glasshouse, with seating for up to 150 people. The residents on the road up to the castle have expressed concern about the road becoming busier and the present speed limit being 60mph. PH said he will request that the speed limit be reduced on that part of the road. It had been requested that this form part of the planning documentation; PH said that it may not be accepted as an addition, as the planning is for work within the grounds of the castle.

No difference has been noted with the litter picking. PH reported that hopefully better implementation of the littering and dog fouling laws will be coming into place.

5 POLICE REPORT: No report

6 TREASURER'S REPORT – AB

Harbour account – balance unchanged as still no invoice received.
Current account – balance £7502.72, with potential outgoings of just under £1000.
Savings account – balance £59467.16; a payment of £59373.40 was received from Scottish Power. This will be paid to Foundation Scotland to be administered for the Community Fund; it was agreed unanimously that the administration fee be paid to Foundation Scotland.

7 COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

An application has been received for £542.78 for the Red Squirrel Project; this includes a separate application for £80 for a new wildlife camera. This was agreed.

A payment of £119.94 is to be made to CB for annual subscription for Zoom; it was agreed that BCC would pay for the total subscription for 2 years instead of the Trust paying for one year. This would mean the total would be £119.94 x 2 (£239.88).

An application has been received from Ballantrae Playpark Project Group for £273.84 for work on the goalposts in the park. Funds cannot be paid to this group as it is not a constituted group. The application was amended to read that the application is from Ballantrae Trust, and the application was agreed unanimously.

8 BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY FUND – MMcK

No meeting held yet.

9 CARRICK FUTURES AND KILGALLIOCH

Carrick Futures – next deadline May 2021. A local person has applied to be a Director; interviews can now be held face to face.

Kilgallioch – there has been a meeting but no Ballantrae applications.

10 BALLANTRAE TRUST – AB

The share offer for the pub is being promoted on social media and is being launched on 4.4.21. It will run for 6 weeks. Shares can still be purchased after the 6-week period. Letters have been sent out to interested parties.

Small refurbishments are continuing. The beer garden will be opening on 30.4.21, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday 6-10pm. It will be a first come first served basis initially, but a booking system may be implemented.

Ballantrae Festival of Food and Drink – no progress yet. We are waiting to hear if any funding will be given from the Scottish Government. Over 8000 people have looked at last year's virtual event. It is now too late to arrange a live event for this year and there is no permission for large gatherings yet, so it will be postponed until next year. MMcK requested that money in the BFFD account could be used to host another virtual event. PH suggested asking Claire Monaghan for input as she has been doing work to help organisers of postponed events. PH agreed to forward contact details to MMcK.

11 HARBOUR

MMcK asked who people contact if they want to put their boats into the harbour. The lines from the harbour wall belong to individuals or families, but anyone can moor in the middle of the harbour. Robert Dalrymple should be contacted for long term mooring. PH said there were issues in other areas last year with jet skis; this is very difficult to police if private land is involved, and the coastguard should be alerted.

12 ARDSTINCHAR BRIDGE – as already discussed

13 BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION – LC

Vaccinations are currently scheduled in the hall for 17.4.21; this will be another session of first vaccinations. Symptomatic testing units have been in the village twice recently and are coming back on 2.4.21 and 9.4.21. There are other sessions planned for asymptomatic testing, but dates are not yet known.

14 SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL - PH

Socially distanced elections will take place. The count will be the following day; there will be less staff so procedures may take a little longer than usual.

Covid outbreaks in a couple of schools have now been contained. The infection rate is now coming down.

A consultation on allotments went out; several people in various areas have expressed interest, ranging from one in Ballantrae to 26 in Girvan. MMcK suggested putting information on social media, asking if anyone else would be interested in an allotment. PH suggested a community garden would be another possibility.

Review of the halls is ongoing and will continue over the summer.

An e-version of the Blue Book has been sent out to all community councils and is also online. It has not been received by BCC. PH suggested emailing Linda Warwick about this.

It was suggested that PH stay with BCC for the next year; this was agreed.

A survey of council office workers is being carried out to find out if a home working policy will continue in some form.

Public toilet entrance fees will become cashless.

Climate change – good work is being done and an award has been received for the houses at the travellers' site.

SAC now have 23 different funds to administer on top of the usual funds.

Commemorative ceremonies will be held to celebrate going back to normality and also to remember people who have died. Domestic abuse has increased significantly.

Quayzone staff have done a great job, and facilities will be opened as soon as possible.

15 CORRESPONDENCE - None

16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Glenapp Estates have been allowed to take 6 tons of shingle from the beach. Police say they cannot do anything about it. PH said that permission to remove shingle has to be obtained from Scottish National Heritage. Marine Scotland also have a say in this. CB said that permits were in place according to the police. LC showed a map which highlighted the area where it is permissible; this is not where the shingle is being removed. LC has photographic and video evidence. PH suggested contacting Scottish National Heritage, as the area is a SSSI. LC will take this forward.

Putting green – rabbits are doing significant damage. It is illegal to use ferrets to control this. PH suggested netting the holes and catching the rabbits. The issue will be looked into.

LH asked about the footpath to Parkend. A letter will be sent to Bob Stirling thanking him for cutting back the foliage. LH also asked if the issue of resurfacing the path could be looked into.

LH asked if the application had gone in for Christmas lights. CB said it is ready to go in this week.

CB asked if we could sow wild flowers on the grass verges at the entrance to the village. PH said this would have to be done by Amey due to health and safety issues. The Parks Dept may help with providing seeds etc, although it may not be allowed on the A77.

17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 27 April 2021.