

CROC TALK

COVID-19 RESPONSE ON CUMBRAE



Millport Support Group

MILLPORT COASTAL FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME CONSULTATION

The Flood Protection Scheme (FPS) became operational in January 2021 and the detailed design process is now under way. This is a £20m plus scheme and will be the largest investment ever made or likely to be made on Cumbrae, so it's important that as many people as possible have their say!!

The onshore FPS works will stretch from Marine Parade to the Cosy Corner and will take around 2 years to complete. The Scheme will have a major impact on the town and it is therefore very important that you have a look at the proposals and provide your views on the design, materials etc. to North Ayrshire Council. The latest design proposals, full plans and details of the scheme can be viewed on the NAC Millport Coastal Flood Protection Scheme webpages at the address below:

<https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/community-safety/flooding/millport-coastal-fps.aspx>

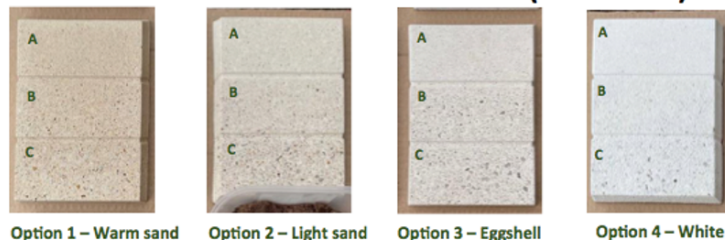
This link also gives access to the online questionnaire for your feedback & comments. Paper copies of the questionnaire and a collection box will also be available at Garrison House.

There have already been two online presentations and question-and-answer sessions by consultants and NAC. Due to the importance of this scheme and its impacts on the town, Cumbrae Community Council has requested that a further consultation be held, this time in the evening. The date has now been set as ?? May @ ?? pm



The consultants have taken samples of local sand to develop a range of colours and different texture options that could be used for the promenade tarmac and sea walls, and are keen that the community is involved in the final choice. Samples are available at Garrison House so that you can see how they will look and feed back your views on the different options.

Materials – concrete colour and texture (flood walls)

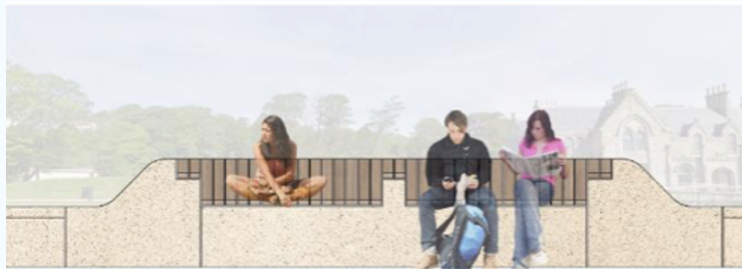


**OUR TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL HERE TO OFFER SUPPORT!
IF WE CAN GIVE HELP OR EVEN A LISTENING EAR,
CALL US ON 01475 789 179**

KEEPING CUMBRAE UPDATED AND SAFE

FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME (CTD)

There are other ideas for improving the appearance of the walls, such as incorporating a Timeline of the history of Millport or engravings of the local flora and fauna and a variety of seating will be built into the design. Again the design team are keen to hear everyone's views and ideas.



mid rise back rest – 800mm



high rise back rest - 1100mm

As the memorial benches along the prom will have to be removed, NAC will have a separate consultation on the future of the memorial plaques. They will be in touch with the people registered as contacts for these, to invite them to a targeted consultation regarding the relocation of the memorial plaques. NAC has compiled a list of names and messages for the 46 plaques for which they could not find registered family contacts – this list is available at the same web address given above. If you recognise your family member's memorial plaque on the list, please email NAC at:

MillportCoastalFPS@north-ayrshire.gov.uk to provide a contact name and address.

If you would like some help with accessing the Flood Protection Scheme proposals, the recorded presentations or the online or paper questionnaire then please contact the MSG Team on **01475 789179**. We'll be happy to provide any help you need to access the Scheme information or to feed back your views.

The Consultation closes on 24th May 2021.



THE CUMBRAE WAVE

AN UPDATE FROM THE WORKING GROUP

Yes it's true, Cumbrae's whispers on the wild wind are correct. The community has the opportunity to own another local Asset, and this one includes the OUTDOORS!

The National Watersports Centre was operated on the island by SportScotland for more than 40 years until a recent review concluded that the facility was 'no longer compatible with their programme of objectives'. The Centre didn't re-open for business in 2020 and the 'Save the Wave' campaign, set up after the closure announcement, attracted a lot of support. Cumbrae Community Council organised a working group to investigate the possibility and viability of a community asset transfer of the site, with support from North Ayrshire Council and SportScotland.

