

**SEIL AND EASDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> MAY 2017  
Seil Island Hall**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Elaine Robertson, Kieron Green and Andrew Vennard and John Gordon (Convener), Seumas Anderson, Anne Marie Robin, Graeme Bruce, Julie Ferris, Charles Struthers, Chris Dugdale, Uta Binnie (Secretary)

**Members of the public:** 20

**APOLOGIES:** PC Jeremy Moore, Alan MacFadyen,

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Seamus Anderson with an interest in Scottish Water, Anne Marie Robin with regards to garage planning application.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were agreed as an accurate record; proposed by Anne Marie Robin, seconded by Steven Arnold.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**Scottish Water** (Statement from Anne Marie Robin, Local Stakeholder for the minute)

“Following due process over the last 12 months, guided by local feedback and valuable advice from the Independent Expert, the local stakeholder group agreed to endorse Option 1a, now also favoured by the wider Scottish Water Stakeholder Group.

Having been supplied with considerable detail of the pros and cons of many options, the local stakeholders, recommend proposal 1A to this community as a solution to our current Waste Water problems while acknowledging that some aspects may require further consideration and investigation.

The perceived issues of transparency and communication with our community over the last few months have been a source of concern to the local stakeholders although we do understand Scottish Water’s wish to avoid causing concern and confusion to the general public while at early stages of negotiations. However, tonight we are happy to table as many relevant documents and notes as are available. After this meeting, copies will be left in Balvicar Stores for your perusal.”

**RUARIDH MACGREGOR - SCOTTISH WATER**

Ruaridh MacGregor, the Regional Community Manager of Scottish Water presented an update on the latest Waste Water proposal on behalf of Scottish Water (**Seil Island Waste Water Treatment Proposals**. Ruaridh MacGregor, Regional Communities Manager, Scottish Water, Seil Island Community Council Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017). The outline presentation is attached to these minutes. After briefly describing the objectives, the composition of the stakeholders group and the brief he explained how Option 1A became the preferred option. Option 1A is a two site solution. The present plant at Balvicar will be decommissioned and a new inland treatment works with secondary treatment and disinfection will be constructed. A new septic tank will be provided to serve Seaview Terrace. Scottish Water still has to sign off the final plans before planning applications can be lodged with Argyll and Bute Council and environmental permits can be requested from SEPA. Ruaridh MacGregor suggested that final sign off will not happen until after a community information event to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> June. Option 3 (a Single Site centralised treatment at Sea View) will be retained in the event that 1A cannot be delivered. All other options previously under consideration by the Stakeholders and Scottish Water have been discarded.

**The next steps by Scottish Water will be:**

- Invite and update letter to be issued this week to Seil residents
- Community information event planned for 15<sup>th</sup> June
- Record Community Feedback
- Applications to SEPA (July)
- Apply for planning and other technical submissions ( Nov)

Many questions and comments from the public followed. Concerns raised were the apparent lack of transparency, disruption during construction of the access road, and the overall sustainability and environmental impact of the proposal. Although the work of the stakeholders on behalf of the community was appreciated, concern was expressed that the process was decision making rather than consultative. In response to further questioning, Ruaridh MacGregor confirmed that no final decision would be taken before the information event to be held in 15th June.

### **Roads**

Graham Stone has retired and James Jackson is now attending to road matters. Argyll and Bute Council grass cutting will commence on 8<sup>th</sup> June and will reach Seil Hall around 15<sup>th</sup> June. Knotweed will be treated before the cutting starts. Charles Struthers requested that the public notify him of any known knotweed infestation along the main roads of Seil.

No further capital road works are being planned. However patching of potholes continues as usual and any problems should be forwarded for the attention of James Jackson.

### **Tramway cottages road adoption.**

The issue of the responsibility for the damaged drain at Tramway Cottages, Ellenabeich was discussed. In the absence of conclusive proof that the road is adopted the matter has been referred to a higher level in the Roads Department and our Councillors are engaged. A representative of the residents of Tramway cottages has been asked to write to head of roads to formalise the adoption. If requested the CC would be willing to lend its support for adoption.

### **Graffiti on road signs.**

Kieron Green will follow up with the relevant departments to clean up the road signs on the road leading up to and outside the school grounds.

### **Health**

The next "The Health and Social Care Forum" regarding OLI Hospitals is being planned for June 5<sup>th</sup>. It is an open meeting which is scheduled every two months, in the hospital. Oban Community Council is scheduling another public meeting regarding OLI Hospitals and health, scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> June, 7pm Corran Halls. More public meetings are being scheduled for the future.

### **Healthy Villages Project.**

The CC recorded its thanks to the Healthy Villages Project, which aims to improve health and well-being in rural Argyll. The CC had funded the hall hire for a 12 week fitness programme run by the Project which has been so successful that the classes will continue with the participants funding hall hire themselves. Attempts will be made to increase publicity for other events held by the Project.

