

# Mull Community Council

## Draft Meeting Minutes

7<sup>th</sup> August 2024

### Attendees

#### *Community Council*

Emily Greenhalgh  
Billy McClymont  
Jo Prior  
Sharon Worrall  
Rachel Philipson

John Maughan  
Rupert Ormond  
Daisy Williams  
Steve Fisher

#### *Councillors*

Willie Hume

#### *Guests*

Calum MacLachlann – Mull Campsite Owner  
James McGilivray – Mull Campsite Owner  
Kirsty MacFarlane – Coll Community Council

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from:

- Tracy Mayo

### Minutes of Meeting

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

- John Maughan declared an interest in a matter under Item 5: Campervan van/RV use of non – official sites.
- Billy McClymont declared an interest in a matter under Item 5: Campervan van/RV use of non – official sites.

#### 3. Minutes of Last Meeting

- The minutes were approved. Proposed: Jo Prior. Seconded: Steve Fisher

#### 4. Police Report

- PC Tara Watt attended the meeting.
  - Statistics indicate high fraudulent activity again for the month of July - 2 serious and 2 normal but no further information on these at present.
  - Information has been collated through various articles and pamphlets provided by Police Scotland for the purpose of producing an article to be produced and issued by the Community Council advising on fraud.
  - Other calls related to road traffic, public nuisance, drug related and theft.
  - The rest of the calls amount to follow up and 999 calls.
- Action: Sharon Worrall will collate the information provided in collaboration with PC Shaw, PC Tara Watt, and Police Scotland in the form of an article which will be published in the Round and About, Facebook and Community Council website in due course.**

*Police Data July 2024*

	July Calls	July Crimes
Mull North (LB30)	22	9
Craignure and Area (LB31)	11	2
Salen and Area (LB33)	5	1
Ross of Mull and Iona (LB34)	9	0

**5. Campervan Van/ RV - Use of Non-Official Sites**

- Calum MacLachlann raised the issue with regards to the problems that arise on Mull with wild camping from campervan vans/RVs.
  - Issues relate to the destruction to the natural environment when they do not use the current camping facilities that are available to them to dispose of their waste.
  - It was also highlighted by Calum that the current checks that Calmac agreed to ensure that a prior pitch had been booked seem to have faltered. This seems to just be a tick box on the system and no actual checks being made.
  - Therefore, they are seeking the support of the Community Council in writing a letter to the Local Authority to enquire about the process of applying for a byelaw that may pave the way to enable further action and subsequent management of the long-term problems arising from illegal campervan van/RV overnight stays.
  - It was raised by the Community Council that a byelaw may be difficult to obtain from the Local Authority without suitable evidence and full community support but agreed that the negative destruction to the natural environment from illegal camping was a significant issue. The Community Council also highlighted the issues with policing the byelaw. The example of Tiree having a ranger employed to ensure that everyone was parked on their permitted camping sites which included crofts was used as an example of what may be required.
  - It was also highlighted that a working group may need to be established in the support of applying for a byelaw, but in the first instance the community council gave unanimous approval to move to the next stage and enquire through the Local Authority about the process involved in the application of obtaining a Bylaw.
- Action: Sharon Worrall will follow up with Melissa Stewart on the process of applying for a byelaw and the best course of action in terms of taking it forward.**

## 6. Matters Arising

- The Community Council will look at increasing visibility through future shows as an opportunity to reach out to the local and wider community on a face-to-face level to discuss current rural issues. It is hoped that this will be opportunity to be in contact and recruit new members for the Community Council. To do this, advertising materials such as a banner would be needed. This may be jointly progressed with Argyll and Bute Council as they are also taking stands now.
- Sharon Worrall has exchanged two letters with Royal Mail since the last Community Council meeting. Royal Mail have confirmed that they are back up to full deliveries in Craignure and the Ross. There has been no update on the postal worker delivery times and required overtime and the sorting office facilities across the Island. Sharon Worrall is still trying to establish the quarterly meeting with Royal Mail and will update on this in due course.

## 7. Community Council Membership

### 7.1 New Community Members

- Angus Williams would like to be co-opted back to the Community Council to help ensure the smooth running of the School Campus Project. Proposed: Sharon Worrall. Seconded: Emily Greenhalgh.
- Michelle Devlin is also keen to join the Community Council and will join the next Community Council meeting to observe.
- Emily Greenhalgh would like to investigate creating a survey for the purpose of collecting primary data on the local opinions trying to establish why there is a lack of uptake in joining the Community Council. It was recognised that the Community Council is a difficult job and this often leads to peaks and troughs in membership. This is to be considered off-line.
- It was agreed that working groups are a good way of getting people involved with Community issues and actions.
- Coll Community Council confirmed that they have the same issues with membership and often feel that they are doing the job of Councillors and MSP's. A strategy is being put together to encourage Councillors to attend meetings on Coll. Mull confirmed that they did have a good attendance from Councillors, but this has waned lately.
- Sharon Worrall will be updating the action register and as part of re-invigorating this will speak to the Councillors about attendance at the meetings.

### 7.2 Replacement Minutes Secretary

- Rachel Philipson has been appointed the Minutes Secretary. Rachel is being supported in this role by Sharon Worrall.

## 8. Education – Emily Greenhalgh

### 8.1 Tobermory High School

- Emily Greenhalgh reported that work has started on the repairs of Tobermory High School.
- Work has started on the fence and this should be finished before the new term starts.

- Remedial works have started on the external fabric of the building, but this will unfortunately extend into the new term.

