

# SEILEACHAN

## Seil & Easdale Community Council Newsletter

Vol 24 No 6

December 2020

This issue is being sent to email addresses made available through clubs and societies etc (apologies for any cross-postings) and will also be available on local Facebook groups, such as Seil Survival group and the Community Council (CC) Facebook. The CC has decided that house-to-house deliveries cannot be made at this time. A few paper copies will be available at the shop for those without access to the internet; if you know of anyone without internet access, perhaps you could print out a copy for them? The Seileachan is also available on the community website: <http://seil.oban.ws> (together with full minutes and agenda).

Seil & Easdale Community Council has its own Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/758246257908565/>

Contact: [seilandeasdaleccsec@btinternet.com](mailto:seilandeasdaleccsec@btinternet.com) for additions to the Community Council's email list, or any issues arising.

Copy for the next issue should be sent to the editor, Sue, by 31 January: [scwfenton@gmail.com](mailto:scwfenton@gmail.com)

### SEIL & EASDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

#### Community Council Membership

There have been a number of changes on the Community Council (CC):

Zim Knight (Convener)  
Seamus Anderson (Vice Chair)  
Jakki Carter-Brown (Secretary)  
Willie Munro (Treasurer)  
Rhoda Thomson  
Steve Patterson  
Peter Daalman

If you have any issues you wish to raise you can contact any member of the Community Council or Jakki via [secretary@seilandeasdalecc.co.uk](mailto:secretary@seilandeasdalecc.co.uk)

#### Scottish Water

You all will all now have received a letter from Scottish Water stating their intention to defer their planning application; costs have more than doubled due to access, design and technical aspects. The CC will report back when there is further information.

#### Buses

The bus has resumed to normal service; the turning issues appear to have been resolved for now. The service is being monitored so it may well be the case that if you do not use it you will lose it, or it will be subject to a revised timetable.

#### Litter & Bins

The bin situation has improved, largely due to the end of the tourist season, but the issue of the missing bin by the public toilets and bin(s) in the public car park has yet to be resolved; the CC is working with Argyll & Bute (A&B) Council on this.

A polite reminder that public bins are for litter, and not an alternative to the household waste site. There is a

problem with the bottle banks at the Hall and the Doctor's surgery; bottles have been left on the ground beside full bottle banks. The A&B glass depot will not touch any loose bottles due to Covid so bottles and broken glass are left when the banks are emptied.

This has led to both the Hall and surgery saying they are considering removing the facility. If the bins are full, please take bottles home and make other arrangements.

#### Phone Directory

The 2020 edition is on sale in Balvicar Stores. If you are not currently in the phone directory do please let us know if you wish to be added to the 2021 edition; a form can be sent to you. The directory is a valuable asset, containing a lot of useful information, and needs to be supported to make it cost effective.

#### Easdale Harbour & Ferry

Further damage has been sustained following the recent storm. The CC is working hard to try and find a long term remedy to the issues faced by Easdale, which involves looking at a possible breakwater to protect the harbour.

A & B Council is also looking at options with the proposed replacement of the ferry in 2025/26. The winter timetable is now in place, following a review and poll of the residents.

#### Oban Ward Boundaries

Proposals have been put forward for Seil & Easdale to move into a new ward with Oban, or to be part of an Island Ward with Mull, Iona, Coll and Tiree. The Island Ward does not appear to suit our needs as the challenges faced by Coll and Tiree are entirely different to ours. The CC believes that we are best suited being part of Oban or the Lorne Ward. You can express your views by completing the survey by 26 January 2021. <https://consult.lgbc-scotland.gov.uk/reviews/argyll-and-bute-council-area-public-consultation/>

#### Health

You should now have been contacted by the surgery for your flu jab, if you qualify. The Covid vaccine has arrived and you will be contacted in due course. The CC Facebook page will provide details of how and when, as soon as we know. The surgery has thanked everyone for their help through Covid to ensure we all remain safe.

#### Roads

Transport Scotland published 11 project corridor options for A83 access to Argyll & Bute and invited comments by 30 October. Landslides along this vital route affect us all; Willie Munro attended a Zoom meeting with Rhoda Grant MSP discussing the options. Option 1 was thought to be the most viable in the short term but the Argyll community should be ambitious and look to have further infrastructure

considered in the longer term that could open up a mid-Argyll option. Further information on the options to be shortlisted will become available following the closure of the consultation.

Complaints have again been received over speeding. Suggestions have been made for a speed limit across the island, and the Police are monitoring the situation. A reminder to everyone to drive with respect for all other road users, whether in cars, on bicycles or on foot. Watch your speed, and give cyclists and pedestrians plenty of room, especially with the longer hours of darkness.

