

SEIL AND EASDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28th MARCH 2017 Seil Island Hall

PRESENT: Cllrs Elaine Robertson and Kieron Green, John Gordon, Seumas Anderson, Charles Struthers, Anne Marie Robin, Alan MacFadyen, Uta Binnie and 13 members of the public

APOLOGIES: Julie Ferris, Chris Dugdale

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

John Gordon with an interest in SEPA's registration of his new build, private sewage treatment at Seaview.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24th January 2017 were agreed as an accurate record; proposed by Ruth Odling, seconded by Charles Struthers.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 24th JANUARY 2016

Scottish Water

Since the last SECC public meeting in January the local stakeholders have been working hard to achieve the community objective - a fit for purpose treatment plant that does not damage the amenity of the island or its people, or pollute the marine environment. They have been communicating with SW and the Independent Expert Chris Chubb regarding the 3 options proposed in January by SW.

Following discussions and walks to view sites, the local group reached a consensus in favour of Option 1A, agreeing it met with the objective. Option 1A proposes to replace the existing Waste Water Treatment Works with a Septic Tank/Submerged Aerated Filter/UV, located away from the existing site. The proposed location is in the valley that runs up from Balvicar to the Ardencaple Road - hidden, secluded, and well away from houses. Most of the plant at the current Waste Water Treatment Works at Balvicar Bay will be removed, though a new underground storage tank will be located there and the outfall pipe in the bay will remain in use. SW assured the stakeholders that the Balvicar Bay site will have less visual impact than at present. A stand alone septic tank would be installed for the 8 houses at Seaview.

The stakeholder decision was conveyed to all concerned in advance of a 2 day Technical Session held on Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st March. This session involved the local group, local A&B Councillors, the Independent Expert, Chris Chubb and 8 SW representatives. The local decision was acknowledged and discussion focused on Option 1A with well-prepared information presented by the SW reps. The stakeholders were assured work has been done on Option 1A and more will be done to assess its viability. The next full Stakeholder meeting is planned for Monday 24th April.

In the meantime the stakeholders have been advised to send a letter to SW detailing and emphasising our understanding of the community's reasons and need for this proposal choice and similarly why other proposals were rejected. This could be valuable if and when progressing Option 1A and SW would welcome any statements that may support planning and licensing applications.

Although we regret not being able to share much of the negotiations to date the local stakeholders would appreciate some indication of support and trust from the meeting in our promotion of this option and our commitment to secure the best deal for the whole community.

Questions were received from the public regarding available documentation regarding the available options, including 1A, also the availability of minutes from the technical meeting on 20/21st March. Also, questions were received regarding technical reliability of the new sewage system, given the current experience of technical failure. SW had confirmed to the stakeholders that the technology behind Option 1A was tried and tested before and they were confident would be appropriate for this community. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to SW highlighting the difficulties the community faces to endorse and fully support SW proposals when so little information has been made available for review and comment. It was suggested that an interim report from SW to all householders might be helpful. Cllr Elaine Robertson offered to write to SW to raise concerns regarding communications.

The stakeholders present will convey concerns voiced at the meeting to the full local stakeholder group.

Roads

Graham Stone has retired and James Jackson is now attending to road matters. Cllr Elaine Robertson thanked the SECC for writing to Graham Stone and congratulating him on his retirement.

There is considerable road improvement work ongoing in the area including at Kilmore and drainage is being addressed as part of this. The budget for 2017-2018 has just been agreed and Cllr Kieron Green confirmed that the budget is 2 million pounds over what was planned to continue the roads programme in Argyll and raising the road standard. Pothole repair comes out of the revenue budget and any new potholes should be reported to the Council Roads Department or Charles Struthers.

The advert regarding the **Proposed traffic regulation order and Prohibition of waiting at North Cuan Ferry** was in the Oban Times and SECC had no objections. Luing Community Council too were happy with what was agreed; a net loss of 1.5 parking bays to enable a better turning circle for the bus.

Health

The next Planning for the Future Group Meeting regarding OLI Hospitals is being planned for next week and more public meetings are being scheduled for the future. Minutes from the January 13th public meeting will be shared when these become available.

Defibrillators outside Seil hall and on Easdale Island are being registered with the Scottish Ambulance Service. George Hannah confirmed that one defibrillator was gifted to the hall and Alan confirmed that the dissolution of the Easdale Residents Association and the accumulated funding resulted in purchase of the Easdale defibrillator. George Hannah confirmed that both devices could be taken to Oban Hospital Medical Physics Department to ensure regular maintenance. It was unlikely anything significant apart from paddles and batteries would ever be required. Anne Marie confirmed that the SECC also still had funds of £ 194.54 ring fenced for upkeep of the defibrillators.

