

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 29 MARCH 2022

1 SEDERUNT: Mhairi McKenna (MMcK) (Chair); Laura Cunningham (LC); Cllr Peter Henderson (PH); John Hailey (JH); Becky Yuill; Helen Bayliss; Lynn Young (Minutes Secretary)

2 APOLOGIES: Carol Bell; Colin McNally; Gwen Campbell; Police representatives.

3 MINUTES: Not available as wrong version issued.

4 MATTERS ARISING

Work is ongoing at the harbour. Funds are available to pay W Hyslop & Sons for the work.

5 POLICE REPORT – by email

10 incidents raised in period to 29.3.22, with one crime report being subject to ongoing enquiries. In one day of focusing on traffic, 47 vehicles were found to have issues relating to licence, insurance, fuel, etc.

6 TREASURER’S REPORT

MMcK reported the only activity: £14556 received, which is to cover the work being done at the harbour. £2000 came from Kilgallioch.

7 COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND - MMcK

The Horticultural Society applied for £500 for stationery, prizes, expenses, etc, for the Flower Show; this was approved.

Ballantrae in Bloom applied for £200; this was also approved.

8 BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY FUND – MMcK -No applications

9 CARRICK FUTURES AND KILGALLIOCH

Carrick Futures (LC) – next meeting 27.4.22. Next application deadline is 9.5.22, for the meeting on 27.7.22.

Kilgallioch (MMcK) – next meeting in 2 weeks.

10 BALLANTRAE TRUST – MMcK

The Trust is in the process of updating the website for community groups.

Ballantrae Festival of Food and Drink (BFFD) will be held on 11 and 12 June; this will be advertised. It is proving difficult to get commitments from exhibitors. There will be demonstrations on foraging, cocktails, ‘Sawney Bean cooking’, and also a demonstration from the Glenapp Castle chef. About 20 stalls are booked at present but we need about 40. Most stallholders want to attend both days, and some want 2 stalls. The Little Bakery pie stall is returning.

AGM was held on 17.3.22. 7 new directors were voted in, who have joined the existing 4 directors. The first board meeting was held – Garry Thomson elected Chair; Laura Cunningham Vice Chair; Sue MacDougall Treasurer; Keith Donachie Secretary.

A discussion was held around new directors on Bencom, as the Trust holds the anchor share on Bencom. Sharon Robertson, Garry Thomson, Sue MacDougall and Jessie Brown will be directors on Bencom, and a meeting will be held this week. A short Trust meeting will be held after the Bencom meeting to get the other projects of the Trust up and running as soon as possible, eg cinema and cultural activities.

11 BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION – No report

MMcK said she has been informed there is going to be a gala, which is usually held on the first Saturday in July.

12 HARBOUR – SMcI - As already discussed.

13 ARDSTINCHAR BRIDGE

Funding will be sought from Heritage Scotland, Lotto and the Coastal Fund. JH said SAC are responsible for making the bridge safe for anyone walking underneath it. PH will follow this up.

14 SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL – PH

Progress is being made on the Station Hotel in Ayr. Network Rail have now engaged; they own 23% of the building. From 1.4.22 the railways will be nationalised. Toilets are being installed at Ayr Station, along with developing disabled access and facilities. SAC have become involved because the building is dangerous. Various agencies are working together in a task group. The owner of the hotel lives in Malaysia. There is apparently funding available to build a new station, and the area could be made into a transport hub including a bus station.

A new open space entertainment arena beside the river in Ayr will be open for this summer. A new museum is opening in the town hall, with a new archive also opening in early April. There are also plans for a new sports centre.. Plans for rejuvenating Ayr town centre are ongoing. The Dept of Work and Pensions is moving from John Street into the town centre.

In Girvan the flushes car park is being completed.

The motorhome scheme is underway. In Ballantrae the car park is being prepared for the motorhomes.

The UK Government has been slow to offer help to Ukrainian refugees compared to other European countries. Two local farmers have offered fields for the erection of pods etc.

Grants are being awarded to help with fuel poverty.

Building supplies are still in very short supply.

Health and social care areas are desperately short staffed due to covid. There are staffing shortages due to changed working patterns and people moving to work in more distant areas because they can predominantly work from home.

Amey are doing more roadworks; they seem to be doing a good job.

Local elections are on 5.5.22. There are candidates from SNP, Conservative, Greens and Family Party, along with 3 independent candidates. PH encouraged people to vote in the elections.

Transport Scotland, MP, MSP and a few others are coming on 23.5.22 to look at travel through the village.

A food pantry with a system of people choosing 10 items for £2.50 is being set up.

P&O situation – this has been a big blow to the area. The replacement workers are on a low wage and very poor terms and conditions. The ships and the company are all registered outside the EU. Many of the employees have been left without pensions etc.

The printer/copier in the library is not working. The librarian has reported it. LC said that BRICC and also the Trust office would do copying.

15 CORRESPONDENCE – as circulated

16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Details of the signs in Barrhill have been received. Children in Girvan have designed anti-litter posters and these have been erected. It is recognised that there is a real problem in Scotland with litter and dog fouling. MMcK will contact the school to ask if the children could design posters.

The signs at the Foreland will read “No overnight parking – Private land”.

Funding will be sought for the signs.

17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 26 April 2022, and there will be the AGM