

Minutes of meeting of Ballantrae Community Council held on 29 November 2022
19:00pm

Sederunt: Mhairi McKenna (MMcK) (Chair); Laura Cunningham (LC); Cllr Alec Clark (AC); Sharon Adams (SA); Deborah Cassels (DC); John Campbell (JC); John Hainey (JH); Kim Mawer (KM); Claire Erskine (CE); Liz Sullivan (LS).

Apologies: Sean McIlwraith, Colin McNally, Police representative

Minutes of meeting: 25 October 2022 approved, proposed DC, seconded SA

Welcome

MMcK welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Matters arising

MMcK reported that the Christmas craft fair was successful for both the crafters and the Ballantrae church who organised the event.

Police Report

Police report issued after the meeting but no representative of the Police present at the meeting.

There were 15 incidents raised within the period 27/10/2022 to 29/11/2022, with 3 crime reports being created from these incidents, 1 of which has been detected.

Incident breakdown:

Road Traffic Matter: 4

Assist Members of the Public: 4

Assaults: 1

Abandoned 999: 2

Thefts: 1

Sudden Deaths: 1

Lost Property Calls: 1

Police Generated Activity: 1

Crime Report Analysis:

1 X Assault - detected.

1 X Fraud

1 X Theft

Treasurer's report - SA

General account balance £84.00 no change in the period.

Harbour account balance £1,887.40 no change in the period.

Community Benefit fund account:

Opening balance: £9,817

Closing balance: £7,837.21

Expenditure in the month: village Christmas lights

Ballantrae Community fund account.

Opening balance: £2,903.02

Closing balance: £2903.97

Expenditure in the month: interest accrued.

Community Benefit Fund (Carrick Futures) - SA

Community Association grant approved for little festival of light event during December - £500.00

Crafty Bees grant approved for Ballantrae craft evening - £70.00

Ballantrae Trust approved to help facilitate the provision of a series of mental health workshops - £500.00

Ballantrae Community Fund - MMcK

Meeting held on 14 November

Applications were received from:

Ballantrae Scouts, for ACE days this was approved.

Ballantrae Scouts, for repairs to scout hut, application deferred for further investigation works to be carried out.

Ballantrae Trust for development officer salary and associated costs, application deferred until next meeting.

Ballantrae Trust, for BFFD marquee, application was approved.

Outstanding grants previously approved for the BRICC care home project have been withdrawn due to project not yet going ahead, further applications will be welcomed in the future.

Ballantrae education fund is being progressed and will be revisited at the next meeting. MMcK asked the community council for approval of setting up an endowment fund to invest a proportion of the fund to build a legacy fund, all approved.

Carrick Futures and Kilgallioch

Carrick Futures AGM took place on 23 October 2022 the meeting was attended by several Ballantrae members, Laura Cunningham stood down from the board and was duly re-elected. Stuart Green from Ballantrae was elected to be chair of the board. Outstanding grants previously approved for the BRICC care home project have been withdrawn due to project not yet going ahead, further applications will be welcomed in the future.

Kilgallioch the current chairperson has moved house, MMcK is now the chair. Outstanding grants previously approved for the BRICC care home project have been withdrawn due to project not yet going ahead, further applications will be welcomed in the future. Next funding meeting is in early December.

Report from Ballantrae Trust - MMcK

No report issued from the Ballantrae Trust in this period.

MMcK read out a statement issued by Sue McDougall on behalf of Ballantrae Community Pub:

We have now sought support from both Community Enterprise and Just Enterprise.

Community Enterprise are going to put together a rescue plan and attempt to find some funding for fuel/ utilities to help keep the building warm and dry over the next 6 months. Then they will look at sourcing some more substantial investment in order to improve some of the rooms and carry out some of the more essential upgrading work such as parts of the roof and re wiring.

They also did the original business plan for the Kings and they will apply for grant funding in order that they can update it as well. Just Enterprise carrying out a Crisis Review to look at options for future trading.

Both the Enterprise bodies and Foundation Scotland have stressed to us that we have been trading during a very uncertain period which it appears is only going to get worse, is outwith our control and that we did the right thing in closing when we did to avoid insolvency.

We have cancelled or suspended almost all of our commitments but the fuel and as far as we can tell thus far a finance plan for the phone and broadband will have to continue.

We are aware that there have been some suggestions that the pub might be let to a private individual but we understand that that would mean an end to grant funding for repairs and improvements to the building as there would be no community benefit from this.

We want to make it clear that without additional board members and volunteers not only for building improvements but to help with entertainment planning, bookkeeping, and people with office skills and business experience together with new funding it will be extremely difficult for the pub to reopen in any form in the near future.

If you would be interested in helping either as a board member or as a volunteer please send an email as an expression of interest together with a note of the skills you would bring with you to manager@kingsarmsballantrae.co.uk.

Community Association MMcK

The next meeting will be held on 14 December at 7pm, to agree a new constitution, volunteers are being sought to join the management committee. A firework display was held on 4 November. There have been 2 theatre performances held in the hall by the Ballantrae Trust.

Harbour Committee – SM

MMcK reported that Mr Dalrymple is not in favour of the development of the garage area at the harbour. SM has received a quotation of £30,000 for the harbour remedial works. Due to the level of grant funding required it is anticipated that a minimum of three quotations would be required, currently there are no other contractors in the area able to supply additional quotations. LC to contact Clare Graham from Foundation Scotland for advice as how to proceed further with the project.

Ardstinchar Bridge

AC confirmed that the repairs to the Ardstinchar Bridge will hopefully be carried out in the beginning of the new year. AC has committed to carrying this project forward despite his secondment to Ballantrae coming to an end in this period.

South Ayrshire Council – AC

AC attended a morning at Ballantrae primary with the pupils reflecting on war memorials and associated learning. He then attended the war memorial at Heronsford along with P7 pupils and Councillor Henderson to lay a wreath. AC reported that a date for applications to the coastal communities fund is still to be confirmed. New monies have become available to families from a variety of funds for assistance during the ongoing cost of living crisis. Further details will be released via schools and SACs social media accounts.

LC asked for an update on the academy bus, AC is still pursuing the issue with SAC transport and the academy and will report all updates. ACs secondment to BCC has now come to an end and he thanked all present for their invaluable work for the community of Ballantrae, he confirmed that Councillor Peter Henderson would be attending meetings in the new year.

Correspondence

None in the period.

Any other business

Tom Davidson has asked why the A77 has been closed around the Church, SA has confirmed that the closure is due to works being carried out by British Telecom for an emergency repair.

DC reported that Amey have confirmed that the works to Carlock wall are scheduled to be completed by 21 December 2022.

LS stated that this would be her final meeting with BCC. She thanked all present for their welcoming approach and support during her term with BCC. She confirmed her that moving forward into 2023 Alison Wales Thriving Communities Team Leader shall be attending monthly meetings.

JC reported to the BCC his concerns over the closure of the King's Arms and after having discussions with members of both the Trust and Bencom boards, that he would raise this issue at the next community council meeting. He requested that the BCC address the matter.

Date of next meeting will be January 31, 2023 at 19:00