

Tiree Community Council

Date

12th April 2017

Time

7.30pm

Venue

An Talla

Present

Councillors Present: John MacCaskill, John Holliday, Ian Gillies, Jessie Gray, Rhoda Meek, Aisling Milne

Trust Staff Present: Louise Reid, Stephanie Cope

Public-1

Police Scotland-1

1. Welcome and apologies.

- The Chair welcomed all present, apologies were received from RMO and DC.

2. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

- Argyll and Bute Council have published a survey regarding the Governance and Law support that Community Councils receive from the Council. The general view was satisfactory. The closing date for the survey is 17th April and this can be filled out online. It was agreed to draft a response and circulate for approval before submitting. IG to action-c/fwd
- It was noted that there is now a planning application submitted with regards to the upgrade of the Vodafone mast. This upgrade should see the island getting much better coverage. There is also a planned addition of an EE mast to aid the emergency services. It is thought that this will also be available for commercial use.
- It was noted RM has passed the Screen Machine details onto Screen Tiree.
- TCDT is continuing consultation regarding the Chapel of Rest project, with the hope that there will be an update at the end of the Month.
- It was also noted that the Head Teacher of Tiree High School is able to attend the upcoming May meeting.
- At the previous meeting it was suggested to carry out a search of Titles for the land around the Pier View area. It was found that this task was too expensive and not within the budget of the Community Council.
- IG has written to Fergus Ewing regarding his upcoming visit in May. There has been no response as yet.
- Pending one change, the minutes were proposed by IG and seconded by JMC.

3. Correspondence

- Alan Millar-Pier View

- A letter of thanks was received by the Council in regards to assistance in getting the fenced areas of Pier View tidied.

- Fergus Ewing

- A letter has been sent to Fergus Ewing regarding his upcoming visit to Tiree, it was noted that no response has been received yet.

- Police Scotland Report

- It was noted that there were five incidents reported this month, with no trend noted.

- It was also noted that all dogs should be kept on short leads to avoid the worrying of sheep and cattle.

- Member of Community - Loganair

■ A letter was received regarding the upcoming change to Loganair policy. It is thought that as of the 1st September 2017 it will no longer be within the guidelines to allow an unaccompanied minor on the flights. The cause of this is thought to be due to the costs of PVGs not falling within the budget of the airline.

■ It was agreed to write to Loganair for the official position on this matter and ask if there is any space to negotiate, as well as this it was agreed to invite a representative from Loganair to come to the island and discuss this matter with the community. IG/JMC to action.

• Member of the Community - CalMac disabled accessible

■ A letter was received regarding some issues with disabled access on the ferry. It was outlined that there are very few facilities for those who need to lie down for the duration of the sailing. There is a small lorry drivers' cabin, however a disabled person does not have first priority. It was also noted that the staff do sometimes allow access to the crew cabins when the drivers area is occupied. The sailing times are also an issue because in the winter it would be ideal to have the late Tuesday sailing. The toilet facilities on the ferry are also difficult to access with a wheelchair occupying room in disabled toilets which makes it difficult for people to manouevre in and out of the area. In addition to this the toilet doors are extremely heavy making it almost impossible for a disabled person to open them. The staff are extremely helpful and polite and always do go out of their way to help when on the journey.

■ It was noted by the Council that the late Tuesday sailing is not possible in the winter due to the inability to dock at Coll in the dark.

■ It was agreed to chat to the operations manager of CalMac to discuss the other issues mentioned. IG/JMC to action.

■ It was noted that the heavy doors are due to maritime safety regulations, however automatic doors could be an option and are in operation on some vessels.

■ It was noted that during the Tender bid, CalMac specifically mentioned disabled access.

• Transport Scotland - CalMac

■ A letter was written on the 15th November 2016 outlining a proposed winter timetable which included Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday sailings.

■ A response was received in March stating that this is not currently possible, due to the significant effect the implementation of the proposed timetable would have on other routes.

■ It was noted that there may be potential in the future to facilitate this timetable if additional vessels are added to the fleet. However it is expected that this will be a long process.

■ The next stage is to take this feedback to the Argyll Ferry Users Group and the Tiree Transport Forum to agree the next steps. C/IG to action.

• Meeting with Roddy McCuish

■ Tiree Community Council recently met with Roddy McCuish, the points discussed are as follows:

■ It was noted that overall the new rubbish collection timetable is working well, with only minor issues reported in Oban. There has been an additional £200,000 dedicated to the rubbish collection budget. It was agreed to write to the director of environmental services to enquire if some of the additional budget could be allocated to Tiree for a 2-weekly collection during summer months. IG to action and copy Roddy McCuish in.

■ It was noted that there is a potential housing development planned to take place in the Pier View area of Scarinish. It was agreed to place a note of interest on this matter and to inform both TCDT and TCB of this planned project as both groups showed significant interest in the land previously. It was further agreed to write to HIE for comment on this. IG

■ There was also discussion on the potential transfer of West Highland Housing Association (WHHA) to TCDT. It was noted that this could be a difficult transfer as there may not be the

appropriate expertise on the island to carry out such a task. A member of the public suggested that the administration of the properties could be done on island, with the maintenance remaining the responsibility of WHHA.

