

SEILEACHAN

SEIL AND EASDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL

I have a granddaughter, who, when playing a game of Scrabble will concoct the most unlikely words from her 7 letters, and claim that they are legitimately in the dictionary—needless to say, she does not get away with it. However, as a possible cure for insomnia, could I suggest that concocting a new word in the English language and a plausible definition of same, might well be therapeutic. For example—Chinanky—as in “How about a chinanky?”—which translates according to your sensibilities as “How about a Chinese carry out at your place, and a bit of hanky-panky afterwards?”. This example is not gender specific. A few attempts at this sort of thing, and you will be off to sleep in no time at all.

CC Notes for Seileachan June 2015

Once again, Seil Island Hall was packed for the AGM and public meeting held on Tuesday 26th May, with 25 members of the public joining the Community Councillors, Cllr Elaine Robertson and PC Jeremy Moore .

From the AGM:

In his annual report as Convener, Seumas Anderson reviewed the work Seil & Easdale CC has done throughout the year for the benefit of the community, including commenting on planning applications where it was appropriate to do so. There was an element of *déjà vu* when looking back to the AGM of 2012 which included the phrase “The waste water system continues to be an issue”. Indeed!!

As most people will be aware, Dr Hannah is retiring and Seumas recorded the community’s thanks for his service to us all, his input to maintaining and enhancing the health care provided to the practice area, and for making sure Easdale Medical Practice will continue to be here and providing for the community’s future health needs.

Good luck, and a long and healthy retirement George!

Thanks were also given to Eileen Colston for her input to the CC over the past two years, and for taking over distribution of the Seileachan. Eileen has now decided to stand down, meaning that we now have a vacancy. There will be a by election later in the year – so look out for that if you think you can help.

From the public meeting:

ARGYLL SEA KAYAK TRAIL

Further to the proposals reported in the last issue, there had been a site meeting with Peter McDonald of A&B Council, Cllr Elaine Robertson, two members of the Community Council and various interested parties. It was agreed that the No.1 priority would be revised signage at Ellenabeich, with the second priority being a shelter adjacent to the existing toilets. The plans would now be costed and taken further to planning as appropriate.

SCOTTISH WATER: NEW WASTE WATER PROPOSALS FOR SEIL

The only progress since the last meeting was that landowners had been served Notice for Scottish Water to carry out site investigations. It was clear that there was a great deal of opposition from members of the community for the reasons enumerated in the minutes of the previous meeting – the CC has written to Scottish Water to express the community’s concerns.

ROADS

Charles, as ever, keeps pressure on A&B Council to attend to the perennial problems of potholes, flooding and verge cutting. Remember to report any concerns direct to A&B Council as well.

POLICE REPORT

PC Moore reported that overall crime throughout the region was down significantly, and that we are fortunate to live in a part of the region with a very low crime rate. However, there had been two instances of fraud conducted by telephone against the elderly. Anyone with concerns should contact the police for help and advice. People should also secure their property PTO

and be aware that theft is always a possibility even here. There had been a considerable police presence in response to concerns over speeding through the 30mph zone – be aware!!

PLANNING

New applications since last meeting

1. Non material amendment to planning permission – change to roof finish. Balvicar View Clachan Seil - Application permitted

2. Alterations and extension to existing stead-ing to form dwellinghouse and installation of septic tank

Braefoot Steading Balvicar - Pending consid-eration

3. Installation of air source heat pump

3 Cnoc A'Challtuinn Clachan Seil - Pending consideration

4. Formation of new window opening in rear (north) elevation of dwellinghouse Achnaclach Clachan Seil - Pending consideration

Still pending/decided since last meeting

Proposed kayaker's facilities including conver-sion of workshop to bunkhouse, extension to existing store, erection of pod style timber tents and toilet/shower/laundry facilities, for-mation of parking provision, installation of septic tank and associated works.

Land North East of Cuan House – Application permitted

Erection of fence (retrospective) Old Engineer-ing Works – Pending Decision

The Chair explained that there are two sepa-rate issues: Planning permission for the fence and an access issue. A&B Council will pursue the route as pedestrian access but not vehicu-lar access, for which substantial proof of use over the years is required.

Site for the erection of 20 dwellinghouses Land South East of Oban Seil Farm – Pending Deci-sion

Variation of condition 2 of planning permission to remove the requirement for sound attenuat-ing material to be applied to the whole of the interior of the building. Land West of Am Bruach Balvicar – Pending Consideration

STREETLIGHTS IN ELLENABEICH

Some of the new streetlights had been in-stalled, the rest would be completed once their sparrow occupants had fledged. Feedback was that the lights were very effective.

VODAFONE RURAL OPEN SURE SIGNAL (ROSS)

John Gordon reported a positive out-come from the Vodafone survey un-der-taken in April. The proposed sites are Tigh an Truish, the Surgery, Balvicar Stores, North Cuan and Seil Island Hall. Watch this space for fur-ther news.

ACCESS TO OPEN HILLS

The CC had been made aware of a barbed wire fence which had re-placed a working gate at the top of Cnoc a Challtuinn, which used to allow access onto the hill. The Council's Access Officer would be invited to the next meeting to discuss such is-sues.

TAP AT ELLENABEICH TOILETS

The CC will write to A&B Council to establish why the hose adaptor on the outside tap at the public toilets has been removed.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

John Gordon asked to be informed of anyone moving into the area so they could be included in the directory if they wish.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEET-ING

Tuesday 28th July 2015, 19.00, Seil Island Hall.

HALL COMMITTEE REPORT

Lottery May	Lottery June
£50 John Colston	£50 Richard Wesley
£10 Joy McKenzie	£10 Elizabeth Reid
£10 John Barr	£10 Helen Glennie
£10 Richard Wesley	£10 Jean Oliver

Craft Fair – The next one will be held on Sun-day 2nd August. As last year, there will be a Fruit/Veg/Flower competition, so get planting! Look out for the posters, and remember you can find us now on Facebook.

Highland Fair – This had been proposed for 20th June, but it has been decided to postpone it to a later date – watch this space for more information.

Summer Ceilidh – It is hoped to hold one be-fore the end of the school holidays – more in-formation to follow.