

Minutes of Oban Community Council held on 23rd April 2018 at 7pm in the Rockfield Centre, Stevenson Street, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5DE

Present: K MacColl (KMC), J Anfield (JA), D Martin (DM), M Malloy (MM), J MacFarlane (JMF), S Russell (SR), S McIver (SMI).

Councillors: K Green (KG), E Robertson (ER), R McCuish (RMC)

OT: S Neill (SN)

Rockfield: G McNab (GMN), G MacQueen (GMQ)

Public: K MacLennan (KML)

1. Apologies: D Gallant (DG), G Nicholson (GN), A Vennard (AV), G Berry (GB), J Lynch (JL), J MacGrigor (JMG), J MacFarlane (JMF)

2. Declarations of interest: DM Interest Harbour update.

3. No police report.

4. Minutes of last meeting 26th March 2018: The minutes were duly approved for accuracy.

5. Matters arising from minutes of last meeting: It was confirmed that Oban bay is not tested. 32 cruise ships will visit Oban this summer.

6. Public questions and issues: KML asked if the barriers on the Dunbeg road would really make a difference. Erected by Transport Scotland. ER Council were not made aware the work was being done. MM Maybe a letter of complaint? DM Could draft a letter to MSP/Transport minister.

7. Councillor Reports: ER Yellow badge tour guides now trained. Very impressive knowledge. Promotion of Oban as a healthy town. Tennis courts opening, hope to open indoor courts at some point in the future. New high school looking superb. Working on Community transport in Oban for people who are unable to use public transport. Attended meeting at the new harbour building, great facility. North pier toilets have been upgraded. Lifeboat now has new pontoon. MM There are 3 flag poles being erected. What flags will be flown. ER I will find out. MM OCC have the Oban flag. kg Health and Social Care budget. Most unpopular cuts have been thrown out. alternate proposals being considered. 2.4m budget gap. DM HSCP have a 3 year strategic plan. Third year is next year. New plan now being formulated. Hospital is now virtually fully staffed with consultants. RMC 3m on roads. 1m to Mull. Wont fund all the work that needs done. Premier Inn now under way. Getting staff in Oban is a problem M & S looking for 60. Hitrans meeting. Concerns that Calmac will not be able to cope over the summer. Islands passport. Points awarded for visiting the islands. More if it is a less visited island. MM Lonan Drive? RMC Public hearing. Planning in principle only. KG Housing needs for people to move here to fill jobs. SMI Parking? RMC Way behind. What lines in and machines in place, but covered up. SMI Music festival refused free parking? RMC Decision will be made and they will have parking.

8. Rockfield: GMN Thanks to OCC for supporting the Rockfield Centre. Hopefully work on the main building will begin in December. Rockfield is a Ltd company with charitable status. This status is necessary so money can be raised through community shares. 3m needed for the work. Two thirds of this has been raised. 5

shares for £250 is the minimum. Interest paid in 2 or 3 years. Selling will begin in mid June. Shareholders will have voting rights. KW I am raising money by growing my hair. I would like to donate to Rockfield. GNB Paper work in place to show Rockfield is a viable project. Planning granted. GMQ Charity shop now open and has taken £4000 in its first 3 weeks. So on track. KMC I commend GMN and GMQ on what they have achieved so far. GMQ Ronnie Forbes now involved, he is an accountant who has worked at the highest levels.

9. By Election: OCC vital to get more councillors elected. DM Would be ideal to get representatives from all areas over the town. Such as Education, Rotary, Winter festival, Oban Live and sport.

10. Harbour Update: RMC Lorna Spencer has confirmed what was decided by the Harbour Board. Area Committee on the stakeholder group. Harbour to be run by the town not Calmac. Harbour to be operated by a local organisation. Will remain Oban harbour.

11. AOCB: None.

12. Date of next meeting: 28th of May 2018 at the Rockfield Centre.