Police Report

PC Moore was pleased to announce that there was nothing of significance to report. He noted that there had been a diesel spill on A816 which was being attended to, also that there were 3 calls relating to two suspicious vehicles on the 14th March. It turns out they were here on legitimate business but PC Moore was delighted by the social response. On the 15th a lady had been successfully rescued from the gorge. He noted two abandoned vehicles on the island, which have been ticketed for uplift but this might take a bit of time. He and his colleagues completed two speeding checks on two separate occasions on the island but both only resulted in warnings. He said he had been approached regarding speeding traffic at the bus stop in Balvicar and at the school when children are waiting or disembarking from the bus, but no formal complaints have been

received in writing. Without evidence he is unable to take this any further. He confirmed that the public should report vehicles to him which appeared to drive recklessly whilst the children were awaiting embarkation or disembarking from the bus and would have a word with the driver.

PC Moore has signed Seil and Easdale island up for Rural Watch, a new Neighbourhood watch scheme, which he recommends people sign up to and further information about this plus the URL details will be placed on the Seillachan. URL details regarding Policing 2026 and rural watch will also be posted. Policing 2026 is a collaborative and strategic programme of work being driven by the SPA and Police Scotland that aims to transform the police service incrementally over the next 10 years.

Planning and Listed Building Consent for Building: *New since last meeting*

17/00488/TPO Proposed crowning/lopping of 1 Ash tree and 1 Sitka Spruce tree, 1 Caolas Ellenabeich Isle Of Seil Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4RQ/Received: Tue 21 Feb 2017/ Validated: Thu 16 Mar 2017/ Status: Awaiting decision

Bus Shelter

Douglas Blades and Stephanie McGlenn had suggested last year that the Victorian bus shelter design offered by A & B Council was first in line for construction this financial year. However, upon recent follow-up of communications, Charles was told by Douglas Blades that it was unlikely that the project would proceed this year unless further funding could be found. Cllr Elaine Robertson will investigate this further with Douglas Blades.

Parking in Oban

Councillor Green confirmed that a TRO was being prepared regarding Oban parking. A number of suggestions have been put forward including free 30 minute parking in the shopping areas and 2 hours free parking, before charges are imposed, in the 3 public carparks. Once the TRO has been completed it will go out to consultation with the public. Note, to raise sufficient funds other roads may be subject to parking charges, such as Glengallan road.

Forward Planning

The next open meeting to progress the forward planning projects is 7.30pm Tuesday 25th April 2017 in Seil Hall. At the last meeting held on 23rd February two top projects selected by the local community were discussed by two groups formed at the session-1. Paths and 2.Sea/ shore access. Volunteers agreed to investigate further before reporting any progress at the next planned meeting. All are encouraged to engage with the community and recruit interest and support. This forward planning initiative has already prompted a positive response and support from one of the local landowners, who is keen to facilitate and work with us on plans for paths and seashore access. Any support from other landowners will be welcome.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Bins

A letter signed by all the residents of North Cuan had been received by the SECC asking for help with their request to remove all bins and recycling at North Cuan, which were not being managed properly. Concern was raised in the meeting about where visitors might leave their rubbish and that such a move might lead to fly tipping.

Easdale has recently been awarded **Island partnership funding** to address recycling on the island and as part of this they will be receiving a glass imploder and a small generator , plus consultation from a project officer about how to recycle waste better on the island.

Protection of old gravestones in Balvicar Charles Struthers to confirm with Derek Crooks at Argyll & Bute Council that our local expert Helen Glennie and volunteers might be able to proceed with cleaning up pre 18th century gravestones.

Tramways collapsing on Easdale: SECC to approach historic Scotland for further guidance and support about how to protect these historical assets.

BT poles may need attention on the island, particularly on Easdale. SECC to approach BT regarding this.

The **new telephone directory for 2017** is on sale at Balvicar Stores.

Easdale Ferry needs upgrading as it is no longer fit for purpose. Cllr Kieron Green is aware this might be the case as Luing and Lismore ferries are in a similar situation. He will raise this point in the Council.

TABLED PAPERS: URL details relate to recent papers of note.

Local Development Plan 2. Place Standard Tool & Call for Ideas. Survey can be found on www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/ldp2. Open until 21 April

Health Improvement Day - ACEs Adverse Childhood Experiences, Wednesday 10 May Inveraray Inn. www.facebook.com/healthyargyllandbute

Survey of community councillors' information literacy. Edinburgh Napier University. <https://community-knect.net/> for further information.

Police Report from Jeremy Moore

(1) Reminder about Policing 2006

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/policing-2026/>

(2) Rural Watch

<https://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk/>

<https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/council-and-government/community-councils>

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 23rd May 2017, 6.30pm, Seil Island Hall