- also discussed was the potential of transferring the public toilets in Scarinish to the Community. It was noted that there is some funding available for the transfer and for refurbishment. The chemical waste disposal site is also needing cleaned. It was agreed to write to William Angus (TCDT). IG to action.

- A letter was also received from Roddy McCuish to thank the Community Council for their time and to grant good wishes for the future.

- Meeting with Mike Russell

- Tiree Community Council also met with Mike Russell the main points discussed are as follows:

- Mike Russell agreed to try and push for a reply to the letter sent to Fergus Ewing regarding his upcoming visit.

- Mike Russell suggested that anyone with BT issues gets immediately in touch as the issues are occurring. If the customer waits until after the issue is resolved to complain there is less that can be done. It was agreed to pass this information onto RO, CC to action.

- Crown Estate

- It was noted that the Community Council did not submit a response to the Crown Estate consultation as discussed in previous meetings.

- After a meeting with representatives from Coll Community Council it is thought that a joint response would be more beneficial to both islands.

- It was suggested that Tiree and Coll do take ownership of their own seabed meaning that any revenue from projects would belong to the islands. This would mean the islands would have their own pot of money and would not always be chasing funding from outside sources.

4. Pier View Update

- Discussed previously.

- It was agreed to write to Roddy McCuish and Argyll and Bute Council to confirm that some of the area had been cleared but there was still an electrical box on site. IG

5. Tiree Ranger Service

- Stephanie Cope the newly appointed Tiree Ranger (TCDT) gave a brief introduction to the Ranger project and an update of progress thus far. The main points were as follows:

- The bookings for camper vans this year so far are around 50, this could potentially mean this season will be busier than the last.

- The car park in Crossapol has now being closed with a temporary one now opened slightly further along the Reef, alternative parking for Crossapol is being investigated.

- It was noted that the Balevullin carpark is also under repair, the community around Balevullin are also helping.

- It was noted that the camping at Salum cannot be classed as illegal as the campers have received permission from the land owner.

- The flooding and general repairs of cattle grids are not the responsibility of the access group; this is a council issue. Tiree Community Council agreed to write to Jim Smith of Argyll and Bute Council. JMC to action.

- It was noted that there have been several reports regarding trail bikes on croft land and there have been posters placed to deter this but the issue is the responsibility of the land owner. There is also potential to join with the youth worker and tackle the issue in school, youth club etc.

■ There has been no progress made on Kilkenneth Chapel, it was agreed to try and progress this. SC and JH to action.

■ There are repairs needing done in Balephuill, it was noted that the graziers are currently changing so the work cannot be completed until the transfer has taken place.

■ Planning for the welcome evenings is underway. It is hoped to run these weekly during the summer with the potential to include a raffle of local produce and crafts.

■ The ranger will still 'police' certain aspects such as croft sites and parking etc. while continuing to hold events.

■ It was noted that there has been a mix up with CalMac bookings. The Balinoe campsite has been included in the list of Ranger led campsites. SC is currently working on figuring this out. The Community Council suggested that SC write to the Tiree Transport forum. It was also agreed to invite SC to the next Tiree Transport Forum Meeting. JMC/IG to action

■ Thanks were given to Stephanie Cope for attending.

6. Cash line Machine

• A letter has been received in response to the request for a cash line.

• It was noted that Tiree would not receive a cash machine at this time due to there not being a need for it on the island.

• The decision was based on the knowledge that there are other places on the island where people can receive cashback such as the co-op. There is also the issue of not having enough space in the local branch to facilitate the machine.

• It was agreed to write a letter of thanks for the response but to pursue the matter. IG to action

• It was also agreed to gauge opinion on the website. RM to set up survey.

7. Tiree Flag Update

• It is the hope to hold the competition at the Agricultural Show this year.

• A funding application has been submitted to TCDT and is awaiting feedback.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.40PM, the date of the next meeting will be 3rd May.

Agreed Actions

* Draft, circulate and submit response to governance and Law Support Survey IG. Due - 17th April

* Discuss CalMac Timetable Feedback and identify next steps with Argyll Ferry Users Group and Tiree Transport Forum. IG/JMA due - 3rd May

- *Write to Argyll and Bute Council regarding the possibility of having additional rubbish uplifts in the summer and Copy Roddy McCuish in. RM due - 3rd May
- * Write to Tiree Community Development Trust regarding the possibility of the toilets in Scarinish becoming community owned IG due - 3rd May
- * Pass information onto RO regarding who/when to contact if having BT issues ALL due - ASAP
- * Write to Loganair for an official position on the upcoming change of policy, regarding unaccompanied minors on flights, and invite representatives from Loganair to discuss this with the community. IG/JMA due - 3rd May
- * Write to CalMac regarding improvements for disabled access IG/JMA due - 3rd May
- * Write to Jim Smith regarding cattle grid repairs JMA due - 3rd May
- * Progress repairs at Kilkenneth Chapel SC/JH due - 3rd May
- * Invite SC to Next Tiree Transport Forum Meeting JMA/IG. Due - 3rd May
- * Set up online Survey to gauge opinion on a cash machine for Tiree RM due - 3rd May