

Seil and Easdale Community Council

Notes of Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 27th May 2014 – Seil Island Hall

1. Present:

- **Community Councillors:** Seumas Anderson (Convener), Charles Struthers, Ann Marie Robin, Eileen Colston, John Gordon, Graeme Bruce, Alan MacFadyen, Chris Dugdale + Julie Ferris (Secretary)
- **Council members:** Cllr Elaine Robertson
- **Members of the public:** 16

2. Apologies for absence: PC Jeremy Moore, Cllr Duncan MacIntyre

3. Minutes of last meeting: Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, held on 24th September 2013, were agreed as an accurate record. Proposed: Ruth Odling, Seconded: Stuart Reid

4. Matters arising: None

5. Convener's Report

Seumas Anderson, Convener, gave the following report:

Welcome to the 2014 Annual General Meeting of Seil and Easdale Community Council. Since our last AGM there has been an election, which was contested by 9 residents for 8 places, with a healthy percentage of voters returning ballot papers. This resulted in a slight change in the makeup of the Community Council, with six of the former 10 returning and augmented by two new recruits willing to raise their heads above the parapet on the community's behalf.

The Community Council has continued to meet monthly and to hold bi-monthly public meetings which have covered many topics.

The Community Council continues to make progress with Scottish Water on the sewage treatment installation, and hopefully the next AGM will see the Community Council report a final sign off of this subject that has taken many years of continual chipping away to resolve.

As ever, the Community Council strives to have roads maintained to a high standard and hopefully improved. Indeed, we will have another opportunity to take matters forward this evening as at the ordinary meeting to follow this AGM we will welcome Mr Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services for Argyll & Bute Council.

On the planning front it is never quiet. The Community Council continues to comment on planning issues as and when appropriate, and this year has been no exception with responses submitted on two current controversial applications and several resolved applications.

Easdale Island again deserves a mention as Historic Scotland has plans to schedule a large part of the quarry area. The Chairman and one other Community Councillor attended a presentation by Historic Scotland, and another meeting is planned.

The Easdale Island Residents' Association have taken charge of the island's redundant phone box and have bought and installed a defibrillator. Argyll & Bute Council's resilience pack will also be fitted there in the future. In conjunction with Seil Island Hall Committee, the Community Council helped another defibrillator to be installed at the hall here. Training in the defibrillator's use is being arranged by Dr Maggie Thorpe very soon, and anyone can contact her to enhance their knowledge of defibrillator use.

The Resilience Plan that was reported at the last AGM is now finalised and is in the hands of Argyll & Bute Council, with only a few minor tweaks to the much-enhanced telephone directory needed to close the issue.

I note from last year's report that several issues keep recurring, and a watching brief is kept on these. Indeed, only last week Nova Innovations finally got their tidal generator working up in Shetland (they approached Seil, Luing and Easdale several years ago about community tidal turbines).

The negotiation to purchase the residue of land around/in Ellenabeich by the Kilbrandon trust continues, albeit slowly.

To finish, I would like to thank Councillors Duncan MacIntyre, Elaine Robertson, Iain Angus MacDonald, former Councillor Louise Glen-Lee, and PC Jeremy Moore. Thanks also to Jim Cunningham, the Church Office and all the distributors of the newsletter, to our secretary Julie Ferris, and to all the Community Councillors and their families for their input on community matters, and for acting as sounding boards, typists, taxi drivers etc. Finally, thanks to all members of the community for their attendance and input.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Anne Marie Robin, distributed copies of the Statement of Accounts covering the period 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2014, and reported as follows:

Income: You will note that our only income this year, £364.50, is from the local telephone directories. The excellent profit from the directories of £176.50 is due to the increased sales, and thanks are due to John Gordon for his considerable efforts in producing this updated edition. Thanks also to Jim Cunningham for printing, and Wendy Dugdale for sales.

Please note that the 2013/14 Argyll and Bute Administration Grant of £452.80 did not arrive in time to be included in this statement. The delay was due to a number of reasons including a later than usual AGM in September, October/November Community Council elections, transfer of duties to a new Treasurer, and legalities required by the bank. However, it means

that our present balance of £3,952.15 is quite healthy and we can apply for our 2014/15 Grant if and when this statement is approved.

Expenses: our secretary has yet to submit her expenses, so this will be carried forward to next year's Statement.

My thanks to Stuart Reid for auditing the Books, and to Mike Shaw for his advice and work as the retiring Treasurer.

It was suggested that the Seil & Easdale Coastal Erosion account be closed, and the balance of £122.22 be transferred to the main account.

7. Election of Officers: None

8. AOB

None