**Police Report** No updates.

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

- [Installation of replacement roof covering from grey slate to dark grey corrugated metal.](#)  
40 Easdale Island Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4TB  
Ref. No: 17/01055/PP | Received: Tue 18 Apr 2017 | Validated: Thu 20 Apr 2017 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Formation of ramp.](#)

Tigh Cladaich Clachan Seil Isle Of Seil Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4TJ

Ref. No: 17/00904/PP | Received: Thu 30 Mar 2017 | Validated: Thu 30 Mar 2017 | Status: Decided

- [Erection of extension to dwellinghouse](#)

Ashburton Balvicar Isle Of Seil Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4RD

Ref. No: 17/01343/PP | Received: Wed 17 May 2017 | Validated: Wed 17 May 2017 | Status: Awaiting decision

- [Erection of porch extension](#)

Dunmarrock House Balvicar Isle Of Seil Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4TE

Ref. No: 17/01307/PP | Received: Fri 12 May 2017 | Validated: Fri 19 May 2017 | Status: Awaiting decision

- [Alterations and extension to provide upper floor accommodation comprising private office and store with external stair and balcony access and erection of retaining wall](#)

Cnoc Ard Balvicar Isle Of Seil Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4RA

Ref. No: 17/01197/PP | Received: Tue 02 May 2017 | Validated: Mon 08 May 2017 | Status: Awaiting decision

- [Erection of detached garage](#)

Cluanie Balvicar Isle Of Seil Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4TE

Ref. No: 17/01179/PP | Received: Fri 28 Apr 2017 | Validated: Fri 28 Apr 2017 | Status: Awaiting decision

- [Installation of septic tank](#)

Cuan Cottage Cuan Ferry Isle Of Seil Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4RB

Ref. No: 17/00486/PP | Received: Tue 21 Feb 2017 | Validated: Fri 28 Apr 2017 | Status: Awaiting

### **Bus Shelter**

Charles Struthers was informed that the proposed Victorian bus shelter design offered by Argyll and Bute Council is currently not sanctioned by the conservation officer. However, a more modest bus stop design is in budget and could be erected by October using local contractors. Photographs were circulated during the meeting and comments from the public were noted.

### **Parking in Oban**

Councillor Kieron Green confirmed that a TRO regarding Oban parking was now out for review by local services, ambulance, police etc. The document is expected to go out to public consultation in June.

### **Forward Planning**

A fifth Forward Planning session took place in Seil Island Hall on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Although there was not a large turnout, the two groups who continued the discussion of the Paths and Sea Access projects enjoyed some lively sharing of views, reported on considerable progress and planned next steps. A reminder that Forward Planning meetings are open to all with an interest in the current starter projects. If you cannot manage along please submit any ideas, views or queries in advance of meetings.

### **The next meeting is planned for Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30 pm.**

We are very grateful to Christine Wills, Sue Fenton and Robert Rae for their contributions of group leading and recording. Sue and Christine have kindly agreed to give a more detailed update from each group. The actions identified were: the Sea Access group agreed that it might be useful to prepare a booklet of information for tourists regarding water access from the island and information about the marine services operators were offering on the island. Also, to write to the landowners regarding the use of their land to access Seil Sound. The Paths group has been in discussions with Argyll and Bute Council Roads Department and is now preparing a formal proposal for submission regarding the path proposal between Clachan Seil to Balvicar. Money is available for this kind of project but you need to fit the criteria and the next funding stream can be applied for in July or 6 months after this.

## ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

### Bins

The requested bin and recycling removal at North Cuan, does not appear to have been completed yet. A Letter Bin will remain for visitor rubbish. However, it was suggested that a sign is also put in place to educate the holiday makers about waste disposal.

### Tramways collapsing on Easdale

SECC has written to Historic Environment Scotland for further guidance and support about how to protect these historical assets. One of the walls is bulging and in danger of collapse. Martin Ross, Development Manager, Finance and Performance Directorate responded to our communication and will discuss matters with his colleagues before providing us with the most appropriate advice. We expect further feedback in June.

### BT poles

BT poles may need attention on the island, particularly on Easdale. A BT Openreach CST engineer has been called to inspect the Seil poles identified. Alan MacFadyen to manage communications regarding the Easdale poles.

### Traffic Speed

The Parent Council notified the SECC of their concerns regarding the traffic speed around the Balvicar Bus stop and at the school. Currently the entire school role alights from the Balvicar bus stop. Cllr Elaine Robertson suggested that the Parent Council contact Jim Smith in the roads department and Anne Marie Knowles in the Education department in writing with the suggestion to reduce the speed at Balvicar bus stop.

### Seileachan

The 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Seileachan is this year and Sue Fenton is looking for copies of the first Seileachan newsletters published. If anyone has these please contact Sue.

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

- **Seil Island Waste Water Treatment Proposals.** Ruaridh MacGregor, Regional Communities Manager, Scottish Water, Seil Island Community Council Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017
- **StakeHolder Documents and Notes Regarding Scottish Water Treatment Proposal.** In Balvicar Shop for review.
- **Review of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils** <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/review-scheme-establishment-community-council>.
- **Community funding** available to community groups in Argyll and Bute to help them improve the amenity of their local areas.  
<https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/news/2017/may/get-your-share-community-funding>  
<https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s117769/Sustainable%20Community%20Initiatives.pdf>
- **Youth engagement with Community Councils; Argyll and Bute Young Scot Rewards** [young.scot/local-authorities/argyll-and-bute/](http://young.scot/local-authorities/argyll-and-bute/) Young Scot Rewards is an innovative platform designed to encourage young people in Scotland to participate in positive activities by offering points which can then be used to unlock rewards.
- **Parking Consultation:** <https://www.transport.gov.scot/consultation/improving-parking-in-scotland-consultation/>

## DATE AND TIME OF NEXT SECC MEETING

Tuesday 25 July 2017, 6.30pm, Easdale Island Hall