The group is led by NAC councillor Alan Hill and we're exploring a variety of options, including tourist accommodation, a café or restaurant, a gym, sauna and wellness suite and facilities for campervans, caravans and tents. There's been strong support from the community, with many ambitious suggestions for possible uses for the site and with most of the online survey responses (nearly 400 so far!) in favour of the Centre being run as a community asset. The Cumbrae WAVE (Watersports and Wellness, Accommodation and Activities, Venue & Conference Hire and Environment and Community Enterprise) is a popular name for the organisation that could be set up to run the venue and facilities for the benefit of the community.

We're in the early stages of public consultation but feedback has been very positive so far. If successful, Cumbrae will have community ownership of a variety of facilities for all ages and activities. In this regard, congratulations go to the Millport Town Hall group on its recent huge and ongoing successes, and all the very best for May 2022 when the doors open. And to reassure those with concerns, we shall assess the impact of activities on offer, to keep our town as the main centre for visitors.



We're keen to get as much input as possible, so please email us at TheCumbraeWAVE@outlook.com to send in any other suggestions or queries, or visit our Facebook page: The Cumbrae WAVE.

Our phone number if you're not online but would like to have your say is 07534 785 889 – just leave a message and we'll get back to you.

We've already had a fantastic response to the survey so far, so a huge thank you everyone who has contributed and especially to those who have volunteered to help. We will contact all the volunteers shortly.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON IMPROVING
CUMBRAE FERRY ACCESS

CUMBRAE FERRY ACCESS CONSULTATION



A consultation by North Ayrshire Council on proposals to improve access to the Largs-Cumbrae Ferry is now under way. Two options for changing the road layouts at both ferry slips to reduce the problems caused by vehicle queuing and congestion have been put forward for the communities to comment on, so that plans can be developed further. The council would welcome any other general comments on access to the ferry service, so this is an opportunity to feed back your comments and suggestions.

The consultation will end on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, and the proposals and response questionnaire can be accessed online at:

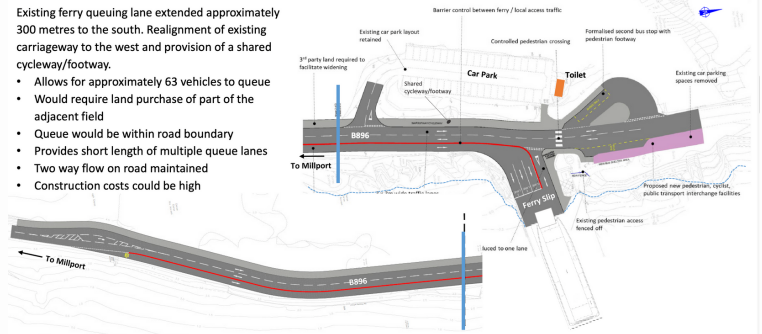
<http://northayrshire.community/consultationevents/consultations/>

For those unable to access the consultation online, a paper copy of the presentation and questionnaire can be requested by telephone on **01294 310000**, or by e-mail to transportation@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Comments on the consultation will also be accepted via the transportation@north-ayrshire.gov.uk email address.

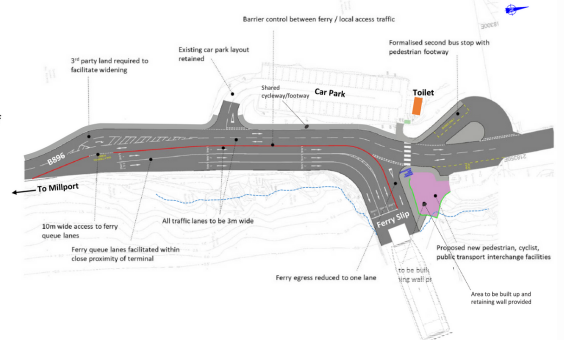
Cumbrae Option A

- Existing ferry queuing lane extended approximately 300 metres to the south. Realignment of existing carriageway to the west and provision of a shared cycleway/footway.
- Allows for approximately 63 vehicles to queue
 - Would require land purchase of part of the adjacent field
 - Queue would be within road boundary
 - Provides short length of multiple queue lanes
 - Two way flow on road maintained
 - Construction costs could be high



