

Fairlie Community Council (FCC) Minutes 03/09/2018

Present: Rita Holmes (Chairperson), Karla Tully, David Nairn, David Telford, Andy Temple, Alan Holden Marco Piva of FCC; Ian Murdoch (NAC Councillor) PC Dominic Murphy; 11 members of the public.

Welcome and Apologies: Tom Marshall, Alan Hill, Alec Gallagher, Ian Hunter

August minutes; AT circulated draft and two amends required. Proposed by AH, seconded by RH

1. Police report

15 incidents reported; majority neighbour related to noise and fence breaches. 3 crimes: cannabis found in a parked car; 2 people in Peel Ports' (Clydeport) disused property; intentional fuel theft from Pier Rd garage.

No progress on opportunistic theft from Bowling Club last month. July theft of outboard motor believed to be part of a series of similar thefts along the coast.

2. NAC Councillor's Update

Ian Murdoch

- Elma Murray NAC CEO retiring, and a new Director of Education has been appointed.
- Received answers to the questions raised on 27/06/18 regarding lack of EIA for Hunterston Marine Construction yard development. (addendum 1)
- Considering taking further questions to the 19/09/2018 full NAC meeting.

3. Hunterston SSG (RH)

- Next SSG meeting 06/09/2018 when Chair and Vice Chair posts up for election. RH standing for both and will continue to represent Fairlie irrespective of whether re-elected or not.
- RH only 'ley' person who attended SEPA/Scottish Government consultation on the management of contaminated land after industrial use; for broad range of previous uses not just nuclear.
- RH questioned why NAC one of the few local authorities who did not send a Contamination Officer.
- DN asked of railway land still contaminated; RH stated land has been all cleared, cleaned and checked.
- IM raised an additional concern that the marine yard dredging may raise radioactive material.

4. NOWTFF – Wind Turbines

Work on second turbine planned to start by the end of October, weather dependant.

5. Coastal Path Update

- IM stated that he has had difficulty getting clarification on which section and when the next section of the path will be completed.
- Fairlie Community Trust representative stated that NAC claiming they have enough funds to complete Fairlie sections by end of March 2019.

6. A78 Fairlie Safe??! Campaign

- KT stated that questionnaires have been distributed to most homes on Fairlie through Church News, on survey monkey and boxes placed in Village Hall, Village Inn, Bowling Club, Semple Centre and Church.
- KT will collate results and recommend next steps for next meeting.
- Public consultation notices for extension of 30 mph zone on A78 expected September 2018.

7. Dawn Homes

- IM aware that Dawn Homes planning condition regarding path construction by 20/09/2018 likely to be breached. IM will raise with Planning Department.
- MOP concerned that DH using private road between homes for bull dozer access to phase 2 site.
- IM committed to check access rights with Planning department and report to RH.
- DT raised concern that FCC had not objected to the change of 4 semi detached homes to 4 detached homes. RH committed to look at.
- DT also raised personal FOI to Scottish Water re: drainage plans and consultation at the design stage as he believes that SW were not consulted adequately and as required by planning legislation.

- MOP raised concern that Tom Marshall committed to look at this and the detail on the archaeological site in June and has not reported back to FCC as promised. RH to follow up.
- RH to also follow up NAC Councillor Alec Gallagher's promise of some two years ago, to report to FCC re: RES 3 open book accounting on monies to Kelburn Castle Trust. RH stated her intention to contact DH's new owners to see if they would be happy to communicate directly with FCC after stopping doing so in 2016.

