

MINUTES



Date: 30 November 2023 – 6pm via ZOOM

Topic: AGM & Monthly Regular Meeting

Attendance: Alex Harvie (Chair), Keith Hammond (Secretary CCC), Duncan Fraser (CCC), John McHenry (CCC), John Riggins (CCC), Graham Wallace (Adviser CCC), Gregor Harvie (Adviser CCC), Scott Watson (Carbon Neutral Island), Julie McAleese (Cumbrae Primary), Angie McCallum (Millport Town Hall), Thomas Reaney (NAC), Lorraine Fraser (Cumbrae Forum), Cllr Todd Ferguson, John Wright (HM Coastguard), Iain Morrison (Millport Motors), Calum Corral (Largs and Millport News), Cris Thacker (Galileo, Crosbie Proposal) + 11 members of the public.

Apologies: Angus Campbell (CCC), Canon Alec Boyd (Cumbrae Cathedral), Jan Wilkie (CCDC), Cllr Alan Hill, Ruairidh McIntyre (Golf Club), Cllr Ian Murdoch, Cllr Tom Marshall, Bobby McLeish (Mackley).

<p>Welcome Alex H</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair declared the meeting quorate. • Chair and Secretary ratified in position for 2024. • Chair’s report delivered. • Minutes of previous meeting approved https://cumbrae.org/CCC_Minutes.html
<p>Organisations</p>	
<p>Police Scotland</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report.
<p>HM Coastguard</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly training sessions (lost & missing persons) followed by half-day exercise. • Team joined Remembrance Day Sunday Parade to lay HM Coastguard wreath. • Three new recruits join early February bringing team to full strength of nine. • Lease signed for new Coastguard Rescue Station, opening end Jan.
<p>IOCTA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent fundraising activity was successful (£2,000 raised). Entertainment by Gavin Mitchell from Still Game aka Boabby the Barman well received. Money used to upgrade Xmas lights. Switch on 1 Dec, free Panto 2 Dec and Santa Clause 3 Dec.
<p>CCDC, Jan W by email</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garrison House: Repair costs have increased to just over £1m, CCDC currently working with Highlands & Islands Enterprise to secure shortfall. Coastwatch Exhibition will be displayed into the new year. • EV Charging Point: meter installed, now need ‘back office’ and staff training. • Toilets: West Bay closed until spring 24 to save costs, leaving Croc Rock, Cumbrae Slip and Bomb Shelter blocks an Garrison House toilets available to public. • Marina: CCDC and Scott W met Kathleen Dow of NAC. Next year further meetings pending with Harbour Users Group and CCDC Board. • WEST LODGE BUSINESS CENTRE - now has all office spaces let and it is great to see new businesses having been set up and working locally on Cumbrae. • Christmas: Friday 1 December Santa to switch on lights in Sunken Garden, Saturday, 2 December, Christmas Fayre 12-4pm. • Motorhome site: fully booked for Hogmanay, several bookings over Christmas. • Question about library: Jan confirmed that plans still allow for both a separate adult and a separate children’s room, once the work is complete
<p>Cumbrae Forum Lorraine F</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to popularity of our lunch club, we have had to close membership for this year. You can still join The Cumbrae Forum (£5 per annum), you need to be a resident and over 18. Get forms from our charity shop and post to the box at the Hub. • We are busy getting our Christmas vouchers organised for every member. Also we are getting ready to pack our Christmas bags for all children on our island. • Successful revamping of the Charity Shop with the appointment of member of staff.
<p>Millport Motors Iain M</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The M42 MY BUS area has been recently contracted out again and includes Millport town even though it hasn’t benefited from the service. Cllr Ferguson to follow up.
<p>Millport Golf Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report
<p>Cumbrae Primary Rhona reported</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor learning: each class has a day a week (Cathedral, Garrison, beach, outdoor classroom which is now furnished.) • In our polycrub, early years class created a mini pumpkin patch farm with games. • Primary 6/7 have been learning about the Egyptians and doing science experiments. We have also been making cushions and phone cases with the handiwives. We have had author visits to help us understand about the world of work. Alan Dapre (Grizzly)

