

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2020 ON "ZOOM"

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

2 APOLOGIES: Tom Davidson; Gwen Campbell; John Hainey.

3 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Approved as an accurate record, with the amendment "Grant Steele will allow his chef to assist with menu planning"; proposed by AB and seconded by LC.

4 MATTERS ARISING

LC had emailed Gwen Campbell and John Hainey offering to do some training for Zoom etc. A session with John Hainey had been arranged but had to be cancelled; it is hoped this will be rearranged before the November meeting.

Remembrance Day – MMcK said that there will be no parade, but wondered if a wreath could be laid. CB said that SAC does not want groups of people gathering at the war memorials.

The new blue book has not yet been received, probably because of covid.

MMcK had been asked if the old bench would be removed when the memorial bench for Tricia McIlwraith arrives. She had also spoken to other members of BCC, who had all agreed unanimously that a donation for the bench be given.

5 POLICE REPORT – Report received

There were 8 road traffic incidents, 2 incidents assisting members of the public, one public nuisance and one neighbour dispute. No incidents went on to criminal reports.

The police are not allowed to use Zoom but are happy to send reports.

6 TREASURER'S REPORT - AB

£500 paid for bench, otherwise no change. The balance is about £9300.

7 BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY FUND

A meeting had been arranged for last week but had to be postponed as not quorate; meeting was held yesterday. Scouts applied for funding – approved.

BFFD got slightly less than asked for as they had applied for face masks for all the visitors and it was felt this was not necessary.

Ballantrae News applied for funding – approved.

Endowments were also discussed. At the moment we are still receiving a significant amount of applications so an endowment will not be set up at present. As BCC is the establishment through which the funding from SPR comes, MMcK wanted to ask for opinions. AB said he thought the returns on endowments would be very poor at present, and he felt it would not be at all beneficial.

The agreement with Foundation Scotland is up for renewal in November 2020. It was agreed unanimously that this should be renewed for another 3 years as it is a very useful service. They charge £7500 which is probably a percentage of the total funds.

8 CARRICK FUTURES – LC

A meeting was held on 7.10.20 via Zoom.

There was one application from BFFD – full amount granted. The £10,000 for the cancelled festival was repaid and a successful reapplication was submitted.

CB gave feedback to Carrick Futures about how the money granted for the pub would be allocated and spent. There was another discussion around further support and the Bencom. CF wants the pub to start generating income.

LC said there has been revision to the guidance for small grants. As a community council we can apply for a top-up to £5000 if all the money has been spent. All the village community councils will get £5000 per year and Girvan will get £10,000 as they are a bigger community. Some of the other villages can apply to more windfarms and there has been controversy in the past about how windfarm money from other sources is administered. LC said she felt Girvan should get more money as it supports activities attended by people from the surrounding villages.

9 KILGALLIOCH - MMcK

Meeting held about organisational matters; it went reasonably well although there is some dispute about whether Newton Stewart receive funding.

The cut off time for applications was mid-October and 10 applications have been received. These will be reviewed in the next few months.

10 BALLANTRAE TRUST - AB

It had been hoped that the pub would be opened in order to generate some income but this has not been possible. At present the pub is costing £300 per week in running costs. This is being paid out of Trust funds. An application has been submitted to the SAC Covid Fund and it is hoped this will be considered. We will possibly receive about £2000. CB has been in touch with Claire Graham, Foundation Scotland, about funding. We are waiting to see what level this area is put into next week; it is hoped that the pub and kitchen could be opened. If South Ayrshire is in Tier 2 this will be possible, but if in Tier 3 we will be much more limited.

AB asked if BCC would consider granting some funding for the pub. MMcK declared a conflict of interests.

There is work which has had to be done, eg electrical work and fire safety work. LH said she had no objection. LC had no objection provided that the application included that it was because of covid. CB said she has identified a number of funding sources and has applied to several of them.

BDFD – MMcK said that Ballantrae Gin is in the village and can be sold. Ballantrae Whisky is at the Whisky Experience. Both these drinks will be sold in the pub when it opens.

Shares – LH asked about this project. Dan Cunningham is carrying out work on this. Bencom is up and running. DC is looking at ways to promote the project and is looking into a separate bank account, along with signs, posters for windows etc. Andy McAlpine is also working on this project. AB said it is hoped £20-30k could be raised from shares. This will be used as a start up for the business which will then hopefully generate its own income. CB is working on recruitment for a couple to run the pub, possibly as a lifestyle change. There has been some interest.

11 BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION – LC

The inflatable marquee has been sold.

The hall is going to be redecorated; it may already have started.

LC has received an email from Tracy Whiteford, SAC, about the potential of the hall reopening. A risk assessment will be carried out once it is clear which groups would be going back.

LC will ask Tracy Whiteford and Cllr Peter Henderson who the groups go to for advice if they need to carry out their own risk assessments. It is hoped that the hall will be able to open to enable groups to meet over the winter.

The Scouts have moved to Daljarrock temporarily and want to go back to the hall.

There are very few occasions when 2 groups use the hall at the same time, and the hall is big enough to allow small groups to socially distance. Hand sanitiser etc would be provided by SAC.

12 HARBOUR COMMITTEE – No report; bill has not been received yet.

13 ARDSTINCHAR BRIDGE

Ivy has started to grow back. The bridge has been repointed by a member of the public.

14 SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL – No report

15 CORRESPONDENCE – Nil

16 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

LH asked if another application could be put in for Christmas lights and for more batteries to the small funds. CB said that the applications to SAC for Christmas lights came to a standstill due to covid. An application will be submitted. Arran Avenue is fundraising to decorate their area.

16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 24 November 2020