8. Peel Ports (PP)

- DN took RH, Chair of Clyde Marine Planning Partnership, The Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Officer and MOP (Ron) on an overdue (over 2 years) pre-requested site visit to the SSSI. The SNH Officer admitted that he had never been on the SSSI and was unaware of Priority Marine Features (PMFs), other than eelgrass that exist on the protected habitat. DN had previously informed the Chair of CMPP that the rare PMF's were threatened by existing Peelports coal slurry pollution and under biogenic risk from a NAC approved expansion of non-native species shellfish farm within the SSSI.
- DN, RH and MOP questioned whether the SNH Screening Officer had a conflict of interest between protecting rare species and his SNH Economic Development functions, and how a SNH Officer was qualified to provide a meaningful EIA screening opinion for a marine related development, when they had never visited the SSSI or did not have adequate marine environment knowledge or experience.
- DN also featured Kylie the porpoise talking dolphin on 'The One Show' on the 31st August 2018.
- Local group Friends of the Firth Of Clyde campaigning to stop oil rig decommissioning at Hunterston Marine Construction yard; over 3800 people now signed the petition
- AT and DN attended informal meeting with CessCon DeCom earlier on 03/09/2018; CessCon as tenants avoid taking responsibility for lack of EIA. AT hoping to get CessCon to sign minutes stating that an EIA should be carried out.
- CessCon described operations being a maximum of 2 units being dismantled in the yard at a time, with contaminated sections being dismantled in specific 'sheds' to minimise pollution. One being prepared on Coal Jetty also likely.
- Recycled materials will be transported by sea or rail
- Cess Con have 6 employees at Hunterston to date with up to 20 planned in management and technical roles and a maximum of 150 if three units on site; these will be fixed term contract roles with approximate maximum of 50 people per oil rig. Whilst apprenticeships were promised there was little detail on role types and skills required for any roles.
- CessCon will tender for each rig to be decommissioned. Believe site will be ready autumn 2020.
- FCC questioning whether temporary jobs will be a reasonable benefit in view of cost to environment and local tourism and related businesses.
- MOP stated that Kenneth Gibson had written to them stating an EIA was not necessary.
- DN responded that initial screening had been inadequate and that responses from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and Marine Scotland (MS) had been inadequate or 'lost.' The EIA screening opinion had not been considered by elected Councillors but a delegated Planning Officer instead, and the NAC Biodiversity Officer had not been consulted. NAC email advising PP how to get around an EIA by piecemeal planning applications also found. SNH and NAC withheld information when requested through a private Freedom of Information request (FOI) and these details have been requested again. DN drafting an appeal. Legal advice will be paid for by a campaign supporter.
- IM questioned NAC Committee re: why Ardrossan Harbour extension will have an EIA screening at least but not the Hunterston Marine Construction yard project. NAC responded that the Harbour was 'in the marine environment', and the other project was not.

Current Works at PP

- KT spoke to Andrew Hemphill, PP Director earlier same day. AH stated that the two coal cranes demolition had been delayed three weeks due to faulty demolition cranes. The coal dust on the conveyors was constantly being damped down to avoid contaminating the waters below. A78 will be closed when over road conveyors and coal hoppers are removed, but no date agreed with Network rail or Transport Scotland yet.
- AH stated that assets may be moored at the coal jetty after telling FCC this was highly unlikely when they met him in July.
- RH will now be sole liaison between PP and FCC.

Friends of the Firth of Clyde

- Independent group of concerned residents in Fairlie and surrounding area.
- Press Release and the One Show on the 31st August raising awareness and petition now at over 3800. Newspaper articles and local TV interviews in progress.
- DN hopes for a documentary to be produced.
- Group will continue to raise profile and protest. Anyone interested contact via Friends of the Firth of Clyde Facebook page.

9. AOB

- a) Bay Street Museum; DN asked Fairlie Community Trust (FCT) member how this project would be taken forward as funding from SSE will cease. SSE still have £1900 to pay Fairlie projects. FCT pay museum council tax only.
- b) Tennis Courts; MOP asked about poor condition of tennis courts and porta cabin. Sports Club member stated that funding was available to renovate tennis courts, but they are struggling to find a contractor. Believes porta cabin may be replaced. Question raised whether Tennis Club was still running.
- c) Pub Signs: Brian of Village Inn asked for progress on signs for pub as happy to make toilets available to cyclists and walkers etc. RH to contact Alan Hill and follow up.

Next meeting: 1st October 2018, 7:30pm in Semple Centre.
Apologies already sent by MP, DT and KT.