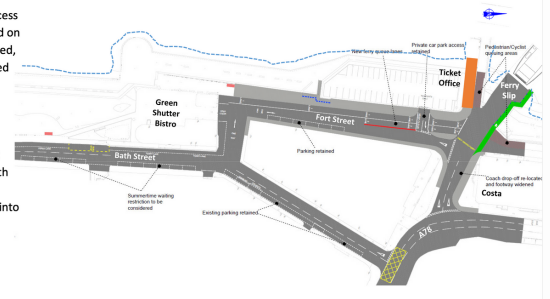
Cumbrae Option B

- Realignment of existing carriageway to cater for additional ferry traffic queuing lanes and shared cycleway/footway.
- Allows for approximately 56 vehicles to queue
 - Queuing lanes all within 100m of ferry terminal
 - Creates a vehicle queuing area that could be controlled by the ferry operator
 - Potentially no additional land purchase required
 - Construction costs could be high
 - Queue may extend onto public road during extreme events
 - Stakeholders preferred option



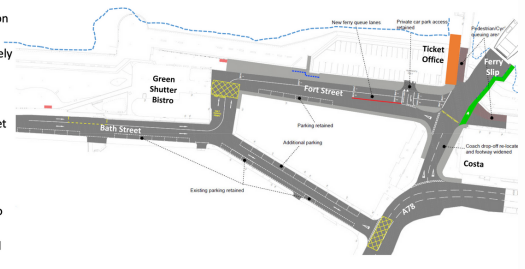
Largs Option A

- Two ferry queuing lanes with a local access through lane and some parking retained on Fort Street. Coach drop-off area relocated, if possible, and the potential for widened footway around ticket office entrance
- Queuing capacity extended by approximately 7 vehicles
 - Provides limited multiple lanes
 - Retains some parking on Fort Street
 - Ferry queue likely to extend into Bath Street
 - Right turn conflict from Bath Street into Fort Street not resolved
 - May require summertime parking restrictions on Bath Street to be considered
 - Stakeholders preferred option



Largs Option B

- As per Option A but with a one-way operation on Bath Street from Union Street to A78.
- Queue capacity extended by approximately 7 vehicles
 - Provides limited multiple lanes
 - Retains some parking on Fort Street
 - Provides additional parking on Bath Street
 - Ferry queue likely to extend into Bath Street
 - Addresses right turn conflict from Bath Street into Fort Street
 - Removes right turn from Main Street into Bath Street improving flow on A78
 - Increased travel distance for Southbound vehicles



MILLPORT SUPPORT GROUP

LOOKING BACK AND FORWARD

The Millport Support Group was formed at the start of the COVID epidemic, bringing together volunteers from the main island community groups to make sure that local support was well organised. Representatives from Churches Together, the Boys' Brigade, Cumbrae Community Council, Cumbrae Forum and local businesses co-ordinated a fantastic team of over 40 local volunteers who did everything from manning a helpline to delivering and exchanging books from the Forum shop to supplying needles and wool for knitting lockdown rainbow blankets. Volunteers helped with grocery deliveries during the first lockdown as local businesses stepped up to cater for the sudden massive increase in demand while we were all advised to 'stay at home'. They delivered 'helping hand' food parcels as Cumbrae Parish Church became a distribution centre for donations from Morrisons and the Cumbrae Food Bank and we asked North Ayrshire Council to give funding rather than supplies for support including school meals, so that it would be spent in island businesses.

Since MSG was formed we've done everything from organising pest control to applying for, distributing and setting up digital devices to allow our more vulnerable community members to stay in touch with family and local groups.



And we didn't just help out with human prescription deliveries—during lockdown our volunteers made sure Izzie the dog got her insulin from the vet in Largs! **We're so sorry to hear that Izzie is no longer with us, but happy we could help when she needed it.**

Every few months volunteers still go through many closes and up many many stairs to deliver the Croc Talk!


The Millport Support Group will carry on. The helpline will remain open, we'll continue to co-ordinate community resilience and we'll keep the Croc Talk going as a local newsletter.


We'd be delighted to receive suggestions for future content, or articles from individuals or groups, at: **cumbraecs@gmail.com**

COMPUTERS & TABLETS

Thanks to our relationship with Connecting Scotland, we have distributed several iPads and Chromebooks to households across the island.

The Millport Support Group have also distributed several Kindle Fire tablets over the last 12 months.






FOOD SUPPORT

Cumbrae Forum has spent **£14473** providing meals and food parcels across our community

HIE FUNDING

INFO ABOUT THIS HERE



REV JONATHAN FLEMING

It is with heavy hearts that we say farewell to Jonathan as he takes up his new Ministry position at Lyle Kirk in Greenock in May.

As an active member of the MSG Core Group from its inception, Jonathan has used his many talents and skills to help facilitate Millport Support Group, enabling the team to provide for the needs of our community during lockdown.

The Core Group extends our personal thanks to Jonathan for the huge commitment and time he has shared with us on our many hours of Zoom meetings and in practical help.

On behalf of the wider Volunteer group and our Community, we extend our gratitude and appreciation.

We wish Jonathan and his family the very best for the future and assure him, always, of a very warm welcome in Millport.