

MINUTES



Date: 28 March 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), John Wright (HM Coastguard), Carol Campbell (Cathedral), Cllr Alan Hill, Cllr Tom Marshall, Tempany Grace (Largs and Millport News) + 4 members of the public (16 total).

Apologies: John McHenry (CCC), Jan Wilkie (CCDC), Scott Watson (Carbon Neutral Island), Lorraine Fraser, Eleanor Browne (Cumbrae Forum), Canon Alec Boyd (Cumbrae Cathedral), Graham Wallace (Adviser CCC), Iain Morrison (Millport Motors), Julie McAleese (Cumbrae Primary), Angie McCallum (Millport Town Hall), Ruaridh McIntyre (Millport Golf Club), Thomas Reaney (NAC), Cllr Ian Murdoch, Cllr Todd Ferguson.

Welcome Alex H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair declared the meeting quorate. No declarations of interest. Minutes of previous meeting approved https://cumbrae.org/CCC_Minutes.html
Organisations	
Police Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report. Issue of drink driving raised by the Board of The Cumbrae Forum via email. Cllr Hill to raise with police, also lack of crime statistics or attendance at CCC meetings.
HM Coastguard, John W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated process for Lost & Missing Persons Search (LAMPS) specialist capability now rolled out across HM Coastguard. Two team members qualified as Search Technician as part of core skills training and two others as Search Team Leader. Invitation extended to the Retained Firefighters of the islands Community Fire Station, as well as paramedics from Scottish Ambulance Service, to visit our new station and discuss capabilities and mutual support. Keen to establish relationships with Police Officers who provide cover on the island. Safety concerns remain around the partially buried metal fencing and railings in the sand on Newton Beach - yet to be addressed by the Flood Protection Scheme.
IOCTA, report by John R	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gavin Mitchell of Still Game fame, volunteered to assist IOCTA in the production of a short video highlighting Cumbrae. Thanks to Jacks Alt Stays for hosting Gavin. Funding in place for Easter Party and there will be an Easter Egg hunt at the D.A. Hall on Sunday from 11:00-15:00. Still looking for new members to join us and everyone is welcome.
CCDC, by email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garrison House Repair Project main contractor appointed, works scheduled to commence after Easter. Drawings and information on display at Garrison House. New Cumbrae Queen Exhibition on 2nd April, in lead up to the Cumbrae Queen 60th Anniversary Celebrations in May. First stage of the Pit Stop Funding process passed for the public toilet blocks. Mackley's created access point to the public toilets at Croc Rock on a temporary basis for over the Easter weekend. They will close after that. AGM went well, reports by ZM Architecture relating to Garrison House repairs and also by Scott Watson as CDO for the CNI Project.
Cumbrae Forum by email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No lunch club on Wednesday 3rd April. Tickets for the "Absolutely Fabulous Raffle" on sale. Fantastic prize: 1 week's holiday in a three bedroom luxury lodge on the Wyndham Ducally Estate in Auchterarder, Perthshire, end Sept - beginning Oct 2024 (anonymous donation). Tickets (£5) from the charity shop until 30 July. Draw 31 July.
Millport Motors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report
Millport Golf Club, by email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New season starts Easter Saturday (Captain's Drive). Extensive Club house roof repairs, refurbished club kitchen and invested in new kit. Continuing to work hard to attract visitors. Programme of more social events in 2024 to encourage new playing and social members. Delighted to continue to provide an area for the Millport Archery Club. Club has given approval to support signage prohibiting overnight parking. SEPA and its Reservoir Engineers undertook a full survey of the reservoirs in March.

