

MULL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of a Meeting held on Wednesday 5 October 2022
at An Roth, Craignure, and also
via Zoom and livestreamed on Facebook

Present:

Adrian Stephens, Angus Williams, Billy McClymont, Cameron MacLean, George Burns, Jo Prior, Tom Nelson (Convenor)

In Attendance:

John Holliday (Tiree CC), Moray Finch (MICT), Norman Hickson (Craignure Bay Community Group), Richard Crozier (Mull Rally), Tracy Mayo (THS Parent Council)

1. **Apologies:** John Maughan, Pam McColl, Cllr. Hampsey, Cllr. Hume, Cllr. Lynch

2. **Declarations of Interest:** See item 8.

3. **Beatson's Mull Rally 2022**

Richard Crozier, Clerk of the Course, brought the Community Council up to date on road closure orders, residents' communications and steps that have been taken to maintain good order in driving and respect for residents' interests.

4. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** Approved (proposed Billy McClymont, seconded Jo Prior)

5. **Matters Arising:** None.

6. **Community Council Election Outcome and Next Steps**

Seven current Members of the Community Council have been elected uncontested to continue as Members. As this is less than the minimum required, the Community Council will not be able to operate as a statutory body after 20 October until a further nomination/election period is complete.

A new Nomination period will be open 21 October - 3 November and it is essential that more people come forward during this period to serve as Community Councillors.

George Burns had discussed the implications with A&BC officers and reported that:

- The Community Council can continue to meet and act informally on behalf of the community during the period that it will not be statutorily constituted;
- some reasonable expenditure could also be incurred during this period;
- the Council should make clear delegations, where required, to Members under existing authority before 20 October;
- the status of the Council should be made clear to anyone seeking formal consultation with it.

Adrian Stevens had discussed handling of MCC funds with A&BC officers. He noted that the balance of funds reported at the last AGM had been accrued through previous Council

activities and not as savings on the Administration Grant. There was, accordingly, no case for A&BC to recover the funds which, should MCC not be statutorily reconstituted in the near future, would instead be held in trust at least for a period of time.

A&BC officers have taken the view that the MCC be statutorily reconstituted in January 2023, assuming sufficient candidates come forward, in line with normal election practice and taking account of the Christmas break. George reported that he had raised a question about whether this could be brought forward in the event that further members are elected uncontested in November 2022.

It was agreed that:

- George will ask A&BC to reconstitute the MCC as soon as possible after the nomination period should further members be elected uncontested, as this will allow community interests to be represented on a statutory basis with minimum disruption;
- Members will continue to meet on the first Wednesday of every month at An Roth and via Zoom pending reconstitution
- the Community Council authorised expenditure to book An Roth and to renew the Zoom license which currently expires in December 2022;
- Adrian will apply for the annual Administration Grant for the current MCC year.

7. Sustainability

Education - Potential New School Campus

The meeting:

- Welcomed that A&BC had agreed to submit a bid for Scottish government funding;
- delegated George Burns to finalise the terms of a letter to A&BC, as a co-signatory with Iona Community Council, MICT, SWMID and NWMWDC, seeking a meeting to plan community engagement/consultation;
- delegated Angus Williams, and Tom Nelson as an alternate, to represent Mull Community Council at the meeting.

The meeting stressed the importance that consultation is proactive rather than reactive and that there is as much transparency as possible.

Ferries, Transport & Travel

Considerable concern was expressed that Winter Timetable booking on the Oban-Craignure route was not yet open. However it was noted that the timetable would shortly be available and that booking would reopen. Information will be available on the MIFC and MCC Facebook pages and websites.

The meeting delegated Billy McClymont as the MCC representative to the CMAL islands group which is to be reconstituted.

Norman Hickson reported that the Craignure Bay Group had still received no further contact from A&BC about the Craignure infrastructure plan. The Group will write to Jim

Smith at A&BC.

It was agreed that George Burns would write to A&BC about the Tobermory car park development seeking that the funding be ring-fenced and to ask what steps the Legal Team have taken to address decrofting, and the anticipated timescale.

Adrian Stephens agreed to lead MCC's response to the A&BC parking review, stressing that charging for car parks at the island ferry ports would be unacceptable, given that the ferries are a lifeline and a community necessity. It was also noted that A&BC are assessing traffic flow and car parking requirements at Fionnphort and will consider M Cc's request for public seating and shelter.

George Burns will contact Celia Compton to discuss concerns about waste bins at Fionnphort car park and will make further representations to A&BC if needed.

Tourism- Short Term Let Licensing

Jo reported that the scale of fees had been agreed recently by A&BC and that this and other information is now available on the A&BC website. New providers of holiday accommodation are required to apply by December 2022 and existing providers in the period January-March 2023.

Energy & Environment

SSEN will be shortly commencing cable-laying between Langamull and Coll. Shore ground work has already been completed. SSEN has undertaken extensive consultation with environmental and marine bodies, including Cal Mac and fisher's groups, and will keep the Community Council informed.

Health & Social Care

MICT will be assessing the proposed HSCP survey to determine whether it can be dovetailed with the survey which MICT intends to develop a business case for a nursing and care home in Craignure. The meeting:

- Welcomed that the HSCP survey opened with a particularly focus on the experience and needs of unpaid carers;
- delegated authority to Billy McClymont to continue to act on behalf of the MCC on the nursing and care home steering group, and on other HSCP matters with support from George Burns as required.

Housing

Moray Finch reported that MICT was issuing a tender for an Environmental Impact Assessment of key worker accommodation and that he would also be meeting shortly with A&BC officers about the Rural Growth Deal.

8. Planning

It was agreed that Billy McClymont would represent the Community Council at a meeting with the architect for the proposed retail development at Baliscate and authority was

delegated to Billy to act on behalf of the Council on this matter. Tom Nelson declared that he had an interest in a neighbouring property/business.

9. Police Report and A&B Councillors' Reports

George Burns will circulate such reports as have been received later, as internet connectivity problems had prevented earlier circulation.

10. Public Questions : None

11. Any Other Businesses

The meeting agreed to delegate authority to Billy McClymont to represent the Council as a member of the MIFC and the Waterfall Fund; and that George Burns should write to A&BC about drainage and waste bins in Craignure, drainage along the Craignure-Salen road and Salen street lights.

Next Meeting

Wednesday 2 November, 7.00pm at An Roth, Craignure, and via Zoom and livestreamed on Facebook. Join by Zoom via the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82424445466?pwd=S0ZiNzNOc2NDdVB2MFNTWjBna1NhUT09>