

Tiree Community Council

Date - 4th October 2017. Time - 7.30pm. Venue - An Talla

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

Trust Staff Present: Louise Reid

Public - 6

1. Welcome and apologies.

- The Chair welcomed all present, apologies were received from Rosemary Omand and John MacCaskill

2. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

• CMAL works at Pier

- A member of the public enquired if CMAL had submitted a planning proposal for the improvements at the Pier. The council agreed to investigate this. IG to action.

• Update on Air Transport

- It was noted that the decision to remove the security at the Tiree Airport by the Westminster Government is now having a wider impact on travel to and from the island.

- SAAB aircrafts are no longer regular on the Tiree route with Twin Otters being the main craft used.

- A meeting took place with the Chief of Operations at Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd (HIAL) to discuss the security issues and the craft arrangements for the route. It is thought that there is a proportional risk to the size of the aircraft, meaning due to the lack of security at Tiree airport it is of less risk to assign a smaller craft to the route.

- Representatives from Transport Scotland have agreed to ascertain a written statement from HIAL for Tiree Community Council on the matter.

- It was noted that this was brought up at the recent meeting with Humza Yousaf, it was agreed to ask for an update and make reference to the minutes produced.

- It was noted that there is a Tiree Transport Forum meeting scheduled to take place in November. It hoped that Gary Cox of Transport Scotland will attend.

- Pending the following amendment, the minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by JG and seconded by AM.

'Ministerial Islands working group meets monthly, although Argyll and Bute Council have been invited, no one has attended.'

3. Correspondence

• Beach Hut

- A letter was received from a member of the public regarding the recent decision made regarding planning for the Beach Hut in Balevullin. The letter expressed disappointment in the way in which the decision was made. The correspondent requested that Tiree Community Council write to Argyll and Bute Council to request that the Council take an appeal to a Court of Session. The final date for this to be carried forward is the 17th October.

- After a lengthy consideration and discussion, it was agreed that TCC would not submit a letter of support for this process, as Argyll and Bute Council are not proceeding to an appeal following legal advice.

- After a comment from a member of public, it was noted that all correspondents who wish to remain anonymous have the right to do so.

- A number of comments and questions were then received from the public.

C. If the community read the report of the Reporter, several questions asked in the previously discussed correspondence are answered. The report gives a very in depth answer as to why the decision to award planning permission was ultimately made.

C. If TCC were to write in support of an appeal, the group could be seen as taking a side.

• HIAL Consultation- Sustainable connectivity to Airports and Communities

■ HIAL are conducting consultation regarding the provision of sustainable connectivity to airports and communities by 2020. The proposals are as follows:

- Introduction of controlled airspace monitors
- Installation of surveillance equipment
- The use of a single surveillance centre

■ This proposal is still to be finalised.

■ It was noted that the above proposals could see the removal of the control tower service on Tiree. The control tower would be located on the mainland, with all procedures done remotely.

■ A number of questions and comments were received from the public and are as follows:

C. Connectivity is a key issue for these proposals as all will require a high-speed connection.

C. At the moment the tower provides aircraft with live on the ground updates, if this system comes into place, this will no longer be an option.

C. At present other airports have already implemented this system, there is potential Tiree could see a higher number of cancelled flights due to connectivity issues, etc.

• Public Toilets

■ TCC wrote to Cllr. Roddy McCuish regarding the condition of the public toilets on Tiree and if there were any plans to improve this.

■ It was noted that it is not a statutory responsibility of the council to provide public toilets. The option of community ownership has been briefly discussed, however it is unsure as to which community group would take on the responsibility.

■ TCC agreed to continue to investigate this.

■ A number of questions and comments were received from the public and as follows:

C. The general condition of the toilets seems to be improving. However this could be down to it being peak season on the island.

C. Care needs to be taken if the toilets do come into community ownership. The council may only provide budget for cleaning materials and not for general maintenance.

C. There is an opportunity within the community ownership option to install showers etc. However, this would require some kind of employee to manage- adding to costs.

• Support From Police Scotland

■ A letter was received from members of the medical team on Tiree regarding lack of support from Police Scotland when there is no Police Officer on the Island.

