

Minutes of Colonsay Community Council

Meeting held 28th May 2019 @18:30

Councillors Present: David Hobhouse, Richard Buttrick, Kevin Byrne, Jane Howard, Alex Howard, Liz McNicholl.

Members of community present: There were nine members of the community present.

Item	Discussion	Action/Decision
1. Apologies	Helen Mann	
2. Minutes of last meeting	Accepted	
3. Declarations of interest	Kevin Byrne declared himself to be a Calmac pensioner.	
4. Matters arising from previous minutes.	None not dealt with elsewhere.	
5. Air Service	<p>It appears that the service after October will consist of two flights on one day (Tuesday or Thursday) plus scholar flights.</p> <p>There was concern expressed that there might only be one scholar flight at the weekend resulting in pupils missing either considerable school time on Friday, or social time on Saturday.</p> <p>It appears that the subsidy A&B receive is unchanged and they have decided to deploy it differently.</p> <p>Chris Nisbet from the floor revealed that the fire training has been cut and there will be no refresher courses.</p>	<p>Can we ascertain what the subsidy is, and is it unchanged?</p> <p>A letter should be written to A&B expressing our concerns.</p> <p>AH</p>
6. Ferry Service	<p>Proposed 2020 Timetable</p> <p>LMN suggested that the Tuesday ferry should be earlier to connect with mid-day train.</p> <p>Colonsay will be served by Isle of Mull on Mondays next winter as Lord of the Isles is often delayed on other services.</p> <p>Current Disruption</p> <p>The Clansman has broken down with resultant knock on effect on other services. Colonsay is being served via Islay which is not satisfactory due to</p>	<p>AH to contact Moira Kerr.</p>

	<p>heavy traffic meaning there is limited space.</p> <p>As this is the second year Colonsay has experienced severe disruption due to technical issues AH suggested we go public and highlight the issues which can only be having a detrimental effect on tourism.</p> <p>Jan Binnie from the floor, pointed out that our electricity supply, currently provided by generators, is dependent on regular reliable ferry services to enable fuel deliveries.</p> <p>JH reported that it is still under consideration that Colonsay be given the Loch Nevis as our dedicated vessel when she ceases work in the small Isles next year. This is considered to be unworkable and JH will respond accordingly.</p>	
7.Mains Power Fault	Work is on-going to repair or replace the cable including work at Queens Bay.	
8. Community Fund.	LMcN will chair next round of applications. The fund is not open for applications at present.	
9. National Island Plan Consultation	DH will circulate the responses from the recent public meeting.	
10.Planning	Nothing new.	
11.AOCB Community Fire Service	<p>Chris Nisbet , from the floor, explained the current serious shortage of firepersons available for call out. In order to attend the service need four people and as there are only four firemen at present if one of them is unable to attend then the service cannot respond.</p> <p>There are potentially 5 new members awaiting training so this is, hopefully a short term problem.</p>	Chris Nisbet will prepare a statement that DH will circulate to keep the community informed of events.

<p>Fire-Breaks</p>	<p>KB wondered if we should have some firebreaks to inhibit the spread of heather/moorland fires. It was suggested we ask the fire-brigade for their views.</p>	
<p>Oil Deliveries</p>	<p>Heating oil on Colonsay is currently 29p a litre more expensive than on the mainland (64%). AH is going to investigate "Oil Fast" who we believe provide cheaper fuel to Coll and Tiree.</p>	
<p>BT</p>	<p>Following the recent power cuts when BT's back up generators failed leaving Colonsay with no phones for 36 hours it is possible Offcom will look into BT's response, or lack of it. There has been no compensation, or apology ; various inaccurate responses to e-mails and in some cases no responses at all. Anyone who has a written response should keep it as evidence in any enquiry.</p> <p>A&B Resilience team will be meeting on 26th June and BT have been asked to send a representative.</p>	<p>AH to investigate Oil Fast.</p>
<p>Secretary</p>	<p>Jane Howard tendered her resignation as secretary and was thanked by Keith for her hard work.</p>	
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>Tuesday 2nd July at 18:30</p>	
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