

**MINUTES**

**Date:** Thursday 31 March 2022, 6PM, via Zoom

**Topic:** Monthly regular meeting

**Present:** Alex Harvie (Chair), John McHenry (Vice Chair), Lisa Christie (Secretary), Duncan Fraser, Gregor Harvie (Special Advisor), Graham Wallace (Special Advisor).

**Attendees:** Cllr Ian Murdoch (NAC), Cllr Alan Hill (NAC), Carol Campbell (The Wave), Lorraine Fraser (Forum), Julie McAleese (Cumbrae Primary), Adam Lyon (Press) +1 member of the public.

**Apologies:** Angie McCallum (TH), Debbie Beattie (Police Scotland), Louise Riddex (Locality Officer NAC), Sarah Baird (Senior Officer, North Ayrshire Council), Scott Ferris (IOCTA), Jan Wilkie (CCDC).

<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	The previous meeting's minutes were approved. The meeting was declared quorate.
<b>2</b>	<b>Updates – organisations</b>	
	Police Debbie Beattie	During the period 28 February 2022 – 31 March 2022 there were 9 incidents raised in total. These were mainly complaints/assist member of public calls, one of which resulted in a crime report being raised.  During the same period last year there were 9 incidents, with 7 consisting of complaint/assist member of public calls one of which resulted in 1 crime report being raised. There was also a crime report raised for Theft (garden item).
	Isle of Cumbrae Tourism Association (IOCTA) Scott Ferris	- No update
	Cumbrae Community Development Company (CCDC) Jan Wilkie	- No update
	Field Studies Council (FSC) Duncan Fraser	- March was busy despite 5 staff having covid. - c260 residential visitors in March, from Universities in Newcastle, Cork Glasgow, Glasgow Caledonian plus 5th & 6th year pupils from St Maurice's & St Leonards schools. - Weekend spring migrants bird workshop held on the Island & at RSPB Lochwinnoch, spotting over 53 species. - We are nearly up to full staffing levels, but still a couple of vacancies available, contact FSC Millport.
	Cumbrae Community Resilience Team Crawford Gillan	- We are currently working on producing a definitive list of accommodation providers that would be willing to be contacted in the event of visitors being stranded on the island and also working alongside the Forum and Age Concern groups in collating a register of vulnerable residents on the island in case of flood, foul weather or power outage.
	Cumbrae Forum Lorraine Fraser	- The community laptop, monitor and printer will be in the hub, thanks to the support of CCC, MSG and HIE. - A young designer is working on the rebrand. - The group received £333 from the Jubilee fund (they proposed a lunch for members) but has decided to pass it over to the other 2 groups on the island so it can be used for the wider community. - The charity shop donated its month's takings to Ukraine, and the minibus was sold to the appeal – a full total of £2k.

**MINUTES**

<p>Ferry Users Group (FUG) Duncan Fraser</p>	<p>Meeting held on 9 March. CMAL Slipway development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CMAL to develop a replacement slipway with a 60yr life span, so it needs to improve weather resilience on current slip.</li> <li>- CMAL to consult Calmac to ensure that the limiting weather features for the route are considered.</li> <li>- Cost of redevelopment circa £4.5m. Timescale for temporary slipway Aug 2023 (subject to approvals etc).</li> <li>- It was also suggested given the flood defence project would require a temp slipway that perhaps CMAL could liaise with the relevant teams.</li> </ul> <p>Breakdowns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 technical faults since the Shira came out of overhaul in January.</li> <li>- Loch Shira expected back in service by Saturday 12 March.</li> </ul> <p>Breakdown contingency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4 March was a real challenge, leaving many people stranded.</li> <li>- Calmac to consider the Colintrave Ferry as a contingency vessel.</li> <li>- Calmac also to consider options for a fall-back passenger only contingency.</li> </ul> <p>Cancellations due to weather</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Calmac to review recent performance around the effectiveness of using weather windows to remobilise sailings.</li> </ul> <p>New ticketing system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Calmac to advise prospective Ar Turas go live date.</li> <li>- Calmac to review the 1 month validity for the 5 return journey books of tickets and extend for 3 months or until the end of the summer timetable or the Ar Turas go live date.</li> <li>- Calmac to advise on the communication plan for Ar Turas go live, to avoid islanders not having a ticket to leave the island.</li> </ul> <p>2nd Vessel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Calmac to investigate the availability of the spare Clyde vessel in the summer time, also Loch Linnhe as a 3rd vessel for peaks</li> </ul> <p>Toilet facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- With the extra staff and customers on the Cumbrae slip when Arturas is implemented, Calmac will be even more reliant on the community toilets. Request for contribution.</li> </ul> <p>Next meeting: 5 April 1730 at the Field Studies Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CCC noted that if the works to the slip and the flood defence coincide it will be detrimental to travel.</li> <li>- (Cllr Murdoch) Elected Members have held a subsequent meeting with CalMac discussing organising an independent foot passenger vessel, lack of shelter and the temporary slip.</li> <li>- Meeting pending with the Transport Minister on 1 June.</li> </ul>
<p>Cumbrae Primary Julie McAleese</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The chickens arrive after Easter, the coop is complete.</li> <li>- Thanks to Cumbrae Forum, P5-7 have had swimming lessons, and Easter eggs were given to all pupils.</li> <li>- Author Lindsay Littleson has worked with children, and with a grant of £500 their writing will be published. The launch will be in May with a display in the Garrison.</li> <li>- The school is waiting to hear about the outdoor classroom. They got a grant of £20k with a donation of £7k from Cumbrae Forum.</li> <li>- The Veterans Society donated £100.</li> </ul>

