

**Minutes of a Meeting of the  
Rhu and Shandon Community Council  
Wednesday 8th August 2018  
Held in Rhu Community Hall**

In attendance:

**Rhu & Shandon CC:**

Jack Rudram - Chairman (JR)  
Fiona Baker (FB)  
Linda Black (LB)  
Jean Cook (JC)  
Linda Duncan (LD)  
Jim Duncan (JD)  
Kevin Johnstone (KJ)  
Tim Lamb (TL)  
Andrew Nicholson (AN)

**Councillors/Guests/Public:**

Adele McGookin (AM)  
PC Ian Mustarde (IM)

Topic	Minute	Decision/ Action
<b>1. Apologies:</b>	Apologies were received from: Cllr Barbara Morgan(BM), Peter Knox(PK), Cllr Iain Paterson (IP), Sgt Sandy Johnson(SJ)	
<b>2. Declarations of Interest</b>	There were no declarations of interest	
<b>3. Guest speakers:</b>	<p><b>3a.</b> The police report can be found in Appendix 1. There were 9 crimes of note listed. IM provided more details on the Protest demonstration on the South Gate Access Road. Both Police Scotland and the MoD Police were in attendance.</p> <p><b>3b.</b> Adele McGookin presented a short verbal report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next formally assessed annual exercise (Exercise EVENING STAR 2018) will be held slightly earlier than usual this year, namely on Thursday 30 August 2018.</li> <li>• The MoD is favourable disposed to cooperating on a beacon on the spit, but still have several health and safety issues to confirm.</li> <li>• FB reported that she had not had a reply to the letter to Captain Mearns about the timing of the Gala this year and the use of Ardenconnell Field next Year. AM will pursue this.</li> </ul>	Action AM
<b>4. Minutes of meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018:</b>	The Minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed LD, seconded FB	
<b>5. Matters arising from minutes not otherwise on the agenda:</b>	<p><b>5a(3a):</b> In response to an e-mail from the Council, Bob Magee from Police Scotland arranged for a police presence on roads affected by the traffic speeding through the village to avoid the hold-ups on the A814.</p> <p><b>5b (5a) Laigh Balernock Turbines 16/02662/PP.</b> JR was monitoring the development and had nothing to add. He will continue to monitor.</p>	Ongoing

Topic	Minute	Decision/ Action
	<b>5c:(5b)</b> Cllr Paterson(IP) reported this to Gerry O'Hare. There was no-one at the meeting who could confirm that action has been taken. This will be checked and IP will be informed.	Action JC & PK
	5d(5d). The Conservation Village sign has been re-erected.	Closed
	5e(5f) Scottish Water provided a comprehensive reply on 2/8. The work will be completed on 17 <sup>th</sup> August. Re-seeding of the grass on the Marina will take place and its re-growth will be monitored. Concern was expressed about the quality of the resurfacing. It was agreed that Gerry O'Hare should be informed of this.	Action JD
	<b>5f:(5g) Timber Harvesting.</b> There has been no further communication from Campbell Divertie regarding the timing of the timber lorry movements and school runs. It was agreed that in addition to chasing Campbell Divertie for a reply that local residents should be encouraged to complain via the Argyll and Bute website if the traffic on the road is causing inconvenience..	Ongoing action BM and PK and local residents
	<b>5g:(5h). Cycle Route and Access Road from The Briars to Queens Point.</b> The state of this road still presents a problem for residents and base cyclists alike. The community council agreed that individual complaints by residents would be more likely to elicit action as this will force the Council to investigate and respond. This recommendation will be transmitted to residents by the website, newsletter and word of mouth.	
	It was also agreed to publicise the use of the Argyll and Bute website to highlight community problems with service or infrastructure, as a first port of call. From recent experiences, this seems to be a more certain way of securing action from the A&B.	Action JC, members of CC and residents.
	<b>5h: (5i) Future of the Bowling Club Site.</b>	
	Maurice Corry has got his aides to help with this and is looking for a discussion with Luss Estates.	Ongoing KJ
	<b>5i:(5j) Update on Local Defibrillators.</b> Three defibrillators have been now installed in our area, all off the main road. The issue of suitably located signs has been raised with A&BC and a response is expected within a week or so. The question of signposting Defibrillators is really a national issue and the local MSPs and MPs will be advised.	
	<b>5j:(13)</b> The caravan is still there getting more dilapidated as time passes.	Ongoing GF
	<b>5h (14)</b> Names and e-mail addresses of Council members are now not displayed openly on the site. This action helps deter bots from harvesting e-mail addresses.	Completed
<b>6. Planning Matters:</b>	<b>6a. Helensburgh Leisure Centre:18/01430/Screen</b>	JD to liaise with HCC