Cumbrae Primary, by email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school is delighted to have been awarded a Reading Schools Silver Award.
Field Studies Council, Duncan F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Another busy month, 13 primary schools, bringing over 200 kids from all over Scotland have been raft building, rock climbing, team building, rock pooling & doing archery, really enjoying their time here. 5 universities & colleges visited with over 100 students in the last month from Chester, Glasgow twice, Nottingham Trent & Scotland’s Rural College from Edinburgh, using the R V Actinia to collect samples in challenging conditions!
Ferry Users Group Angus C	<p>Refusal by Calmac to honour winter timetable tickets from Friday 29 March.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cumbrae Ferry Committee have been pushing for months on an effective communications and transition plan, however Calmac have re-entrenched. We think that their communications have been woeful, and we are encouraging people to complain if they believe they have been misled/ are being charged again. <p>Easter Ferry Capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We asked for additional capacity over Easter, and suggested several options, however and although they are running the Loch Riddon alongside the single ended Loch Shira they did not accept our other recommendations. <p>Loch Shira Ramp Repairs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No information on the plan to properly repair the Loch Shira ramps. As at 28 March the max weight of lorries reduced from 44 to 28 tonnes. <p>New Contract Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FUG responded to the Transport Scotland consultation on the expected direct award to Calmac for the ferry service from October. <p>Islands Connectivity Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport Scotland are also taking input to feed into the Strategic “Island Connectivity Plan” and we have identified a number of improved key outcomes which we intend to feed into the consultation. Consultation open until 3 May https://www.transport.gov.scot/public-transport/ferries/islands-connectivity-plan/ Following surveys FUG requested minor changes to 2024-25 winter timetable. (An earlier ferry to connect with the first Glasgow train offset by early evening gap.) <p>Ticketing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Calmac remain unable (since April 2023) to produce public figures on ferry usage for this route (and all other routes) from their new E Ticketing system. As part of the Ferries Community Board Angus has attended several meetings with Transport Scotland and Calmac on the new contract (from Oct 2024). The position of the Ferries Community board has been that the communities do not support a direct award to Calmac. However, recognising the direction of travel of the Scottish Government we have been working to feed in expectations that communities would need to see significant change in the structure, organisation and culture of the management and operation of the ferry services. We would want to see a radical overhaul of the contract itself with revised measures of success and far greater accountabilities to the communities served by the ferry services in Scotland.
Cathedral, Carol C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working towards feasibility, 2 quotes. Formal funding application in. Located original trust deed for transfer of Cathedral to trust from Earl of Glasgow. It states the land cannot be split up. Trustees and Expert group established. Slight delay in timetable, expect that flood defence will leave at the end of July.
Millport Bowling Club, by email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club opens 6 April for bowls and putting in afternoon. Mornings to resume later in the year.
Island projects	
Ten Year Plan Cllr Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new group will be set up to mirror Arran. It will oversee development of 10 year plan.
Local Place Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Local Place Plan is a democratically-created document setting out how the community wants to influence planning policy on Cumbrae. It focuses on land use

	<p>and how this impacts the environment, landscape and biodiversity; the economy; transport; health and wellbeing and so on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Local Place Plan will help us agree our priorities as a community and influence planning policies adopted by North Ayrshire Council. • Community engagement through April <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community drop-in The Cumbrae Forum Hub Saturday 13 April 2-5pm ○ Stakeholder event Friday 19 April 3-5pm ○ Visit to Cumbrae Primary School, date pending. ○ Also 1-2-1 interviews with key island stakeholders • Survey link now open with posters and social links. • Support events for those who need help with digital to access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tuesday 9th April 7pm - 8pm ○ Thursday 11th April 2pm - 3.30pm ○ Saturday 13th April 11am - 12pm 
Carbon Neutral Islands, S Watson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently working towards our end of year progress update. • Increase in enquiries about funding for home energy. Reminder: North Ayrshire Council have appointed M-Four for the Area Based Scheme, and Green Home Systems for the ECO4 Flex scheme. Call 0808 808 2282 or speak to Scott or Dianne. • Local artist Harry Sutton has been working at Cumbrae Primary School on an art project of a carbon neutral Cumbrae. It will be on display in the Garrison House w/c 22 April with the island's first Climate Festival Wednesday 24 April 2-7pm. • A Climate Library in collaboration with Millport Library will soon launch with books for all ages about climate change and decarbonisation. • Thank you to Cumbrae Gardening Club inviting CNI to discuss net-zero gardening. • Land Use mapping and land carbon capacity calculator received. Cumbrae and Hoy are the first communities in Scotland. It will help feed into the local place plan. • Attended launch of the Pan-Ayrshire Climate Hub in Ayr. • Awaiting the planning decision for the installation of rooftop solar, battery and insulation measures for the Roman Catholic Chapel building on College Street.
Town Hall, by email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stairs up to the three holiday flats have been constructed and now just need their balustrades. Stairs are also in the process of being constructed from the back of the basement up to behind the stage on the ground floor. • Works on the rot around the stage are completed, works on roof 99% complete. • MTH look forward to some drier weather and hope that ferry issues do not continue to cost the charity money in lost time.
Flood Prevention, Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that there has been a lack of attendance since Oct and CCC has had to chase newsletters. Cllr Hill to raise with North Ayrshire Council.
Marina, Graham W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A joint meeting involving members of CCC, CCDC, Millport Pier & Harbour Users Group, FSC and Martin Latimer, the marina consultant held on 27 March. • NAC will require to go out to tender for an operator. Any bid will require involvement/buy-in by the community as a whole.
Issues arising	
Planning & licencing, Gregor H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Ayrshire Council has rejected an application for solar panels on a property in the conservation area. Cllr Hill to follow up with planners. • New house application on Golf Road. • ATM has 2 applications. . • Solar farm issue of policing the conditions, particularly about topography.
Island issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report from North Ayrshire Council.
Councillors' updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Hill noted a pending consultation on second home tax. Proposed 100% increase. • Council running a task force on housing issues. They have appointed an officer for 12-18 months. Possible connection with place plan consultation.
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadband – Keith expressed interest with Open Reach twice, now contacted Wifi Specialists. Needs to be pushed. • Benches – discussions ongoing.
Next meeting	Thursday 25 April 2024 6pm on Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83741044820