

North Knapdale Community Council

Minutes of the North Knapdale Community Council meeting held at Tayvallich Village Hall on the 24th November 2021 at 7.30 pm.

In Attendance: Iain Ritchie, Richard Stein, Heather Williams, Andrew Wilson, John McArthur, Cllr Sandy Taylor, Ross Ryan, Alan Hutchinson, Hans Unkles, Chris Plummer, Douglas Chirnside, Andrew Milne, Lynne Milne.

1. Welcome: Iain Ritchie welcomed everyone.
2. Apologies: Sgt Matt Shaw, David Mackintosh (Scottish Ambulance Service), Fergie Anderson, Catherine MacLennan, Mike & Norma Kelly, Tanya Jackson, Charlotte Goodlet.
3. Approval of minutes of last meeting: The minutes of the meeting on 7 September 2021 were approved.
4. Local Ambulance Service update: Due to 'operational issues in the Clyde area', Mr Mackintosh was unable to attend the meeting. We will invite him to our next meeting.
5. Police Report: Due to the pandemic police officers are not permitted to attend community council meetings at present. In Sgt Shaw's absence the report was referred to by Iain Ritchie. Because the report now refers to a larger area encompassing 5 community council areas, with no indication which area each incident occurred in, it is of less relevance. Agreed a copy would be attached to these minutes. (Copy attached).
6. Correspondence:
 - i) Covid Vaccinations. We received updates from Highland NHS regarding arrangements for Covid vaccinations. It was noted that arrangements and publicity for boosters had been chaotic, however, there had been a great improvement recently. Cllr Taylor explained that

because GPs no longer wished to do vaccinations, from now on all vaccinations will be arranged by NHS Highland.

ii) Tayvallich Bay Sewage Treatment Plant. Hans Unkles, Chairman of the Tayvallich Bay Association raised the concern of his association that many properties in Tayvallich are discharging untreated or partially treated sewage into Tayvallich Bay, even though Scottish Water (SW) have installed a full treatment plant in the village. The resulting pollution causes smell and, potentially, health issues.

Cllr Taylor explained that dealing with any pollution caused by discharges to the sea are the dealt with both by SEPA and the Council's Environmental Health Department. Older properties may discharge straight to the sea, whereas newer properties will be operating under SEPA consents, but septic tanks may not be operating properly. These discharges may be particularly problematic here because there is no real flow of water in Tayvallich Bay.

Cllr Taylor has raised the issue with SW, SEPA and Environmental Health. Once we hear what these authorities think can be done, we will advise local residents of the options.

iii) Scottish Water works for Tayvallich. We have been advised by Scottish Water that the work will start on Monday 29 November, along the B8025, the road to Carsaig and the road by the primary school, with an expected duration of around 6 months.

7. Council Update:

i) Review of Community Council Governance Arrangements. It is proposed that Community Council meetings be able to be held remotely or in combination of remote and in person attendance, as was the case temporarily during the pandemic. Although of possibly limited benefit to us, given the absence of Wifi in our meeting venues, we agreed to support the changes.

ii) Crinan & Tayvallich Public Toilets. Cllr Taylor brought us the good news that the Crinan and Tayvallich public toilets will be kept open through the winter to the end of the financial year. In February we will need to fight again to keep them open as their funding comes up for review every year. A related issue was raised regarding campervan users dumping portable toilet waste. It was felt that facilities should be provided, possibly at public toilets, for emptying of toilet cassettes, as is done elsewhere in Scotland and abroad. Agreed we would write to the

Council raising the issue and seeking a discussion about how to alleviate the problem.

iii) Scottish Canals. In view of our difficulties in achieving a meeting with Scottish Canals to discuss our range of concerns, we agreed to write to Jenni Minto MSP to seek her assistance to arrange a meeting with the Canals.

8. Planning issues: there have been very few planning applications in NKCC area recently.

9. Highway/Transport issues:

i) Passing Places. We heard that the Tayvallich community has crowd funded and put up new signs along the B8025 encouraging drivers to use passing places to allow overtaking. Cllr Taylor has also passed on our requests for a new passing place past Tayvallich on the B8025 and markers for the passing places on the B8025 across the Moss.

ii) HGV 40 MPH Speed Limit. Concerns were raised about the impact of 40mph limit on single carriageway roads in Scotland. It was felt that the resulting extra attempts to overtake HGVs may hinder rather than assist road safety. Adherence to this limit seems patchy. Agreed we would write to Sgt Shaw to clarify Police enforcement policy.

10. AOCB:

i) Cllr Taylor advised that arrangements are now in place for live streaming of Council meetings. Policy and Resources Committee on Thursday 9th December and Audit & Scrutiny Committee on 14th December will be available and from January all Strategic Council meetings will be streamed.

ii) We discussed the current provision of electric vehicle charging points. Concerns were raised about the random mix of slow and fast charging points. Cllr Taylor agreed to send on recent Council papers, which we will circulate.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting: 7.30pm on Thursday 24th February at venue to be confirmed.