

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 26 NOVEMBER 2019 IN BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY CENTRE

1 SEDERUNT: Mhairi McKenna (MMcK); Linden Hunt (LH); John Hainey (JH); Cllr A Clark (AC); Gwen Campbell (GC); Laura Cunningham (LC); Andy McAlpine (AMcA)

2 APOLOGIES: Alan Bell; Carol Bell; Thomas Davidson; Colin McNally

3 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Approved as an accurate record, with amendments to the Trust report, proposed by LC and seconded by GC.

4 MATTERS ARISING

LC raised the issue of MMcK acting as interim Chair and the process of electing a new Chair. AC said he had taken advice on this issue and suggested that he act as Chair of the meeting while the process is gone through; this was agreed. AC took over as Chair from this point. He thanked all community councillors past and present for all the work they carry out; he also commented that Sharon Robertson had resigned as Chair, and also from BCC, and thanked her for all her input. He then asked the community council for nominations for Chair of BCC. LH nominated MMcK; she added that she felt she could not take on the role of Chair at this time because of home commitments. AC then asked if there were any other nominations; there were none. JH seconded the nomination of MMcK. MMcK accepted this, and said she would act as interim Chair until the next AGM.

Piles of wood on Foreland – clarity is still required as to who owns the area concerned. The police were going to have a word with a householder; it is not clear if this has been done. Neighbourhood services have looked at the area and could not see a problem. No more posts will be erected. MMcK will email Sgt Chris Hynds. JH asked that the police also be informed that there is now fresh garden rubbish in the same area. There is also the remains of the bonfire.

Funding for the bike shed – AC said this is now in place and the work will be done. Tran Serve are dealing with the traffic signs.

Biosphere – MMcK has tried to get in touch with Sarah Blackie. AC said that her role in this issue will be in education within the Girvan school cluster. MMcK will seek information about applying for funds. AC said there will be some signage available from the Biosphere. AC will report back on this issue.

Macmillan Coffee Morning at Girvan station raised about £200.

5 POLICE REPORT – as circulated

8 vehicles have received warnings from the police for exceeding the 30mph speed limit.

6 TREASURER'S REPORT - AB

£187.24p has been raised from the putting green; half of this will go to the greenkeeper.

Chairs note: I have managed to get a list of the accounts....

Lists of balances:

Business res: £10.76

Treasurers A/C £4358.77

Business C/A £47778.66

7 COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

LH applied for money for Christmas lights; £41.87 and £11.86. Forms have been sent to Alan Bell. Approved.

LC has asked for funding for transport to the pantomime for the school, and for the early years centre to visit Santa at the Burns Museum. The cost is £348 - £300 for the coach to the Gaiety and £48 for the coach to the Burns Centre, which is subsidised by the National Trust. Approved.

8 CARRICK FUTURES – LC

AGM was held on 6.11.19 – 4 groups presented reports. Ballantrae Scouts won £1000, and the other 3 groups each received £250.

Ballantrae Community Fund and Kilgallioch – no meetings held.

9 BALLANTRAE TRUST

The Trust Board has focused on the Kings Arms Community Consultation in the last month. Around 50 people attended the drop in day, and around 300 people completed the questionnaire. This information is now being analysed. The prize draw for £50 will take place at the Christmas Craft Fair on 30.11.19.

The current contract with Creetown Initiative, who have provided experienced Development Officer Support to the Trust for almost 2 years, has now come to an end. As a result of the Scottish Government's "Investing in Communities" funding, the Trust will continue to have access to Creetown support one day a week for a year from this month, to work alongside the Trust's Trainee Development Officer (TDO). The funding will also allow the retention of the TDO for a further 3 years, with an increase from 2 to 3 days a week.

The Trust Board recently agreed that the Ballantrae Festival of Food and Drink 2020 can go ahead, so the detailed planning will now start in earnest.

The Board also agreed that the Ballantrae Smugglers' Festival should return in August 2020.

In the playpark the tarmac has been laid in the seating area, and the seats and sensory panels have now been installed. The emphasis now is on "The Circuit" and the "Zip Wire". MMcK asked about a consultation paper had been issued to neighbours around the park; the paper seems to be very generic about "permission to install a playpark", whereas the issue is actually installing a zip wire. The MUGA did not seem to require planning permission. AC said that he was not aware that planning permission would be required. AMcA said that the condition of the grant from the Ballantrae Community Fund was subject to planning permission. Fiona Stevenson from the planning group had phoned SAC and was told that planning permission was required, and a fee of £202 had to be paid for the process. AMcA said he was very disappointed in this, as the village has raised funds and done a lot of work around the playpark development. The £202 has been paid to SAC. LC said that planning permission was required for the MUGA. AC will look into this issue. Evidence of planning permission not being required is often part of the criteria for granting funds.

Ballantrae News was issued at the end of October and the Stinchar Valley Magazine at the end of last week/this week. The deadline for the February edition of Ballantrae News is 6.1.20, and 31.1.20 for the Spring edition of Stinchar Valley Magazine.

We have been collaborating with the Biosphere PLACE project for a number of months, and one of the products of that partnership has been a new "Stinchar Valley Walks" leaflet, which includes walks starting and ending in Ballantrae. The leaflet can be found on the Ballantrae website and at the Visitor Information Point at Craigmains. Carol Bell will take over as Chair of the Trust Board in January.

10) BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION – LC

The fireworks were postponed and will go ahead at another time.

The lights on the hall will be switched on 1.12.19.

The craft fair will be held on 30.11.19. LH asked if a poster about the craft fair could be put into the shop. There is already one on the notice board outside the hall.

11 HARBOUR COMMITTEE – No report

12 ARDSTINCHAR BRIDGE – £500,000 needed to make the bridge safe; bridge locked permanently at present – JH will look into this.

13 SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL – AC

A participatory budget event will be held in Girvan Academy at 10am on 7.12.19.

The Rural Forum met in Coylton last week.

Broadband was switched on today in the hall and school.

Ballantrae has been mentioned as an example of good work being done by the Trust and the village. AMcA said there has been good networking since the Rural Forum was held in Ballantrae.

There are changes coming re climate change – public buildings will be altered and new buildings will be designed to be more environmentally friendly.

A new local development plan was spoken about again. There may be delays if there are issues around it. There is a new planning manager within SAC, who is keen to communicate well with other departments.

LH said that Shore Road is still in very poor condition. AC said this is in the programme for next year.

LH also reported that the sign in Downan Avenue is still there.

LH is putting up Christmas lights at the old cemetery this weekend.

14 CORRESPONDENCE – as circulated.

15 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS - None

16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 28 January 2020