

North Knapdale Community Council

Minutes of the North Knapdale Community Council meeting held on the 18th February, 2019 at 7:30 pm at Achnamara Village Hall:

In attendance: Iain Ritchie, Andrew Wilson, Catherine MacLennan, Heather Williams, Ian Oliver, Sergeant Iain MacNicol, Sandy Taylor, Alan Hutchison, Gordon Doughty, John Marsden, Mike Raynor, Dulcie Raynor.

1. Welcome: Iain welcomed everyone.
2. Apologies: Mike and Norma Kelly, John Grafton, Richard Stein, Ross Ryan, Ailsa Raeburn.
3. Approval of minutes of last meetings: these were approved.
4. Police Report: Sergeant Iain MacNicol:

Tayvallich

28/01/20 – 2.00pm - Report of suspect persons in someone's house. Police attended and no person in hours – elderly person, possibly confused.

08/02/20 – 5.55pm – Resident reporting that he found a man in his garden at 3.30pm when he returned home. The man said he was looking for roofing work but then left in a hurry in his van – no registration number noted. Due to timespan and other incidents ongoing, Police did not attend.

10/02/20 – 4.30am – Report of suspicious persons out a vehicle shining a torch. Police attended and traced vehicle which turned out to be Carers looking for a property.

Crinan

No Incidents of note

Bellanoach

12/02/20 – 4.15pm – Report of subsidence on Moss Road from Belanoach to Crinan Ferry Cross roads. Police and council attended and road closed until the following day when a plate was put down and road opened again.

Achnamara

29/12/19 – 12.00pm – Sheep Attack incident in field near Gartnagrenoch farm where a dog that was off the lead attacked a sheep. The dog owner was present and apologetic and assisted and agreed to pay vet bills etc. Owner was charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

In community council area and also across MAKI/Argyll

Several weather-related road traffic collisions on A83 involving road closures – no serious injuries

Bank Telephone Scams

On Monday 3rd February, a man in Campbeltown received a call from a man pretending to be from his Bank and who said that there was an issue with his bank account as someone had taken a large amount of money from his account. The man was suspicious of the call and put the phone down and then decided to call his bank to check that there were no issues. It appears that the caller has kept the line open so when the man called, he actually got straight through to the Fraudsters and a woman answered and persuaded him to transfer over £20,000 to a 'safe' account via his internet banking.

Police would like to remind the Public never to trust such call re possible bank frauds ongoing, don't give out personal information over the phone and always check any such call is genuine by calling their bank themselves.

Always make sure you hear a clear dialling tone before calling your bank in case a fraudulent caller has kept the line open and you end up calling them again. Another suggestion is to call a friend first to confirm the call is not answered by the fraudulent caller.

5. Matters arising/ correspondence:

- i) Forestry Commission consultation for North Knapdale: details are available at <https://forestryandland.gov.scot/what-we-do/planning/consultations/knapdale-land-management-plan-consultation>
- ii) Information on Home Energy Argyll and Bute grants is available from www.homeenergyscotland.org or call 0808 808 2282. For details.
- iii) Castle Sween red phone box: Catherine MacLennan will canvas interest in the Achnamara area regarding purchasing this for £1. It could be used as a library or for displaying local information. Iain Ritchie will respond to the inquiry to say that we are following this up.

6. Planning issues: there have been very few applications recently.
7. Knapdale North Opportunity Trust: accounts have been filed with Companies House.
8. Road issues: Drainage and Passing Places:
 - i) Road issues were raised. General seasonal deterioration to drainage, passing places, and to the road surface were noted. The Secretary had raised this with Councillor Taylor in advance of the meeting. Councillor Taylor has formally requested a response from the Council. He will revert to NKCC when he receives a response regarding major improvements.
 - ii) It was noted that the A&B Council repair lorry is out of order. This is disappointing as it achieves reasonable temporary repairs.
9. Scottish Water: the water main in Tayvallich has burst on at least 9 occasions in just the last 18 months. The Secretary had raised this with Councillor Taylor in advance of the meeting. Councillor Taylor has, through the Council's Corporate Services, raised the matter with Scottish Water. He will revert to NKCC when Scottish Water have responded. There is an opportunity to raise this issue with the Scottish Water liaison at the Area Committee meeting. Scottish Water would then have to provide a response.
10. By-election: the forms for nominations should be available mid-March. The secretary will organise the distribution of these. There are 3 vacancies for NKCC. Grant Lees has resigned and Ian Oliver has agreed to stand to represent Tayvallich. Ross Ryan, who is co-opted, has agreed to stand. This leaves one space which, it is hoped, can be filled by someone from Achnamara.
11. AOCB:
 - i) Councillor Taylor reported on the consultation regarding the Council budget. The public view was that if cuts were required,

then these were better being made to adult education and customer services rather than to education, childrens' services, the environment and roads budgets. One local service which is proposed to be cut is the public toilet at Crinan. The Council would, without providing funding, facilitate the community taking responsibility for this facility. There was regret that Scottish Canals had reneged on their offer to allow public access to their toilets.

- ii) The IJB which runs the Health and Social Care Partnership are looking for new board members if anyone is interested. It meets 6 times a year.
- iii) The Rural Growth deal is still in development. It may take up to 10 years as negotiations are on-going between the UK government, the Scottish Government and the Council.

12. Date and venue of next meeting. Tayvallich Village Hall, May 19th, 2020 at 7.30pm.