

MINUTES



Date: 29 February 2024 – 6pm via ZOOM

Topic: Monthly Regular Meeting

Attendance: Alex Harvie (Chair), Keith Hammond (Secretary CCC), Duncan Fraser (CCC), John Riggins (CCC), Angus Campbell (CCC), Gregor Harvie (Adviser CCC), Scott Watson (Carbon Neutral Island), Lorraine Fraser, Eleanor Collier (Cumbrae Forum), Canon Alec Boyd (Cumbrae Cathedral), John Wright (HM Coastguard), Ruaridh McIntyre (Millport Golf Club), Jennifer Neilson (Cumbrae Primary), Thomas Reaney (NAC), Cllr Todd Ferguson, Tempany Grace (Largs and Millport News) + 11 members of the public (27 total).

Apologies: John McHenry (CCC), Jan Wilkie (CCDC), Cllr Alan Hill, Graham Wallace (Adviser CCC), Iain Morrison (Millport Motors), Julie McAleese (Cumbrae Primary), Angie McCallum (Millport Town Hall), 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. Angus Campbell and Scott Waston made declarations of interest – planning issues. 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, John R to email and ask for retrospective crime figures.
<p>HM Coastguard, John W</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved into new station end of January requiring changes to response processes. Two new recruits completed initial training and now fully operational under probation, tasks included helicopter medical transfer off island and kayak recovery. Training focussed on water rescue scenarios and joint exercises planned over the coming months with RNLi and Coastguard helicopter. Owners of small watercraft encouraged to ensure contact details are on craft. Concern around metal fencing which remains partially buried on Newton Beach following completion of new stairs and concrete access ramp.
<p>IOCTA, report by John R</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trip to Arran planned to understand work of their association with businesses, then Arran team will repay the visit. Looking for new members.
<p>CCDC, Jan W</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garrison House Project: tender bids are being considered by the QS. Architect Team hopeful scaffolding will be erected at the end of March. Kay Starr TV is following progress, having secured with CCDC’s assistance, £3k funding through ARIA to purchase equipment. Within Garrison House: exhibition of works by Elizabeth Ireland, until end of March, with further exhibitions planned throughout the year. Community Meeting Room has hosted consultations including: Hunterston Construction Yard - PAC Event 3 / XLCC Communications Event / Transport Scotland Public Engagement Session and North Ayrshire Council’s UKSPF Communities & Place Grant drop-in session. Bank of Scotland staff are available within the Glass Room every Tuesday between 10am – 2pm providing Community Banking advice and support. Our Events Calendar for 2024 will be shared with both CCC and IoCTA soon. A feasibility study has been conducted on the Croc Rock, Cumbrae Slip and Fintry Toilet blocks as part of the Pit Stop Funding which we hope we can then follow with costings for the proposed works being confirmed. Vandalism occurred at the weekend at our Bomb Shelter block (paint poured over all internal walls and floors, toilet roll dispensers pulled from their fittings.) Police have been involved. Repairs will be ongoing, and facilities are closed at present. Our MHAL apartments have been undergoing annual winter programme of repair. AGM will be held at the Garrison on 12 March at 6pm for a 6.30pm start, we look forward to seeing current and welcoming new members.
<p>Cumbrae Forum Lorraine F</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter raffle tickets priced £1 now available from our Charity shop. Our lunch club has now restarted on Wednesdays at 12:30 at the Newton after having a 2 week break for renovations to be undertaken at the Newton. Grant of £4800 received from Arran CVS fund to be used for the lunch club.
<p>Millport Motors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report

