

Tiree Community Council

Date	6 th February 2019
Time	7.30pm
Venue	An Talla
Present	Councillors Present: Robert Trythall, John Holliday, Alison Clark and Ian Gillies Police Scotland: Stephen Tanner Trust Staff Present: Louise Reid Public – 8

1. Welcome and apologies

- The chair welcomed all present, apologies were received from William Angus MacLean, Roddy McCuish and Jim Lynch.

2. Conflict of Interest

- **None**

3. Correspondence

- A member of the public has been in touch with issues relating to housing at Pier View and TCC is corresponding with West Highland Housing association . Following the morning meeting with our county councillors there may be a more efficient way of dealing with these issues. **RT to action**
- It has been requested that all minutes be passed to Sgt Chis Edwards, Police Scotland. **RT to action.**
- A report has been received from Police Scotland. It was noted that there have been eight incidents reported since the last meeting, with no trend identified. There has been one incident of an unaccompanied dog attacking some hens. A reminder was made regarding the importance of keeping pets under control.
- A letter has been received from a Tiree Resident regarding the increasing number of tourists on the island and how this could have a potentially negative effect on the island. It was agreed to respond with a letter of acknowledgement.
- It was noted that Moira Kerr has won Journalist of the Year for the Highlands and Islands, it was agreed to write a letter of congratulations. **JH to action.**

4. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

- The minutes of the previous meeting were circulated and discussed.
- It was noted that at the previous meeting apologies were received from John Holliday, Alison Clark, Roddy McCuish and Jim Lynch.
- HIE Land at Pier View is still available, other on island bodies are progressing this with HIE in house.
- **RT** has been investigating defibrillators on the island. At present there are thought to be three available for public use. A member of the public noted that these must be registered with the British Heart Foundation and the Scottish Ambulance Service as well as being locked in cases accessible by electronic key code to be certified as being 'publicly available' It was agreed to pass this information to Argyll and Bute Council. **RT to action.**
- **RT** and **JH** attended one public meeting at Tiree High School with the new Head Teacher in attendance.
- A member of the public asked if there has been any update received on the upgrade of the BT infrastructure, in some areas the connection is still very poor.

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The Community Council agreed to write to Openreach and request repair and replacement plans for the current failing infrastructure. **RT to action.**

- There being no other matters arising the minutes of the previous meeting were approved, proposed by RT and seconded by IG.

5. Meeting with Argyll and Bute Councillor Roddy McCuish

- Tiree Community Council met via video conference with Roddy McCuish. The main points are as follows:
 - A budget meeting will take place on the 28th February to discuss proposed budget cuts.
 - It was noted that local councils have now been given the option to introduce a Tourism Tax to their areas. It was noted that this is not in any plans for 2019, but may be investigated further in 2020.
 - Both Roddy McCuish and Jim Lynch will be on island on 25th February and will be holding open surgeries.
 - The Oban-Tiree/Coll service is in danger of being reduced or ceasing. The budget for the service has been cut, and during the recent tender process no bidders came forward, meaning that no airline is willing to run the service at such a reduced cost. It was noted that the contract will be re-tendered with amended budget. Tiree Community Council expressed the importance of this service to our Island Communities. It was noted that the loss of this service would have a great impact on Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership. If a patient is treated in Glasgow or out with the Argyll and Bute Area the Health and Social Care Partnership then pay a fee, however if treated in Oban then no additional fee is incurred. The loss of the Oban-Tiree/Coll flight could potentially have a financial impact on the Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership. It was also noted that the flight also brings over Council officials, health professionals, school pupils etc.
 - There is a proposal to close the Council Service Point on Tiree. This type of cut is proposed throughout other island communities as well. Tiree Community Council encouraged members of the public to write letters in support of the service.
 - The Islands Bill was also discussed. Tiree Community Council presented a document as to what they believe Argyll and Bute Council should be providing in terms of the Islands Bill and the way in which communities are engaged with. Tiree Community Council were encouraged to request that an employee of Argyll and Bute Council be elected to progress the Islands Bill.