	<p>Ben and the TV programme Brum) helped us develop board games based on our own stories and Maria Herbert Law came in to teach us about illustrations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P4/5 have been learning about Vikings. They visited Vikingar and dyed aprons and had a local author visit Maura McRobbie (Vikings and Skylarks based on Millport). • Our sports lunchtime club is well attended. It is run by the active schools team and next term we will be having virtual sports competitions with other small schools. • In November the school had an authority inspection. The team praised the curriculum, the staff team and pupils. They also thought our use of the local environment and work with partners was fantastic. • We are now practising for our Matilda auditions (school show in June). For Christmas we will be going to the Pantomime in Greenock on 13 Dec and P1/2/3 will be presenting their Nativity at our Christmas service on 21 Dec.
Field Studies Council, Duncan F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have had a busy year with over 3,500 visitors staying overnight in 2023: 52 universities from across Europe, 50 schools from the UK, and 10 other groups including 5 whole-centre bookings. • Group in from Norway in conjunction with Stirling Uni doing experiments with Langoustines, they are electrically stunning them before they are tailed, making it more humane and less stressful for the prawn! These units will hopefully be manufactured (on a small scale) soon for fishing vessels and restaurants. • Van Oord will be staying in our accommodation till March or until works complete. • We will be closed for maintenance and re-open in February.
Ferry Users Group Angus C by email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal level of information from Calmac at 28 Nov meeting, even though Transport Minister asking Calmac to be “more accountable and engaging with communities”. • No information on carrying statistics since May or reliability statistics since May. • Limited information on only a few of the 20 breakdowns since July; no clarity over maintenance to minimise future breakdowns. • No specific contingency plan for Cumbrae, several years of promises! • No information on the commitments that the Transport Minister and CEO (Robbie Drummond) had confirmed that we would be fully briefed upon at the meeting. • We continued to push for • A return to ALL ticket collection at the mainland side only, saving £300k pa of costs for Calmac (and the taxpayer). • Rolling ticket validity (6 months). • The Ferry Committee are considering developing an island-led requirement specification for the Ferry Service to feed into Transport Scotland’s consultation on the new contract (live Oct 2024). Call for views and expertise within the community (please contact cumbraeferryusers@gmail.com), plan to hold a public drop in to consult early in the New Year.
Cathedral, Canon Alec by email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The option of the SCIO is being pursued, the Dean is writing to clear the way for gift aid. Work on the brief will progress when Canon Alec is recovered.
Millport Bowling Club, John McH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The team is using indoor facilities in Largs. There was a well attended social on Saturday, the heating worked well.
Island projects	
Local Place Plan, Gregor H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Ayrshire Council is refreshing their Local Development Plan. Cumbrae’s Local Place Plan gives the island a democratic way of feeding into this. First stage: review existing documents. Second stage: consult with islanders and stakeholders.
Ten Year Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report
Carbon Neutral Islands, Scott W	<p>Strategic + Data Related Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy infrastructure and renewables study still expected draft early Dec. • Land Use and Land Use Change study ongoing. Meeting next week with Aquaterra. • NatureScot were on island recently and visited several locations on island including Millport Golf Club, Fintry Bay and Reservoirs. Items discussed including standing water flooding, habitat restoration and tree planting. • SCAAN (Scottish Climate Change Action Network) are finalising their proposal for a pan-Ayrshire climate hub. CNI (Cumbrae) will feed into this as a delivery partner. • CNI.SCOT website launched by Community Energy Scotland. <p>Specific Projects</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following successful installation project at Millport Bowling Club, working with another 3 community organisations on similar solutions. Survey work ongoing. • Potential monitoring plots at various woodland areas on the island in conjunction with NatureScot. Early stages. • Collaboration with Mackley’s on climate change aspect of a local schools’ workshop. • Ongoing discussions with NAC regarding Active Travel solutions on the island. • Meeting held with with NAC regarding proposed Marina. • M-Four as the NAC appointed project managers for Area Based Scheme likely to start local promotion of scheme in December / January. • Reminder that M-Four and Green Home Systems are the two NAC appointed companies to assist with Home Energy Efficiency measures. If in doubt over contact from a company please speak to CDO Scott Watson.
Town Hall, email from Angie McC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waterproofing specialists and their sub-contractors continue to work towards a resolution for the water ingress to the basement. • The new roof above the old lesser town hall and the remaining leadworks and repairs are virtually completed. • Jackie Wilson from Millport was awarded a bursary with Surge Theatre and took part in their Arran street theatre event. A taster session for the reciprocal Cumbrae event is to be held on 16 January 24 at Cumbrae Parish Church. • We welcomed a group from Scot Gov and NAC for a visit which had a focus on community wealth building. • MTH received funding from NAVT of £30k and from the B and Q Foundation £4370.
Flood Prevention Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key issues to be picked up with Robbie: timing, slippage in programme, noise and lack of clarity around what has been agreed with North Ayrshire Council.
Marina, Graham W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAC work ongoing with consultants on size, design, access, shore side facilities etc. all of which will feed into detailed costings/business case etc. Other work includes consideration of lease/licence to operate terms and operator selection process. Current estimated completion 2027.
Watersports, Graham W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SportScotland advise that after detailed negotiations the selected bidder pulled out at the end of October and two other bidders subsequently withdrew their interest. The property is again being actively marketed by Galbraiths.
Issues arising	
Planning & licencing, Gregor H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal to infill the existing dry dock at Hunterston to create a new platform for the construction of large offshore wind turbine bases. So far this is just scoping what would be required for an Environmental Impact Assessment. We will keep an eye on progress. • A decision should be made on the solar farm by the end of the year. • Consultation with the island on priorities for the Local Place Plan in the new year.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed wind farm: Cris gave an overview (78 megawatts, 50 megawatts battery storage), attending as part of consultation and feedback can be given online at www.crosbiewindfarm.co.uk • Comments noted significant size of the proposal, decision is Scottish Government’s, turbines would be higher than existing, importance of views from the Clyde.
Island issues Thomas R	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road marking contractor scheduled Millport most urgent outstanding works (3 disabled bays, the Kames Bay and any other work they have time to do). • Knotweed will be sprayed in August, possibility of May as well. • No overnight parking signs, Legal to establish the landowners to write. • EV charging, we are in the process of awarding a contract. The delay is due to an admin issue. (Framework supplier re-named their company).
Councillors’ updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Ferguson: slate safety on East Church, dropped kerb programme, disabled bays, crossing points, bus shelter graffiti – maybe commission a mural, safety of pavours by Premier, cycle path proposal, signs and the possibility of a by-law.
Next meeting	Thursday 25 January 2024 6pm on Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83741044820