## 8.2 Mull Campus Update

- Invites have been sent out for the Community Sounding Board. The first meeting is taking place on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August in Craignure.
- Invitations were sent to the Parent Councils, Community Councils, local Development Trusts and other local trusts.
- 1 representative from each Board is being asked to attend the Sounding Board meeting. The purpose of this group is to support the project team on how to best to engage with the local community by helping liaise and feedback information. John Maughan has written to the Project Team to request at least two members from each organisation should be invited and informed the team which other venues could be used to enable larger group meetings.
- It was agreed that Emily Greenhalgh and Angus Williams would be the Mull Community Council representatives and noted that Tracy Mayo would be a representative from the Tobermory Parent Council group.
- Mull Campus Project Team have issued project update 2 which covers the current status of the project set-up.
- It is further noted that this is the beginning of a 5-year project which is in the initial stages of project development which will require a lot of community engagement and discussions around site appraisals and overall business issues.

## 8.3 Salen School Bus

- There were no further updates this month on the school bus chaperone.  
**Action: Emily Greenhalgh will email Cllr. Amanda Hampsey and ask for clarification on what is the policy regarding children of a certain age group travelling to school by a school bus un-chaperoned.**

## 9. Ferries

- The fire on board the Lord of the Isles was discussed.

## 10. Transport

### 10.1 West Coast Motors

- Jane Putsey will be joining the October meeting to discuss public transport related issues impacting upon Fionnphort. Rupert Ormond has circulated two reports produced by Jane in preparation for this meeting.  
**Action: Rupert Ormond to invite both Jane Putsey and Finlay MacDonald to the October meeting and to include this on the Agenda.**

## 11. Planning & Housing

### 11.1 Current Housing Applications

- Steve Fisher reported that there have been 10 applications over the last 5 weeks. However, there is nothing to note further on this with the majority of the applications being very minor.
- It was agreed that John Maughan will send the response on the Lagganulva planning application.

## 11.2 Tiroan Croft Creation

- John Maughan reported that the full 145 pages of case papers, had been circulated with regards to croft creation at Tiroan.
- It was agreed by the crofting commission that the objectors went through the land court to have an objection brought forward again. It has been upheld with further comment requested from supporters, including the Community Council.
- Billy McClymont thought the original plan was to for the ground to have been de-stumped to enable building of 6 houses and the creation of the crofts. As the land has not been de-stumped this may make it difficult for new crofters to make the croft viable. Mull Community Council will seek clarification from SWMID before sending a response.
- Clarification will also be sought on the allocation process and whether there is funding to help local people to take on these crofts.
- The response deadline is 21<sup>st</sup> of August. A special meeting is required to enable a full response to be provided.

**Action: John Maughan arrange a further ZOOM meeting to discuss this proposal in more detail on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August.**

## 12. Health and Social Care

### 12.1 Bowman Court

- Billy McClymont reported the last meeting on the Bowman Court Care Home highlighted things are progressing well and that the next stage would be to prepare the business case. The preparation of the business case will involve an incredible amount of work.
- Feasibility work is currently being undertaken to ensure that this business case will be sound. The architects have been to the site and have confirmed that it would be an easy transition from what there currently is on site to what could be achieved.
- It is hoped at the next meeting things will be further along with progression towards having a business case.

### 12.2 Other Items

- John Maughan has reported that a health improvement officer from NHS Highland has written asking if businesses can light up buildings in teal and purple in support of suicide prevention day.

**Action: John Maughan will pass on further information regarding the whole cause in due course to raise awareness.**

## 13. Roads and Infrastructure

### 13.1 Single Track Driving Guidelines

- Steve Fisher reported that single track driving still remains to be an issue. However, things are progressing slowly and there is a framework starting to take shape with an agreement in place from Coll and Tiree to come on board.
- The next stage of the framework is to collate a list of all the community councils and establish a contact with each group over the next month with further updates at the next community council meeting.

- Steve Fisher will also talk with Joe Reade to understand what was undertaken previously with CalMac.
- Kirsty MacFarlane is keen to be involved and has raised the issue at the Ferries Board. CalMac are keen to improve their performance and Kirsty believes that there is the opportunity to get support in disseminating information as well as other practical and financial help from CalMac. The new area manager role at CalMac should help with this.

### 13.2 Signage and Leaflets

- John Maughan reported that the council have put up slow and ramp signs at the Torness cattle grid but unfortunately there is no plan in place for it to be fixed due to a shortage of workforce. Further updates on this to follow.

### 13.4 Road Gritting

- No updates at present.

### 13.4 Digital Switchover (anticipated switch off copper lines)

- John Maughan reported that BT have instructed that there will be more drop-in sessions/meetings taking place across the island which will be advertised nearer the time. There will also be a webinar on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August

## 14. Environment and Forestry

### 14.1 North Mull Forestry/Land Use Plan

- No updates at present.

## 15. Tourism

- No updates at present.

## 16. Argyll and Bute Council Issues

- No updates at present.

## 17. Public Questions

- No public questions raised.

## 18. Any Other Business

- John Maughan reported that Alistair White has asked the Community Council to promote his Gaelic survey which will go up on the Community Council Facebook, website and has been shared to some of the Mull Facebook pages as well.
- John Maughan has reported that the new fence at Inverlussa has been passed by the council as being the legal distance from the road. The Community Council asked the Police for advice, and were inform it is not within their remit and that they are unable to action anything.

- Emily Greenhalgh included a further update on the educational report that information and documentation on the Mull Campus project to date will be uploaded in due course. It was agreed that this should be in a separate location to the Mull Community Council website but could be linked from the Community Council website.

## Next Meeting

- 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2024, 19:00 at An Roth, via Zoom and Livestreamed.

## Mull Community Council Contacts

The e-mail addresses for Mull Community Council are:

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