

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Rhu and Shandon Community Council
Wednesday 13th December 2017
Held in Rhu Community Hall**

In attendance:			
Rhu & Shandon CC:		Guests/Public:	
Jack Rudram	(JR)	Cdr James Leatherby RN	(JL)
Pat Pollok-Morris	(PPM)	Insp Alan Kirk	(AK)
Jean Cook	(JC)	PC Jeanette Spears (MDP)	(JS)
Gordon King	(GK)	Gordon Black	(GB)
Fiona Baker	(FB)	Jonathon Trayte	(JT)
Jim Duncan	(JD)	George Wilson	(GW)
Linda Duncan	(LD)		
Peter Knox	(PK)		
Maggie McCowan	(MMc)		
Andrew Nicholson	(AN)		
Jayne Burnett	(JB)		

Topic	Minute	Decision/ Action
1. Apologies:	1. Apologies were received from or on behalf of: Tim Lamb, Olivia Birch, Brian Fleming, Derek Hall, Cllr George Freeman, Cllr Barbara Morgan and Cllr Iain Paterson.	
2. Declarations of interest:	2. There were no declarations of interest.	
3. Guest speakers:	<p>3a. Police Scotland. Inspector Matt Web who was recently appointed as the local area Inspector has been promoted and replaced by Inspector Alan Kirk who introduced himself to the Community Council and hoped that he would be in post for some time. Improving community relations is high in AK's priorities. He talked through the items on the police report which included a high proportion of traffic related issues including a male charged with drink driving and 2 speeding tickets issued. There is one report of a 'high value' bicycle being stolen from a garage in Shandon. In the last 2 months there were 21 incidents reported relating to minor road traffic infringements, base, peace camp and children's home.</p> <p>MMC said that she was stuck on the A82 for 2½ hours: during that time made three calls to 101. The first call indicated that they did not know of either an incident or roadworks. It was only on the third call that they knew that it was roadworks. She pointed out that was that it may not be a police matter but had the potential, based on past experience, to develop into one and that ambulances being blocked was also a point of concern. AK thought that the response from 101 was disappointing but road closures for maintenance were outwith police control.</p>	

	<p>GK noted that there seems to be an increase in the number of vehicles driving with no rear lights on. This was thought to be because some cars are fitted with a daylight setting and drivers are unaware that the rear lights are not on.</p> <p>While towing a caravan, GW had experienced difficulty negotiating a junction in Rhu because of inappropriate parking, one driver was found and reluctantly moved car, this was not reported to 101.</p> <p>LD highlighted the problems caused by vehicles being parked on West Montrose Street near the traffic lights at the junction with Sinclair Street.</p> <p>The current police campaigns are shopping safely, being safe on line, vehicle safety and drink driving.</p>	
	<p>3b. PC Jeanette Spears MDP. Apologised, on behalf of the base, for the inconvenience caused for the disruption caused by base access issues on Monday. JB asked about the black van that has been left near the entrance to St Andrews school. JS responded that it is not causing any problems so there is no requirement to move it. MDP and Police Scotland have a partnership on driving standards.</p>	
	<p>3b. Cdr James Leatherby: Presented the brief for the Naval Base and the report can be found at Appendix 2 to the Agenda. He added that there would be the usual Joint Warrior and Nuclear Emergency exercises in the spring.</p>	
<p>4. Minutes of meeting held 11th October 2017:</p>	<p>4. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th October 2017 were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed AN and Seconded MMC. The minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting.</p>	
<p>5. Matters arising from minutes not otherwise on the agenda:</p>	<p>5a. Car in Quarryknowe. Cllr George Freeman had contacted JC informing her that the car would be moved within the week. <i>GK Post Meeting Note: The car has been removed.</i></p>	<p>Issue closed</p>
	<p>5b. Defibrillators. JR has supplied a list of potential sites to Keith Shipman.</p>	<p>Ongoing JR</p>
	<p>5c. Structures on the Peace Camp. There was still no answer on the number of structures that would be permitted on the Peace Camp site. JC has written a letter to Charles Reppke which has been acknowledged and passed on to Angus Gilmore but no answer has been forthcoming. JR commented that Argyll and Bute's avoidance of this issue is reprehensible and unacceptable.</p>	<p>On going, JC to note and follow up.</p>
	<p>5d. Siting of Metal Storage Container (retrospective): 15/03082/PP. It was reported at the April meeting of the CC that permission for this container had been refused and it will have to be removed. The container is still present and enforcement action will prove difficult as there is no Enforcement Officer. The Helensburgh Greenbelt group are pursuing this matter.</p>	
	<p>5e. Laigh Balernock Turbines 16/02662/PP. Prior to the October meeting JR wrote to Robert Hamilton regarding community benefit from the project and suggested that it should be shared out among the affected communities. To date there has been no response.</p>	

