

North Knapdale Community Council

Minutes for the North Knapdale Community Council meeting held on the 21st February, 2017 at 7:30 pm at Achnamara Village Hall:

In attendance: Iain Ritchie, Andrew Wilson, Kirsten Logue, Catherine MacLennan, Heather Williams, Ross Ryan, Donald MacMillan, Sandy Taylor, Dougie Philand, PC Craig McFadyen, PC Stuart Charnock, Mike MacIntyre, David Sillar, Chris Perring, Charlotte Goodlet, Susan Berry, Alan Hutchinson, David Stewart, Stephen Smyth, Derek MacKinnon, Will Self, Graham Walker, Kate Walker, Andy Grant, Gordon Doughty, John Marsden, Kevin Williams, Victoria Dunkley, William Dunkley.

1. Welcome.
2. Apologies: Mike and Norma Kelly, Chris Pursloe, Sue Hillman, Ailsa Raeburn, Martin Balkeen, Liz & Bernie Swan.
3. Approval of minutes of last meeting: these were approved.
4. PC Craig McFadyen and PC Stuart Charnock from Police Scotland. It was noted that there had not been many incidents in North Knapdale. Police Scotland are currently carrying out extra vigilance regarding in-car distractions including phones and satnavs. The penalties for using these while driving have recently doubled.
5. Kames Fish Farms: Dounie developments: Will Self updated everyone. If allowed, Dounie, would be the first fish farm in an MPA.
 - i) New information had been given to the statutory bodies, mostly as a result of the work of John Aitchison. SEPA had extended their deadline for a CARS decision. SNH were objecting, and A&BC had indicated that an Environmental Impact Assessment would be required.

- ii) Mike Russel had raised objections and has written to the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the CS for the Environment.
- iii) Good local and national press coverage has been achieved, and the petition had a strong response.
- iv) Dunadd and Lochgilphead CCs were objecting to the fish farm. Fishermen, divers, and the Angling Club had expressed objections. Other local organisations are consulting their boards regarding response.
- v) The economic positives which might come with the fish farm were outweighed by the potential negatives associated with reduced tourism revenues etc..
- vi) The Scottish Government has stated that fish farming should double in size on the West Coast, so there would perhaps be an impetus to pass this development.
- vii) If CARS permission was granted by SEPA, then the planning process would allow for further intervention.
- viii) NKCC would seek to ask SEPA to keep us abreast of the CARS process.
- ix) Councillor Taylor stressed the importance of objections from community councils. The community councils are statutory organisations and as such the local authority will give special consideration to their representations which will carry much more weight than any local petitions, business representations etc. He also said that it was quite reasonable for more distant community councils such as Lochgilphead and Ardrishaig to object on grounds such as loss of tourism revenue

6. Matters arising/ correspondence: Jean Frame of the Woodland Trust had been in touch. She hoped to attend the May meeting, and to inform NKCC about the improvement in signage and interpretation planned for Crinan Wood.

7. Planning issues: Crinan application 17/00212/PPP:

- i) Residents of Crinan Cottages were worried about living in a 'Housing Scheme.' They would be looking in the back of the new houses.
- ii) The proposal is within the development area. The existing development areas provide enough scope for growth in Crinan.
- iii) Are the capacities for water and power provision adequate for this site? These are potentially suspensive conditions.
- iv) Is the housing in the area over-developed or too highly compacted?
- v) Is this going to impact the landscape character of the area?
- vi) Are there issues regarding road access.
- vii) Any objection from NKCC would have to be based on valid planning concerns.

8. Road issues: Gleann a Gealbhan:

- i) Lynn Milne had raised this with the Council (ABCW06684). Water had been running across the road again after heavy rain. Subsequently the weather had turned colder and the hill had become dangerously icy. The Roads Dept. had attended, and things had improved again. Councillor MacMillan had spoken to the Roads Dept., and further works were to be completed by end March.
- ii) There are nine bad potholes between Achnamara Village Hall and the Barnluasgan memorial.

9. Knapdale North Opportunities Trust: At the next meeting we will have an agenda item asking what the community wanted of NKCC and KNOT. What more can be done about a Community Plan and local priorities.

10. AOCB

11. Date and venue of next meeting. Tayvallich Village Hall, May23rd, 2017 at 7:30pm.