



OBAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Minutes of Oban Community Council meeting held on 25th April at 7pm at the Rockfield Centre, Stevenson Street, Oban

Present: Community Councillors: G Nicholson (GN), S Russell(SR), J MacFarlane(JMF), D Martin(DM), A Vennard(AV), S McIver(SMI),G.Berry(GB),J.Anfield(JA),K.Winton(KW)

Argyll and Bute Councillors: K Green(KG), R MacCuish(RMC), N MacIntyre(NMI), E Robertson(ER).

Oban Times: S. Neil(SN)

Scottish Fire and Rescue: D Wilson(DW) Station Manager, J McShane(JMS) Manager Fire Stations.

Harbour Authority: P Jennings(PJ) Public: K MacLennan(KML)

Apologies: M Malloy(MM), K MacColl(KMC)

1. Meeting chaired by DM. The attendance and apologies were duly recorded.

2. The following declarations of interest were duly noted and recorded. DM: **Oban
Community Council Meeting**

Rockfield Centre, Stevenson Street, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5DE
24th March 2017 at 7pm

Agenda

1. Welcome, record members present, and apologies
2. Declaration of Interests
3. Police Report

Oban Community Berthing chair.

3. Police Report: No report.

4. Fire Brigade: JMS In 2013 the Fire Service became one, where previously there had been eight boards. Now deals directly with the Scottish Government.
Oban is unique. Oban is a priority as it is so far from its nearest full time fire station. Six new recruits

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OBAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL



have recently passed out. Oban will always be crewed up.

DW There are 6 watches in Oban with 6 crew not 5 like other places. There is cover 24/7. With the nearest full time station 2hrs away, can't recruit from there.

GB asked about incidents of staff shortages? JMS said Inverary was mobilised to help cover the area and everything will be done to cover the area, with no gaps left.

DW 30 fire fighters based in Oban. Sickness can affect things. But if short can bring in cover from other places to cover. It's rare to have to stretch to cover. New recruits starting soon.

DM asked if retained fire fighters were easy to recruit. DW 50 recruited in Argyll and Bute under going training at Oban. RMC thanked the fire service for the work done in the community, with working on areas like prevention.

ER thanked DW for attending the Community Planning Partnership. KW spoke of the CPR training offered to the disability forum, and of how they had opened up the class to make it a bigger class.

5. Minutes of previous meeting: P2 point 7 HIE allowed for planning to be applied for. The minutes were duly approved for accuracy.

6. Matters arising: SMI Why another Amenities warden? RMC to cover late shifts after 6pm. Campers parked along the sea front.

7. Councillors Reports:

RMC: 2 of 3 of the breakwaters are ready to install. Piling for the new building on the North pier to begin on Wednesday. Premier Inn site ready to go. Thanks to OCC and hope to see you all after the 5th of May.

NMI: Unfortunately conduct on FB has not been good. He spoke of how being a councillor has been enjoyable and frustrating. People mistakenly believe that councillors have control over the money, they don't. The council has good people, but there are job cuts causing pressures. Not all receive big wages. Some of the heads are good but there are some numpties. They have an impossible task, they get a belting whatever Oban is in a great state.

Problems it faces are coming from how busy it is. Should be looking to developing out of town to help it grow. All the best to the council nominees. KG New scheme proposed for Community Councils Elections held at the same time throughout Scotland. Good luck to all standing in the local elections.

ER Best of luck to all. The council officers work very hard, all departments having reductions in numbers but trying to keep services running. Delighted to see the transit berthing facility and white building progressing. Oban is the economic driver in Argyll and Bute. Thanks to OCC for support, sending representatives to all committees.

8. Public questions and issues: KML lights at the High School fixed? GB still ongoing. KW Lights don't give enough time for crossing but have worked out how to do it. Will check the times.

PJ told OCC of his job being employed by Calmac to promote safety and code of practice in Oban bay. North pier, Railway pier and South pier are owned, but not all of the area. However Calmac have realised they are responsible for the blind bend and channel coming in to the bay by Kerrera. At the moment there is no Harbour Authority and with Oban being the second busiest ferry port in the UK it is important to manage the bay. PJ hopes to put up safety posters to alert small boat users, kayakers etc to correct practices. He is also developing the web site to promote Oban bay. Incidents will be monitored and recorded.

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9. Sub-Groups. a. Health: Special meeting 13th of June 7pm. Locality Care.
b. Transport: Bus timetable changes proposed require more staff time, more money and there is no more money.
c. Planning: Local Development Plan. Joint session with other CCs. Anything we propose would be outside our area.
d. No meeting.
10. AOCB: KW expressed concern over work lorries parking on lower pavements making it difficult for wheelchair users. Will bring it up at the Disability action forum. KG Possibility of fairground rides over the summer.
GN wondered why there was a cardboard sign opposite Coasters warning of soft sand. DM Playpark group need liability insurance for the Morris Wilkins who does work in the Millennium garden. Asking if OCC would pay.
KG advised that OCC would need to minute that they had asked for the work to be done and then could pay the insurance. DM asked for agreement in clarifying this. Agreement given. DM camper vans at Lochavullin car park overhanging the pavement, could some kind of plastic barrier be erected. GB Insurance would be null and void if parked that way on the pavement.
11. Date of next meeting 29th of May 2017