	5f. Spoils from the development of Rhu Lodge. This is no longer an issue as it appears that the spoils are confined to the land associated with the development.	Closed
	5g.(8a). Amendments to the Council's Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils. JC submitted a response, on behalf of The Community Council, most of the comments seem to have been ignored. From the information received it is unclear what is required with regard to the retention of CC records. Until further direction received R&SCC will only keep all financial accounts and meeting minutes.	Action JC
	5h. (8b). Role of the Scottish Health Council. PPM considers that there are deep problems with care of the elderly.	
	5i. (9c). Road Pollution in Rhu. The results were posted on the website on 20 th Oct with a link to the pollution map. Pollution level of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂), in Rhu was measured at 23.9µgm ⁻³ .The European limit is 40µgm ⁻³ .	
	5j.(9d). Outdoor Museum Design Panel. An application has been received from the Arts Society Lomond and Argyll. Additionally a model of a submarine has been proposed with no application for funding.	
	5k. (12a). JC wrote a letter to Cairndow Community Council expressing sympathy of their plight.	
6. Planning Matters:	6a. Persimmon Housing Development 17/00837/PP. There will be a hearing at 11:00 on 19 Dec at the Victoria Halls. The planners report suggests approval of the plan but not supported by CC. The notice of a consultation due 26 Dec appears to have been issued in mistake according to the responsible planning officer. JD observes that there are departures from the plan which is very concerning. PPM thinks that we should stick to our guns on numbers especially after the review of the Housing Needs Assessment has reduced the requirement.	
	6b. Other Important Local Planning Applications. Nothing of note.	
7. Consultations.	7a. LDP2: Main Issues Report Submission. Feedback was compiled by JR and PPM and returned on to meet the deadline. The key issues being: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. R&S CC expect the Blairvadach housing allocation to remain the same as the reduced requirement from the revised Housing Needs Assessment means there is no case for an increase. 2. The Empress Fields between Ardencaple and Rhu Road Higher has been marked red by the Planners, indicating that it is not likely to be built on in the next ten years. This position is supported by R&S CC. 3. Open Space protection area around Rhu Bay defined and discussed with the Planning Officer. 	

	<p>4. Marina PDA - not likely to happen in the short term. R&S CC propose that development of the marina should be connected to leisure activities, boating and sailing, not hotels and housing. The next stage will be the Draft LDP expected in May 2018.</p>	
	<p>7b. Community Learning and Development Plan. Eliciting individual responses – Closing date December 31st 2017.</p>	
	<p>7c. Your View Counts. This is relevant to individuals JR encouraged members to consider. Closes 31 Dec.</p>	
	<p>7d. Planning Our Future. Individual responses as guided by conscience. Closes 2 Jan.</p>	
<p>8. Other Matters:</p>	<p>8a. Rhu Conservation Area Appraisal. The grant of £3,420 was received and the amount needs to be matched in order to use it. £1,000 was pledged from CC funds leaving a shortfall of £2,420 to be raised locally. The commissioning of an architect to produce the appraisal was expected to be in the region of £12,000 although this included a management plan which is outwith the remit. The grant received has to be used by March otherwise it will have to be repaid. Much of the information has been collected and initial work has been done by the sub-committee. The next stage is to write the appraisal FB suggested that she could attempt it herself but fears that she may not have time. JD and LD are unable to continue to work on the project and will be stepping down from the sub-committee, leaving TL JB and FB to continue.</p>	
	<p>8b. Joint Meeting With Other H&L Community Councils. This is an initiative by Helensburgh CC and the meeting in January should be supported by R&SCC.</p>	
	<p>8c. Sewage Works in Rhu. JC has asked Scottish Water how long these works are due to continue and what hours were being worked. In response she was told that the road will be open for 2 weeks during the holiday period. Some weekend work would be going on but not on Friday afternoons and full days will be worked as per the contract. Road Works in Scotland website quotes 98 days work. JR asked JC to try to find out the anticipated completion date.</p>	<p>JC to pursue</p>
	<p>8d. Timber Transport Management Plan. (Appendix 3) PK noted that the plan does not consider the narrowness at Pier Road which could put pedestrians at risk. In order to preserve the safety of those involved in the school run it was suggested that timber lorry movement should be restricted at between 0800 - 0900 and 1430 - 1615.</p>	<p>Action PK</p>
<p>9. Opportunity for the Members of the Public to Speak:</p>	<p>9a. Opportunity for the Members of the Public to Speak. GB and JT attended the meeting as representatives of the Rhu. and Shandon Gala committee. The next Gala will be the 20th consecutive annual gala and, will again be held in the grounds of the Royal Northern & Clyde Yacht Club. They feel that the gala has become disjointed from the community with</p>	