■ It was noted that in some cases where an incident occurs and there is no officer on the island, it had been suggested that a Doctor may be asked to attend alongside a member of the volunteer Coastguard or Fire Service.

■ It was agreed to contact Police Scotland to request the procedure in place for such a scenario.

4. Attendance

• It was noted that Tiree Community Council are struggling for numbers and on average is attended by the minimum legally required number of councillors each month.

• It was suggested that it may be an option to meet less frequently as community councils are only required to hold a meeting every two months. This may ease councillor responsibility and attract new members.

5. Membership

- It was noted that Rhoda Meek has now resigned from Tiree Community Council.
- There are currently two co-opted spaces available. It was agreed to investigate when co-option can take place. JH to action.
- The next full election is May 2018.
- There is currently no representation from Tiree High School on the board.
- Robert Trythall offered to assist the Community Council with social media and website updates. Tiree Community Council thanked RT for this offer and agreed to discuss.

6. Report of informal Meeting with Coll Community Council (CCC)

- Representatives from Tiree Community Council met with members of Coll Community Council on a recent day trip to Coll. Topics of discussion included:

- Ferry Winter Timetable - Currently CCC are happy with the winter timetable as it stands. If the timetable were to be amended to include the wishes of the Tiree community, Coll Community Council suggested that this could see Coll having no sailings for 2/3 consecutive days. Coll Community Council do support the return of the Thursday Barra sailing during the summer.

- Rubbish Collection- Coll residents only have one bin, which does get filled quickly meaning there is excess rubbish. It was suggested that this excess rubbish is not collected when placed beside the bins. There are however community bins.

- Representation- The Coll community are happy with representation from both Roddy McCuish and Mary Jean Devon.

- It was agreed to pass all minutes onto CCC and meet more frequently.
- It was noted that although agreement from Coll regarding the proposed timetable changes are not required. The change would affect other communities and would have to be taken into consideration. It was also noted that Coll have been copied into all correspondence regarding this proposal.

7. Rubbish Collection

- It was noted that the bins at the dump road end have not yet been reinstated. These were removed as were not being used responsibly.
- It was also noted that not all holiday homes are paying for a commercial uplift meaning that there is a number of overflowing bins during the summer months.
- It was agreed to continue to pursue the reinstatement of the bins at the dump road end.

8. Library

- As yet there is nothing new to report on the library opening.
- There have been various issues which have delayed this process including a change of premises, change of system and change of management.
- It was noted that Argyll and Bute Library Management department of the council is no longer in charge of the Tiree Library, and it is now being managed by Live Argyll. It was agreed to contact this group and request an updated opening schedule. IG to action.
- It was noted that the library in Mull is now open.

9. Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) Land at Pier View

- No further correspondence has been received on the issue.
- It was noted that bidders have 12 months to prepare a development plan for HIE. Only after this is approved will the sale be finalised.
- It was agreed to ask someone from Community Land Scotland to come out and chat to the community about acquiring land. IG/JH to action
- It was also agreed to write to the chair of HIE. IG/JH to action

10. Arrangements for Remembrance Day

- It was noted that the railings at the memorial are in need of repair and are becoming dangerous.
- RMO is progressing this.

11. AOCB

- AOCB has now been reinstated. It was noted that this item is minuted.
- A member of the public commented on the lack of notice given during the recent visit from Brendon O'Hara. It was agreed to write to him regarding this issue.

There being no other business the meeting was closed;
the date of the next meeting 1ST November 2017

ACTION POINTS

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| 1. Investigate if planning has been applied for for Pier improvements | IG |
| 2. Ask for update from Humza Yousef on issues raised with him. | IG |
| 3. Continue to investigate community ownership of toilets. | IG |
| 4. Request procedures for the absence of Police on Tiree. | IG |
| 5. Pursue the reinstatement of bins at landfill site | IG |
| 6. Request update on Library opening date | IG |
| 7. Write to Brendon O Hara re the short notice given for his surgery. | IG |
| 8. Invite Community Land Scotland to speak to us about land acquisition. | IG/JH |
| 9. Write to chair of HIE are land at Pier View. | IG/JH |
| 10. Investigate procedures and timescales for Coopting new members. | JH |