<p>Millport Golf Club, Ruaridh Mcl</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGM was held on 11 Feb - approx 20 members present. • Season officially starts on 30 March with Captain’s drive in. (Members only event) • All our open competitions are available for entry via the club website and Scottish golf app. The first is the Dugald McIntyre seniors (over 50s) on 23 May and our flagship tournament, The Cumbrae Cup, on 6 July. • Junior coaching starts on 29 March and run when schools are on holiday. We have entered the golf sixes which is a regional event for the kids to represent Millport. • Extensive renovations to the stock room and kitchen are ongoing. Unfortunately our caddy car shed was destroyed in storms, we are considering replacements. • Concerns continue with the overflow from the reservoirs, we are working with SEPA however communication with the owner of the reservoirs is proving challenging. The flood on 27 Dec was particularly damaging to the 18th fairway. • Thank you to Scott Watson for facilitating the installation of solar panels/batteries for the club which will reduce our carbon footprint and reduce the electricity bill.
<p>Cumbrae Primary Jennifer N</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A National Inspection was held at the end of January, and the report will be published soon.
<p>Field Studies Council, Duncan F</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The centre has been busy early in the season with lots of schools visiting. • Biggest school group booking, with 131 kids & 14 staff from Our Lady of the Missions Primary School, from Thornliebank in Glasgow, the largest primary in Scotland, and they have already made enquiries to return next year. • Bahai religious group from London brought over 70 members and their families. • University group from Cork are conducting fieldwork, boat trips and experiments. • St Lucy’s primary school from Cumbernauld have enjoyed Rock Climbing, Archery, Rock Pooling, and team building games. • Van Oord intend to move out of our accommodation on the 16 March.
<p>Ferry Users Group Angus C</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport Scotland held a drop in session on 1 Feb to consult on anticipated direct award to Calmac for the ferry service from October and input into the Strategic “Island Connectivity Plan” (we have identified a number of improved key outcomes which we intend to feed into the consultation). • Changes to 2024-25 winter timetable: following surveys, FUG requested an earlier ferry to connect with the first Glasgow train (offset by an early evening gap), we await feedback from Transport Scotland and Calmac. • We are making minimal progress with Calmac and Transport Minister regarding the ticketing issues that Calmac have yet to resolve. These include five main issues <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Restoration of discounted season tickets, multi journey tickets for SPT ticket holders, the ability to buy various ticket types on the island, multi journey tickets for teenagers, making ticket validity a rolling 6 month validity rather than fixed dates. 2. Calmac still remain unable (since April 2023) to produce figures on ferry usage (on all routes) from their new E Ticketing system. 3. As part of the Ferries Community Board Angus has attended meetings with Transport Scotland and Calmac on the new contract (from Oct 2024). 4. Ferries Community Board notes communities do not support a direct award. 5. Recognising the direction of travel of Scottish Government, we have been working to feed in that communities would need to see a radical overhaul of the contract with revised measures of success and greater accountabilities.
<p>Cathedral, Canon Alec</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st March is St David’s Day. Also World Day of Prayer at 2pm. Easter Services will be published and circulated next week. • Viability Study for The College Feasibility Study out to tender until next week. • Constitution of The Cathedral and College have been found with thanks to Lord Glasgow for his interest. Trust Conveyance documents dated 30 June 1875 found. • Next open meeting of the Cathedral and College Working Group will be held on 21 March at 7pm in The College Library. Everyone invited. Membership forms available. Please email canonalec@btinternet.com to enable support of the future of the College and Cathedral as a community asset and major site of interest.
<p>Millport Bowling Club, Scott W</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGM was held on Sunday. • Mae Watson is new President.

Island projects	
Local Place Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community engagement will be announced soon.
Carbon Neutral Islands, S Watson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-Coastal Flooding review for Cumbrae published following flooding event of 27 Dec 23. Highlights several problem areas and work ongoing with NAC flood team, SEPA and Scottish Flood Forum to help inform future local flood risk management. Community flood defence equipment secured to assist emergency services and local community. Cumbrae Energy Infrastructure and Renewables Study completed by Community Energy Scotland. Identifies wide potential for rooftop solar on the island that would largely contribute towards decarbonisation, benefit households financially and help ease future strain on local grid. Millport Golf Club and Cumbrae Parish Church solar and battery, now installed and operational. Planning application submitted for similar works and live on NAC website for Chapel building at 7 College Street. Initial batch of commercial Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) and Display Energy Certificates (DECs) are being carried out on the island to help support local businesses and better understand non-domestic sector. Climate festival planned within Garrison House for w/c 22 April
Town Hall, email from Angie McC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full site meeting and additional meeting with the contractor were held today. There is no report for February.
Flood Prevention, Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Community Council was disappointed the contractor did not attend again. Some dates supplied by community members. John McH to follow up.
Marina, Graham W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Ayrshire Council developing design, business case etc. Discussions ongoing about operational models and lease. Masterplan in preparation for pier, will link to Local Place Plan.
Issues arising	
Planning & licencing, Gregor H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The solar farm appeal was successful. It is the community Council's view that it is not buildable. A meeting has been held with the planners to discuss the conditions imposed and how North Ayrshire Council will oversee any development. Planning applications submitted include solar panels on the church on the corner of College St, solar panels on 22 Marine Parade, and the installation of 2 gates at 7 Clifton Street.
Island issues Thomas R	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road markings - the contractor has visited the island and completed road markings on Kames Bay. The jet patcher is due on the island to manage large pot holes on Glasgow Street. No overnight parking signs – some land owners have not responded, Community Council will chase up with phone calls. It was noted there has been a flood on Ferry Road since 27 Dec 2023.
Councillors' updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Ferguson had no further report.
AOB	<p>Benches – the community were consulted and the Community Council has shared positions with North Ayrshire Council.</p> <p>Closure of the bank – letter sent to Scottish Government and the bank.</p>
Next meeting	Thursday 28 March 2024 6pm on Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83741044820