6. Scarinish Public Toilets

- An expression of interest form for community ownership has been submitted, as yet no response has been received.
- It was noted that there may be other community groups willing to take ownership of the public toilets, however clarification on projected financial input from Argyll and Bute Council and land included in the transfer must first be ascertained.

7. Telephone Boxes

- JH gave a brief background on the Telephone Box Project.
- It was suggested that all the phone boxes be removed and placed in a shed, whereby they could be worked on and a few could be created out of the usable

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parts. The councillors agreed with this and noted that they are becoming a potential danger due to corrosion.

- A member of the public suggested that the Phone Box restoration could be used as a training opportunity for people on or off island, and noted that there could be funding available for such a cause. Misses Nesbit Trust, Argyll and Bute Supporting Communities Fund, CalMac training fund etc.
- It was agreed to discuss these options with the original working group. ***JH to action.***

8. Marine Litter

- A number of correspondence have been received regarding Marine Litter on our beaches.
- Stephanie Cope has confirmed that the Big Tiree Tidy will take place in the Spring of this year. It is also the hope that a working group will be created to try and ensure the long term sustainability of the project. It was noted that SC is also working on securing funding for the project.
- It was also noted that the International Maritime Organisation is working on emission control, and marine litter, to try and ease the environmental impact on the oceans. It was noted that there are a few ideas which could potentially be implemented on Tiree such as:
 - **Ship Identification numbers become mandatory**
 - **All fishing gear must be branded with the ship identification number**
- It was also noted that there is a scheme running 'fishing for litter' whereby bags are supplied to fishing vessels meaning that all marine litter that comes onto a fishing vessel can be disposed of effectively at the nearest suitable port.

9. Tiree Community Council Planning Policy

- Tiree Community Council currently have a policy for planning in place. It was previously agreed that Tiree Community Council would not get involved in planning applications unless there is a clear mandate from the community or are required by statutory obligation.
- The council requested that the public comment on the current method and its perceived effectiveness. A discussion took place and all present agreed that the current method is effective and that Tiree Community Council should only become involved when the issue becomes one of Community Concern.
- **It was agreed that the current Planning Policy still stands pending some minor amendments.**

10. Transport Issues

- There is currently a proposal to introduce Peak Time Fare Prices. The CalMac Communities Board have released a Press Statement against this proposal.
- It was suggested that during peak times when a smaller vessel is being used this may be of benefit to island residents, however during normal timetable locals may be opposed to the idea.
- It was suggested that there may be no implications for the Tiree Route and until this is confirmed no action should be taken.
- **RT proposed that the press release by the CalMac Communities Board should be fully endorsed by Tiree Community Council. A vote took place. Three members of the council were in favour and one opposed. The motion was passed.**

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- The issue of disabled access on flights has been resolved and wheelchair passengers are now able to fly due to new equipment being introduced. Thanks were given to the community council and **JH** for all the work on this matter.
- CMAL have given an update relating to the linkspan works. The work needed for the old Pier is no longer believed to be urgently required prior to linkspan works, but CMAL, subject to budgetary approval, still intend to carry it out. It was noted that an update from CalMac is still pending.

11. Tiree Transport Forum (TTF)

- **IG** and **RT** will meet with **JMA**, to discuss minor possible constitutional amendment(s). TTF has a constitution with TCC representation.
- Tiree Transport Forum have provided a proposed summer timetable which includes the use of banked flights, this will now go to Loganair for final approval. It was agreed to put this on the website. **RT to action.**

12. Telecommunications

- It was noted that EE is not providing service to all customers, and only those with a high tariff contract and recent handset can access the network. It was agreed to write to Alex Jackman regarding this and request clarification as to what service Tiree is currently being provided with. **RT to action.**

13. AGM

- 6th March

14. AOCB

- *None*

15. DONM

- 6th March

There being no other business the meeting was closed 9.30pm.