Topic	Minute	Decision/ Action
	<p>JR attended the Area Committee on behalf of the CC on the 21st June. However despite public opinion, it appears that A&amp;B have decided that they know what the community wants.</p> <p>Helensburgh CC have consulted widely following the public meetings, and produced a summary of their findings. It was agreed that we would be likely to recommend to our residents that we support their stance when the planning application is published.</p> <p>Post meeting note. The above Planning Reference is to a pre-application consultation screening opinion for the Waterfront Development – public comments are not being sought. However as of the following morning a Planning Application 18/01614/PP has been publicised for the construction of new leisure building, new car park for 265 cars, improved flood defences, new public realm areas and demolition of existing swimming pool building. The closing date for comments is unclear.</p>	
	<p><b>6b. Other Important Planning Application.</b></p> <p>The RNCYC and Dickie &amp; Moore are planning for the development of their existing site and the construction of a new Club House on the Marina. Representatives of the CC had attended a preliminary discussion with both parties. It is understood that a PAC (Pre-Application Consultation) will be held shortly. It was suggested that R&amp;S CC should consider surveying attendees to elicit local vies. Also, puzzlement was expressed that these two separate developments were being treated as one application despite the two locations.</p>	Ongoing
	<p><b>6c. Composition of PPSLC.</b></p> <p>HCC have asked for our support in a bid to have local Community Councillors co-opted onto the PPSLC when local Planning decisions are being discussed.</p>	Action JR
<b>7. Consultations</b>	<p>No action by the Community Council is proposed on the following consultations, but residents are encouraged to submit personal responses, particularly on the first.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deposit Return Scheme: Closes 25th September</li> <li>• Rural Growth: Closes 10th August</li> </ul>	Action all residents
<b>8. Other Matters:</b>	<p><b>8a. Festive Lighting Update</b></p> <p>A meeting was held with Mark Calder at which he confirmed that A&amp;B do not intend to provide festive lighting throughout the whole of A&amp;B as soon as possible and by 2019 at the latest. The cost in providing and lighting the tree in Rhu is in the region of £700. He is in talks with MoD regarding the provision of trees but lighting requires a qualified street lighting engineer. At the meeting the R&amp;S CC representatives made robust arguments as to why abdication of this activity to the local community was not really a practicable proposition for Rhu &amp; Shandon. We will</p>	Ongoing

Topic	Minute	Decision/ Action
	have a lighted tree this year but 2019 is uncertain..	
	<b>8b: Update on Health Related Issues</b>	
	Linda Black Provided the following summary on ongoing issues including from Helensburgh and Lomond Health Network:-	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jean's Bothy - <a href="#">102 East King St Helensburgh</a> A Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub to support people with poor mental health.</li> <li>• Wellbeing Fund: Grants for up to £2000 are available. Focus on Physical Activity and Supporting the self management of long term conditions.</li> </ul>	
	Other Health Related issues will appear on a new page of our website.	Action LB & the Communication Committee
	<b>8c: Rhu Post Office</b>	
	There is no progress on this. A temporary postmaster and/or a permanent postmaster is still being sought.	
	The owner of the building has authorised some repair work in an effort to attract applicants.	
	The long term future looks bleak.	Ongoing
	<b>8d. Update on Peace Camp.</b>	
	An Email was send to Sandra Davies regarding the promised investigation of the site by the Council's Building Standards Service.	
	Alex Linden from Building Standards confirmed that some unauthorised structures will be removed but that the proposal to import steel containers and caravans is a matter for Planning and Environmental Health.	
	It was agreed that this latter matter should be pursued with Planning and Environmental Health	Action JC
	<b>8e: Knotweed.</b>	
	The weather this year has meant that the schedule of treatment by some landowners has slipped.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Network Rail will treat the area by the underpass in Rhu by September</li> <li>• A letter has been sent to the tenant of the field behind the Railway line in Rhu for transmission to the owner of the field or his legal representative. This is the site of the largest outbreak in Rhu and has never been treated.</li> <li>• The Summary Reports showing the status of all for outbreaks in Shandon and Rhu will be forwarded to landowners in the next couple of weeks</li> </ul>	Action JC and PK

Topic	Minute	Decision/ Action
<b>9. Opportunity for the Members of the Public to Speak:</b>	There were no members of the public present.	
<b>10. Treasurer's report:</b>	<p>The Treasurer's report can be found at Appendix 3 on the website.</p> <p>In response to a request from FB it was suggested that if the Barge Garden were to make a short email application then the CC could consider making a donation from the £128.96 remaining from donations made to the seat fund. It was noted that some of the Barge Garden work was strictly the responsibility of ACHA.</p>	
<b>11. Correspondence:</b>	<p>Correspondence is circulated as and when it is received.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Waste and Re-cycling Meeting. 18 August. PK will represent the CC.</li> <li>b. We have been invited to become a member of TSI. Since we do not provide services, it was not felt appropriate</li> <li>c. Potential Woodland Creation Scheme covering approximately 200 ha at Letrault Farm.</li> </ul> <p>This will be a combination of commercial plantings using species suitable for the conditions, primarily Sitka spruce with smaller areas of Douglas fir, Norway spruce and Scots pine, along with areas of native broadleaves. Additionally there will be areas of open ground to enhance the existing biodiversity in the area and to improve the landscape value of the estate by creating a mosaic of habitats. Current land use focuses on rough grazing of limited quality with the owners looking to diversify the ground.</p> <p>Our initial response concerned the need for archeological and environmental studies, and the need to consider the increase in traffic on the narrow residential roads for years to come.</p>	Ongoing
<b>12. Website and related issues:</b>	One Newsletter has been sent out and that website page usage is marginally up on the last report, 2553/2500, but sessions are down 877/1127.	
<b>13. Councillors' reports:</b>	None.	
<b>14. Members' Reports:</b>	KJ: Swamp in the centre of the Play Park, probable due to a collapsed culvert. JC will take advice from Pat Pollok-Morris on	Action JC

Topic	Minute	Decision/ Action
	<p>what action should be taken.</p> <p>KJ: Dangerous unleashed dogs - a note would be put on the website reminding dog walkers of the courtesies to be observed when out with their animals.</p> <p>KJ: Broken Glass on pavement of A814 near the end of Hall Road. KJ will report this to A&amp;B via their website.</p> <p>FB: Reported that the number of Firework displays held by Rosslea Hall Hotel this year has been reduced as promised.</p>	
<b>15. AOB:</b>	None.	
<b>16. DONM:</b>	Wednesday October 10th <sup>th</sup> 2018 at 7.30pm in the Community Hall.	