**MINUTES**

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The school has had a significant amount of covid (40% of children) but hopes the holidays will speed recovery.</li> </ul>
	Real estate on the island Alan Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transactions have been very busy and there is a lack of stock on the island. Demand is met in days/hours. As transactions are funded by savings rather than borrowing, industry is questioning the sustainability of the current demand.</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<b>Updates – key projects</b>	
	Flood defence Gregor Harvie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This is now out to tender.</li> <li>- NAC has asked the group to compile any questions to put to the contractor, so please send them to CCC.</li> <li>- The project to identify those who have put benches and memorial plaques on the island has reached 80 out of 140 families. Those who have not been contacted should get in touch with North Ayrshire Council.</li> </ul>
	Town Hall Angie McCallum (John McHenry)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The last month has proved challenging with time lost because of ferry issues and bad weather. Water course ingress caused extra engineering solutions in the basement which have been hampered by the fact the building is built on rock requiring lengthy excavations. This will impact on the opening date, awaiting an updated programme of works from the Contractor.</li> <li>- The installation of energy efficient measures continues and the site is extremely busy with electricians and joiners now on site.</li> <li>- There has been a magnificent response from the local businesses for prizes for the raffle at our Millport Town Hall Easter Event in the Garrison Grounds/DA Hall Saturday 9 April 11 - 3.</li> </ul>
	Marina Graham Wallace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work is underway in the background to put together the required information to satisfy the complex and detailed requirements associated with obtaining finance via the AGD ((Ayrshire Growth Deal).</li> <li>- There is also work on the operational model for a community operated marina.</li> <li>- The web page will be put up after the report is completed.</li> </ul>
	The Wave Carol Campbell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Liaison with Sport Scotland is continuing.</li> <li>- Jane is working on the website and a community consultation meeting which will be held in the near future.</li> </ul>
	Ten Year Plan Sarah Baird	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No update</li> </ul>
	Oyster project Duncan Fraser	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A visit will take place on 9 April to discuss the project.</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	<b>Issues arising</b>	
	Website <a href="http://www.cumbrae.org">www.cumbrae.org</a> Gregor Harvie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Please send any dates to fill the calendar.</li> <li>- Request for press coverage to raise awareness of the site.</li> </ul>
	Planning John McHenry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Application for a home office in Kames Bay.</li> <li>- Hunterston application is for a 185m tower and significant sheds, 24-hour operation. The employment benefits aren't clear. Concerns have been raised about noise levels, time of noise, visual impact the tower is ¼ the size of Goat Fell on Arran and will be visible from town.</li> <li>- Next meeting of liaison group: 26 April.</li> <li>- Actions: John to contact North Coast Community Councils to discuss their views, request a local presentation on Cumbrae.</li> </ul>

**MINUTES**

	Fly tipping bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A bill is going through Scottish parliament requesting input. Given the impact it has on Cumbrae, agreement to highlight this to residents. Action: Lisa to circulate and share link.</li> <li>- Discussion about litter. Action: John to write to NAC and ask when litter wardens will come to Cumbrae.</li> </ul>
	Japanese Knotweed Gregor Harvie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NAC has trimmed the verges again, they avoided most of the knotweed but possibly trimmed some. The powerpoint to train their staff only shows summer appearance of the plant.</li> <li>- NAC has written to affected landowners to offer a reduced price for treatment. No responses received as yet.</li> </ul>
5	<b>Councillors' updates</b> Councillor Alan Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparation is underway for the elections.</li> <li>- A CalMac meeting was held with 4 Councillors – mentioned above. Discussions about traffic management.</li> </ul>
	Councillor Ian Murdoch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Road surfacing underway. Pot holes to be addressed.</li> </ul>
6	<b>Community issues</b>	
	Painting of railings John McHenery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The painting of the railings was undertaken by volunteers and the organiser, Kirstin Watson, thanked the Tourist Association, Scott Ferris of Mapes and the Cumbrae Butcher, and all the volunteers, for their support.</li> </ul>
	Roadworks Lisa Christie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hastie Avenue resurfacing is underway.</li> <li>- South of the ferry slip resurfacing is underway.</li> </ul>
	Pot holes Lisa Christie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No update on when the gully machine is planning on coming over. Loose chippings need to be cleared from roads.</li> </ul>
	Path at Farland Point Lisa Christie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NAC Active Travel Officer stated it is a Core Path in the North Ayrshire Core Path Plan but not adopted by the Council – so not subject to maintenance. NAC would welcome community input.</li> <li>- (Cllr Hill) Path was put in 10 years ago by the Cumbrae Initiative. There are likely to be funding sources if a group will take it on.</li> <li>- Action: CCC to consider its position.</li> </ul>
	Top up tap Lisa Christie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New water refill station at the Crazy Golf on Guildford Street is now operational. Scottish Water will be in touch to discuss opportunities for a launch.</li> </ul>
	Report it app Lisa Christie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The app has been retired. All incidents have now to be reported on the NAC website.</li> </ul>
7	<b>Community Council updates</b> Alex Harvie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Donald Campbell and Stewart Kennedy resigned from the CCC.</li> <li>- John McHenery proposed by Alex Harvie for Treasurer in addition to being Vice Chair. Seconded by Duncan Fraser.</li> </ul>
	Finance update John McHenery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Over the next month the account will be transferred from previous CCC and signatories organised.</li> <li>- Pending payments were proposed and ratified: Zoom: £143.88, website: £87.32 for three years' hosting and one year domain name registration with another ca. £20 a year ongoing.</li> </ul>
8	<b>Next meeting</b>	
	Lisa Christie	<p>April 28, 6PM on zoom. <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88480072347">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88480072347</a>            Future meetings: 26 May, 30 June, 25 August, 29 September, 27 October, 24 November (AGM).</p>
9	<b>AOB</b>	
		Islands Bonds workshop: 5 April. Details on our channels.