	<p>just 2 out of 6 members on the committee coming from Rhu and Shandon. People like to attend the gala, irrespective of the weather, but are unwilling to support its organisation. Anyone willing to help out can contact the committee via the Rhu and Shandon Gala Facebook page. The base will support with activities but sometimes relied on personal contacts. The ambushed JL suggested that the Gala committee should contact the Base Executive Officer early in the new year. He pointed out that there were a number of events in the wider region bidding for assistance and needs co-ordination. There are a limited number of suitable Saturdays and conflicting dates occur. It also must be borne in mind that the BXO would be relying on volunteers to support events. After the discussion the Action was agreed that GB and JT would contact JL in Jan 18 when they would sit down and identify the potentially deliverable bids for assistance they might wish to raise against the Base. JB suggested that the Gala committee should contact the school and that she would be willing to advertise for volunteers but needs to be specific on what volunteers would be asked to do. Jobs will include speaking to sponsors, adverts for the programme, arranging toilets and muscle on the days around the event. JC will put something on the CC website. Representation from the Gala Committee would be welcome at future CC meetings and would be put in as guest speakers earlier on the agenda.</p>	
10. Treasurer's report:	10. Treasurer's Report: There were no changes to the account since the last meeting. £29.95 for the website is due to be paid in December.	
11. Correspondence:	<p>11. Correspondence: Correspondence is circulated as and when it is received.</p> <p>11a. A Christmas card was received from Jackie Baillie</p>	
	11b. Cllr Iain Paterson tendered apologies and noted that whenever he was not able to attend a CC meeting, he will hold a surgery for residents. He has arranged one for 17:30 to 19:00 on Monday 18 th Dec in Rhu Hall.	JC to post IP's surgery on website and in NL
	11c. Nick Cowie forwarded information about the opening of the Helensburgh Heroes Centre, which included the invitation to complete two short surveys. There are hard copies of the surveys available in many places in the town and they can be completed on line by visiting the website www.helensburghheroes.com . Individuals encouraged to respond.	
12. Website and related issues:	12. Website: JC commented that she had sent out 4 newsletters and noted that a third of all hits on the website occur within 4 days of sending out the newsletter. She expressed relief that some people at least are reading the Newsletter.	
13. Councillors' reports	13. No Councillors were present at the meeting.	

<p>14. Members' Reports:</p>	<p>14a. LD Referring to newsletter 38, we need to keep an eye on the new affordable homes, 6 in Rhu to be built by ACHA.</p> <p>A meeting was held with A & B Council to discuss a new route to Dunoon using tunnels and bridges from Helensburgh via Rosneath, It was attended by A&B council members, MSPs but nobody from Helensburgh or Lomond North was invited to the meeting. LD suggested that the CC should monitor any progress on such a venture.</p>	
	<p>14b. AN Details of the Church's Christmas services can be found by using the link on the website.</p>	
	<p>14c. FB. Said that Iain Paterson not present because he is involved with a mountain rescue training exercise. She added that 25kg of daffodil bulbs have been planted in the Barge Memorial Garden. Vote of thanks to PPM, Seona, and FB.</p>	
	<p>14d. JD Commented that the spoils at the top of the footpath connecting Armadale Road and Torwoodhill Road is still an issue. There is difficulty finding out who is responsible for the upkeep of the path. It was thought that If it is one of the Core Paths then it will be A&B council's remit. JD asked to find out and contact who is responsible.</p>	<p>JD to pursue</p>
	<p>14e. GK. Has been approached by residents of Upper Torwoodhill Road with regard to the condition of the road surface, road markings, footpath and lighting. The road surface is in a poor state of repair with large potholes and greater than 50% patch repairs at the steepest section. The footpath on the steep section gets overgrown with moss and the resident at the corner has scraped the footpath in an attempt to improve the situation but the path is in need of a proper clean to make it safe. One of the street lights was missed when the lighting was upgraded for energy saving fittings. The narrow stretch of Torwoodhill Road is effectively single track and would benefit from making provision for pedestrians whether that be by reinstating the footpaths or painting a white line on the road as in Pier Road. Additionally the road markings should be reviewed at the junction below Upper Torwoodhill Road. Numbers of houses would indicate that the prevailing traffic is straight up and down the road.</p>	<p>GK to pursue</p>
	<p>14e JC noted that the shop next to the Post Office appears to being used for storage</p>	
<p>15. AOB:</p>	<p>15a. JL announced his intention to retire from the MOD on 30 Apr 18 so the next meeting will be his last. The Community Council agreed that they valued the contribution of the base representative and would want this to continue. JL to liaise with JC on this matter.</p>	<p>JC liaise with JL</p>
	<p>15b. MMC intends to stand down at the next meeting.</p>	
<p>16. DONM:</p>	<p>16. The next ordinary meeting will take place at 7:30pm on Wednesday 14 February 2018 in the Community Hall.</p>	

