

North Knapdale Community Council

Minutes of the North Knapdale Community Council meeting held on the 19th November, 2019 at 7:30 pm at The Crinan Hotel:

In attendance: Iain Ritchie, Andrew Wilson, Richard Stein, Catherine MacLennan, Heather Williams, Ross Ryan, Sergeant Iain MacNicol, Graham Walker, Alan Hutchison, Tim Hedley, Sheila Chiavarini

1. Welcome: Iain welcomed everyone.
2. Apologies: Mike and Norma Kelly, Fergie and Ann Anderson, John McArthur, John Grafton, Sandy Taylor.
3. Approval of minutes of last meetings: these were approved.
4. Police Report: Sergeant Iain MacNicol:
 - i) there have not been many incidents. Achnamara and Crinan had none.
 - ii) On 19th August there was a report of flooding on the Tayvallich road. The Council attended. On 17th October a domestic incident led to the arrest of a male who attended court the next day. On 28th October a dropped 999 call turned out to be a child playing with a phone.
 - iii) On 1st October in Bellanoch a motorist reported hitting a deer. The deer absconded before Police arrived.
 - iv) Email and telephone scams are still prevalent. Residents should be careful regarding any unsolicited email or phone call.
5. Matters arising/ correspondence: The secretary had heard from community members that they objected to the possibility of more moorings in Loch Scotnish.

6. Planning issues: the new Local Development Plan is available to be viewed on the A & BC website. It is currently open for consultation.
7. Knapdale North Opportunity Trust: the Trust was established as there had been the possibility of community benefit from renewable energy schemes which have now been shelved. It was agreed to explore mothballing the company. This would mean that the organisation would be available if there was a future need.
8. Road issues: Drainage and Passing Places:
 - i) Achnamara residents describe the condition of their road as, 'good!' Quite extensive work was undertaken. The question was asked if there was a top dressing to go on next summer?
 - ii) Arichonan/ Gleann a Galbhain 605514: flooding has been reported here repeatedly over the years. Debris runs down the hill and blocks a drain causing a deep puddle. The Council have finally attended to this and have undertaken to try and stop future incidents. Thanks are due to Christine Richards who has been pursuing this with the Council.
 - iii) Between Scottish Water layby and Forestry layby 000734 19/9/2019: There is a stream of water running down the side of the road from the top of the highest bit of road towards Tayvallich. It is eroding the road surface and where it crosses the road it causes icing in cold weather. This was reported and the Council came out. They did work on the drainage in the area but missed the main problem which remains unresolved.

- iv) Informal passing places on the Tayvallich road: these were repaired by the Council about 10 years ago. They are now badly pitted and cratered again. Residents would be grateful if these could be attended to. The posts for the official passing places are badly decayed and could do with being replaced.

 - v) Achnamara speeding: there are now children in the village again. Motorists speed through the village, particularly in the summer. James Ross of the Roads department has been helpful and a flashing sign has been promised. NKCC was asked to help ensure that this was duly delivered. Sergeant MacNicol suggested that enforcement may be possible.

 - vi) Cairnbaan junction: The Egg Shed sign has been moved, scrub has been cut back, and new road markings have been promised. A bigger sign would help too. Some still feel that a stop sign would be better in this location.

 - vii) Trees on the roadside between Bellanoch and Cairnbaan have fallen. Others are on the way over. A worry was expressed that these may fall on a car resulting in damage or injury.
9. Crinan Canal: management to attend the November meeting. This long-standing arrangement was cancelled. The meeting expressed disappointment. Scottish Canals are felt to be interested only in the Ardrishaig end of the Canal. Longstanding issues such as Dunardry Bridge and Crinan Sealock Jetty are still overlooked. Iain Richie, Convener, had hoped that NKCC might have heard about the future plans of Scottish Canals for the historic Crinan Canal.

10. AOCB: in the upcoming elections in 2021 new members will be needed for NKCC. Some current members will have held office for 6 years by this time.

11. Date and venue of next meeting. Achnamara Village Hall, 18th February, 2020 at 730pm.