

Appendix 2

Secretary's Report for the period June 2015 to April 2015.

The following table shows the attendance at the AGM, held in June 2014 and at the six ordinary meetings held in June, August, October, December of 2014, and February and April 2015.

The number of members of the Council was 13 from June until October 2014 and 15 from December 2014 to April 2015. The average attendance of elected members was 78%. There were always at least three members of the public present; the average over all meetings was five. Reports were provided to all meetings by the Police and the MOD and our three Local Councillors provided support throughout the year and were always represented at our meetings.

Month	Type	members	CCLs	Police	MOD	public	guests	total
June 2015	AGM	12	1	0	1	3		17
June 2015	Ordinary	12	2	0	1	3		18
August. 2015	Ordinary	7	3	0	1	5		16
October 2015	Ordinary	8	3	0	1	8		20
December 2015	Ordinary	13	3	0	1	7		24
February 2015	Ordinary	11	3	2	1	7	2	26
April 2015	Ordinary	13	1	0	1	3	1	19
		76	16			36		
	max possible	97	21					
	Average Att	78%	76%			5.1		

Appendix 3

Convenor's Report for the period from June 2014 to April 2015

I am pleased to report that the Rhu & Shandon Community Council has been active throughout the past year dealing with a number of issues on behalf of the local residents.

At the last AGM in June 2014 there were 13 members of the CC compared with a full membership quota of 16. Two additional members were elected in October, making 15 in total. 6 meetings have been held.

During the year, R&S CC have continued to make representations for better maintenance of drains to prevent flooding, and for the repair of potholes. There is an active interest in the control of Japanese Knotweed along the lochside with several working parties helping with pulling up and burning the weed. In addition A&B C has carried out some spraying, and is also tackling the problem of tree growth and vegetation growth which could damage the sea wall. Some problems continue to be addressed such as the flooding at Ardgarre, and the end of School Road, although there is some optimism that that may now be solved.

The CC continues to press for faster Broadband in the villages and is hopeful that this will be achieved by the year end, although the extent of the improvement is still uncertain.

Planning applications are a key part of the CC discussions and several of a minor nature have been discussed. Unapproved work at the Peace Camp has been emphasised to Argyll & Bute Council who continue to deal with this although there has been no change on the ground. A&B C is restrained from

saying much as the whole issue is sub judice but we have now been informed that a Building Standards Enforcement notice has been served.

Despite occasional contact with the developers there has been no obvious progress with the Rhu Marina Masterplan. It is understood that local company GSS have moved many of their operations to Rosneath so although their application to build temporary facilities was approved with conditions we do not know whether it will be progressed.

An application to change the zoning of the Bowling Club to housing development was objected to because of a number of concerns by local residents concerning access, coupled with the possibility that the Club may not be as defunct as thought. The application was refused by A&B C. We continue to maintain some contact with the remnants of the Bowling Club to understand their views and there has also been some discussion of alternative community uses, but nothing concrete has been proposed to date.

Following the discovery that the proposed Helensburgh Wind Farm lies within the boundaries of Rhu and Shandon CC we have taken an active involvement in understanding the proposals and ascertaining the wishes of the Rhu and Shandon Community. This resulted in the CC submitting an objection to the development primarily on the grounds of it being an inappropriate site. At the time of writing the application seems to be on hold pending resolution of some objections raised by Glasgow Airport.

An application to demolish the existing Lochside Care Home at Gullybridge and replace it has been lodged and is going through the planning process. R&S CC have met with the developer and raised some questions. Some comments have been submitted pending resolution of these questions which will allow the CC to decide whether or not to support the proposals.

The proposed Local Development Plan published in 2013 led to significant concerns in the CC area because of the introduction of new housing zones at Blairvadach and an increase in housing density at the marina, and Blairvadach. These, along with proposals for changes to the Greenbelt, were all objected to by the R&S CC. Following the Reporter's investigation the LDP was adopted in March 2015. The R&S CC representations had some effect in changing the number of units of housing proposed for Blairvadach and also in reducing the housing density proposed for Rhu Marina, and rejection of any extension to the PDA at Rhu Marina.

Following a discussion about the impact of the LDP at Blairvadach R&S CC have proposed that a TPO be placed on the Blairvadach estate and grounds to ensure the protection of mature species.

A sub-committee of the CC is addressing developing a Conservation Area Appraisal for Rhu village. Whilst a responsibility of A&B C it was clear that this would not happen for some years so the CC are pressing the case with A&B C, possibly to progress it ourselves as the basis for a Conservation Area Charter.

The CC was awarded a grant from Act Alfresco, Coast & Countryside Trust, towards the purchase and siting of a new public bench at the spit. Thanks are due to several local residents who contributed the balance of the cost.

Fireworks at weddings at Rosslea Hall Hotel had upset some residents' dogs and the CC were able to arrange with the hotel to provide advance notice to affected parties.

At the time of the 2015 AGM key current issues are: unauthorised building at the Peace Camp, the future of the Bowling Club and its land, the Helensburgh Wind Farm which lies within the boundaries of R&S CC, the future of the Lochside Care Home, a possible TPO for the Blairvadach Estate and continuing the attack on Japanese Knotweed.

The R&S CC website has continued to show improvement within the past year due undoubtedly to the dedicated work of our secretary and the small sub-group dealing with communications.

As Convenor my role has been made much easier by the tremendous support and work done by all members of the Community Council. It is appreciated that everyone is a volunteer and gives freely of their time to serve the community but without the energy and commitment given by the individual members we would achieve much less. A big thank you to everyone.