

# North Knapdale Community Council

Minutes for the North Knapdale Community Council meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2017 at 7:30 pm at Achnamara Village Hall:

In attendance: Iain Ritchie, Andrew Wilson, Catherine MacLennan, Richard Stein, Will Self, Charlotte Goodlet, Sandy Taylor, Alan Hutchison, John McArthur, Kirsten Logue, Steve Benham.

1. Welcome: Iain Ritchie welcomed the group.
2. Apologies: Ross Ryan, Ailsa Raeburn, Heather Williams, Kevin Williams, Donnie MacMillan, Fergie and Anne Anderson, Chris Purslow, Sue Hillman, Mike and Norma Kelly.
3. Approval of minutes of last meeting; these were approved subject to 2 minor alterations.
4. Matters arising/ correspondence:
  - i) Argyll FM were looking for financial support from community councils. It was felt that other areas had far more funds available than North Knapdale.
  - ii) Kirsten Logue has resigned from the Community Council.
  - iii) Tayvallich Hall had been in touch about electric car charging points. As NKCC have no money, nor any ground, then despite a 75% grant, we are unable to pursue this.
  - iv) Andrew had been in discussion with Andy Grant about registering Knapdale North Opportunities Trust as dormant with Companies House. It was felt that some NKCC funds would be well spent on this.

5. Parking in Tayvallich: The parking sub-group had submitted a proposal to Argyll and Bute Council (attached.)
  - i) The response (attached) had once again been very helpful, but we would have to await issuing of a new Order before charges were introduced and the sign changed. Councillor Taylor noted that with the budget imperative, then this might well happen sooner rather than later.
  - ii) Kirsten Logue of Tayvallich Hall noted that the Hall are intending to pursue ownership of the car park at the far side of the road. The Committee are looking into Grasscrete for the field and line painting of the car parks.
  - iii) The trial of opening the field for the Jura Music Festival (and coincidentally, the Taynish anniversary celebrations) was a success. Up to 50 cars used the facility. It was hoped that locals would be keen to help marshal this in future.
  
6. Planning issues: Local Development Plan: Iain Ritchie had attended an information session on the new Local Development Plan for the 10 years from 2020.
  - i) Opinions can be lodged here: <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/consultations/local-development-plan-2> and **must be submitted by 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.**
  - ii) Key features include: development corridors around Helensburgh and from Dalmally to Tobermory. Regeneration for Campbeltown, Rothesay and Dunoon. North Knapdale would be included in a proposed marine National Park
  - iii) For Mid Argyll, the focus was on encouraging an increase in visitor numbers in the hope that people could be encouraged to not simply drive on through. It was noted that the developments at Ardrishaig on the Crinan Canal, and the expansion of Kilmartin Museum (World Heritage status for the glen?), would greatly help with that.

- iv) Housing is a requirement in Argyll, but targets would be more realistic: 300, rather than 700, per annum. Sympathy would be given to smaller developments, rather than larger schemes. It was hoped that some restrictions could be reduced in conservation areas. Lay outs of drives etc. would recognise if developments were in the countryside, rather than towns.
- v) The 2020 LDP will supersede the current one.

7. Road issues: The usual pot holes and drainage issues have begun to emerge, and it was hoped that the council would keep on top of these. Specific issues were raised:

- i) A sign had appeared at Crinan stating that work would start on the 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2017. No work has so far happened, and, particularly around the Crinan Hotel, the road is in disrepair.
- ii) The line painting work on the canal-side has not yet been undertaken.
- iii) Although issues on the Achnamara road had been improved, the road itself is in desperate need of a proper resurfacing programme which should be undertaken in the very near future.
- iv) A number of people were concerned about parking around the garage at Bellanoch. Vehicles parked on the road here are a proper hazard. Some vehicles have been left on the road between the Canal and the Add bridges causing an obstruction. It was hoped that the Police could look into the issue.

8. Public Toilets: it seems that the Crinan toilet is unlikely to be opened to the public. Indeed most of the smaller public facilities in Argyll are likely to be closed. Tayvallich Hall would consider being a vehicle for a community plan to take the toilets over. Someone other than the Hall Committee would have to organise this though.

9. AOCB:

- i) Argyll & Bute are again consulting on required savings of £2,000,000 for each of the next two years. Anyone who wishes to make representation could do so using the 'Have your say' link on the A&B website.
- ii) The Achnamara and Knapdale consultation will take place next month. This seeks to find the views of the community on the future of the community assets in the area.
- iii) The fish farm application for Dounie has met a hurdle in that SNH have expressed concerns that northern sea fans live in this area, and these are very highly protected. The SNH view is that the development should not happen for this reason.
- iv) November 28<sup>th</sup> is the Tayvallivh Hall AGM.
- v) NKCC has struggled to keep in touch with its constituents. The secretary noted that the best response came from <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/tayvallich-village-hall-google-group> , the Tayvallich Village Hall Google Group. Would residents of other areas be willing to use this? The Achnamara consultation would be willing to help seek a view on this.

10. Date and venue of next meeting. Tayvallich Hall, February 20th, 2018 at 7:00 pm.