### **Police Report**

A number of complaints about lockdown breaches and persons not adhering to the rules were dealt with. A number of scams have been running, mainly around emails purporting to be from the DVLA, TV licensing, PayPal etc. Police urge you not to follow a link from an email or give out any personal banking details on the phone. If in doubt about the legitimacy, then go to the official site from where the email has supposedly originated, and contact the provider organisation yourself.

Police attended a report of a sheep being worried by a dog near Balvicar. The owner of the dog was identified, and the matter dealt with in conjunction with the council dog warden.

Police assisted in getting farm machinery moved from the roadside near Balvicar as motorists were concerned it could be a hazard.

There were acts of minor vandalism and annoyance in and around the public car park at the road end in Ellenabeich. PC Macleod finds it disappointing to find our community is not immune to calls of this nature, especially when it appears local persons are involved, or at least know who is involved. He would like the acts to stop, and appeals to anyone who might have information to get in touch with him.

### **Planning**

Erection of a one-metre-high retaining wall, to include recess for bins and fuel storage area, at 38 Ellenabeich, details on A&B website.

### **Dog Fouling**

Numerous complaints of dog fouling around the island have been made, including incidents along the Winterton Road in Balvicar, and on the golf course. Poo bags have been thrown over fences, hung on trees or left on the verge. Dog owners are again requested to pick up after their dogs. The majority of dog owners are responsible, but the irresponsible few are spoiling it for everyone. Please pick up or further steps will be taken.

### **AOB**

There have been a number of mink sightings along the road by the golf course and towards the doctor's surgery; if anybody has any information or sightings please contact Lisa (573) or Kim (040).

Concerns have been raised over the dumping of household items at the top of the slip at Ellenabeich. During the last storm, a fridge was washed onto the slip, and could well have been washed into the harbour, resulting in a hazard for the ferry. Whoever left these items there, please arrange removal asap.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday, 26 January 2021.

## **SEIL ISLAND HALL**

### **December Lottery Winners**

£50 Peter Clowes

£10 Jean Oliver, Annie Sinclair, Linda Hill

### **November Lottery Winners**

£50 Barbara Rennie

£10 Alastair Robertson, Daphne Allan, Maureen Mitchell

Whilst the hall building has been closed, the external woodwork has been painted and the main hall floor sanded, the badminton court re-lined and the floor sealed, as well as many smaller maintenance issues. Thanks to the Maintenance Group for their work.

### **MESSAGE FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES!**

Would you be interested in a local advert on-line every week? We are a local videography business, based on Seil Island. Every week since lockdown, we have recorded and put together a video on behalf of Kilbrandon & Kilchattan Church, which is on YouTube every Sunday morning, and can be accessed throughout the week. Our filming includes many views of our beautiful area. If you would like to view one of our productions, use the following link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kto0MAA\\_4jU&feature=youtu.be&ab\\_channel=GHPProductionsArgyll](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kto0MAA_4jU&feature=youtu.be&ab_channel=GHPProductionsArgyll)

During lockdown we have been unable to video weddings, large events etc and so we are looking for businesses who may like to reach out to a wider audience in this way. If you would be interested in sponsorship to be included in the Livestream, please contact us at [ghproductionsargyll@gmail.com](mailto:ghproductionsargyll@gmail.com) or call 01852 300775

**ISLE OF SEIL GOLF COURSE** continues to be playable over winter months. With autumn leaves falling, scores of dog poo bags have been seen discarded - hanging on and under trees. We are most grateful to our members, friends and responsible dog walkers who have scoured the course and nearby road verges to collect and bin this revolting mess. We are all privileged to be able to enjoy these beautiful grounds. Sadly, dogs running free continue.

**TO BE ALLOWED ON ANY GOLF COURSE, ALL DOGS MUST BE ON A LEAD.** All poo must be lifted, bagged and binned. Poo bags may be put in our green bin at the club hut. **NON-COMPLIANCE WILL RESULT IN A BAN FROM THE COURSE.** Thank you.

### **SEED FOR LIFE**

The pop-up stall outside Balvicar Stores on Saturday 28 November made the amazing sum of £684.09! A huge thank you to Wendy & Chris for letting us pitch in front of their garage, and to everyone who supported us by donating and buying. The Seed for Life Trustees are very grateful for your generosity. Please visit [www.seedforlife.org](http://www.seedforlife.org) for more information on the projects you are making possible.

### **SLATE ISLAND HERITAGE TRUST**

Thanks to all who visited the Slate Island Heritage Trust Pop-Up Shop at Kilbrandon Farm ... over £400 was raised towards the ongoing costs of the Heritage Trust. [www.slateislands.org.uk](http://www.slateislands.org.uk)

