

Minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd November 2021
By Zoom and live streamed on Facebook

Present: Billy McClymont, Iain Campbell, Jo Prior, Norman Hickson, Pam MacColl, John Maughan, Alasdair McCrone, Angus Williams.

In attendance: Cllr Devon, Moray Finch, J. Holliday, Neil Stewart and Jeff McCormick from West Coast Motors,

Apologies: Tom Nelson, Moira Westland

Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October 2021 were approved by Adrian Stephens and seconded by Pam MacColl.

Matters arising; Potholes on Lochbuie road to be filled soon, weather permitting

Traffic management group – It was agreed A.W. replace A. Duffin.

Otters – nothing to report, Jan Dunlop and police involved, education proposed for next year.

WCM (West Coast Motors) – Problem with no early bus from the Ross, residents can't attend early morning appointments. It is mainly older residents who need to have regular appointments. Neil – driver shortage is an issue. Cllr Devon will speak with AB&C to progress with this. Maybe a bus running a couple of days a week would help.

No Sunday bus service. Jeff will look at this going forward.

No bus shelters at Craignure or Salen, school children getting soaked while waiting.

A.S. suggested adding the bus connections to the CalMac timetable on their website as is done for rail connections.

Cllr Devon to liaise with Neil, Jeff and Martin Arnold further for subsidies on a Sunday. WCM trying to recruit more staff as this cannot continue.

Schools are a core part of the timetable and this impacts what WCM can do. Passengers are having to wait 30 minutes for the afternoon bus from Craignure because the school bus takes children to Lochbuie road end and then returns.

AB&C do not want school children to change buses at Craignure, it was suggested a parent could meet the children there instead of the Lochbuie road end.

There have been soap suds in water course on walkway to shoreline into sea, coming from the new bus wash. There should be an interceptor, soakaway to takeaway water/oil. Could this be checked.

Co-op – The shelves are now full, the problem has been sorted. P.M. said no bread last night, hardly any milk, no fruit. J.H. reported that in Tiree the problem was a new computer system. Our Co-op is classed as a convenience store. A.M. said

problems over the summer have been bad, no blame lies with the staff in the Tobermory store as they have been excellent, but the Co-op (HQ) has failed us. Discussions ongoing to clarify the situation of a new store. A&B C are looking into it.. It will push the Co-op to show their hand. People from the Ross are frustrated to find bare shelves when they make the journey. Spar shop in Iona is well stocked. It would help the community to have 2 shops, Cllr Devon suggests that B.M. contact Fergus Murray, Head of Economic Development – Co-op not stepping up to the mark, we, as a community council, will be seeking planning application and putting it out onto the open market. J.P. proposes contacting Morrisons as they deliver to Lochaline. There is an immediate need for a solution. Cllr Devon to give J.P. Rosie Curtis details for a joint letter to Morrisons.

Craignure Pier –NH. reported on the meeting of Craignure Marine Infrastructure Liaison Group last week. Transport Scotland are considering a 3 boat service to Mull, plans for the site of a the new pier are progressing, a possibility of 2 link spans. A good working relationship has been achieved with another meeting due on 15th November

New ferry, Transport Scotland not able to go with the larger catamaran, which is disappointing.

Hovercraft from Oban to Iona not going ahead at present.

Police Report dated 01/11/21 submitted by PC Neil Thallon. Total Calls 45 (Mull and Iona).

North Mull total 24 calls; 1 Dangerous driving; Crimes recorded 4.

Craignure & Surrounding total 12 calls; Crimes recorded 1.

Salen & Surrounding total 18 calls; 1 Drink Driving; Crimes recorded 0.

Ross of Mull & Iona total 10 calls; Crimes recorded 0.

Councillor report – National Care plan to deliver care to Coll is not sustainable, council are not in favour of the NCP. They need to listen to what the local needs are, island impact survey required. Consultations are ongoing prior to 2026.

A.O.B.

Toilets will remain open and cleaned over the Winter, all 6 at a cost 18K.

Good news that Tobermory High School has appointed a new Head Teacher, Mrs Carmichael will start in January 2022. Unanimous decision at interview.

Scottish Ambulance Service – SAS plan was to upskill all of our staff, 1 new technician has not got fulltime shifts on Mull and is having to commute to Oban. D2 has been replaced by another D2. Very depressing as it is not what was promised. Poor response from SAS, breaking their own regulations. Recruiting from Mull is a must to keep continuity. Letter to Wendy Quinn. JP proposes getting the community on board via Everything Mull as they will be shocked at this.

Repairs are needed to the all weather pitch (Live Argyll). Rhia Edwards pushing this. Lights now fixed. No budget for team benches.

Pavement access at a site on Mull - an enforcement notice has been issued, they have 28 days to remove all vehicles from site which are illegally parked.

Barry Hesketh died 19th October (aged 91) founded Mull Little Theatre with his wife. He left Mull in 1984 but will be returning to be buried at Calgary on the 19th November.

Housing for teachers- not progressing regarding the teachers flat, Douglas White and Helen McDonald involved, the teacher must stay on Mull.

Santa is coming back to Mull. He will go to Craignure and Loch Buie, Tobermory producers market will also have a Grotto on 22nd December.

MF - R100 AB&C and the Scottish Government will be meeting in Pennygael on Monday 22nd November.

JP – Richard Crosier clerk of Mull Rally, is looking for consultation on the 2022 event, proposing time to discuss this info in the December meeting.

Cable drums at Lochdon phone exchange, they have been laid flat, Environmental Health to be contacted as they are outside the OR yards. The contractors who left them need to be contacted.

(Since the meeting they have been removed)

George Burns has offered to take join the CC as Secretary.

Community Council are recruiting – please get in touch. Looking for at least 3 members.

Pilot for live Gaelic translation in December, hope to sort out the technology required.

The bridge between Loch Frisa and Loch Tor is still to be repaired. It is passable, diverted for at least 3 weeks now, ongoing.

No public questions.

Wednesday 1st December is the next meeting.