

Minutes of Oban Community Council held on 25th March 2019 at 7pm in the Rockfield Centre, Stevenson Street, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5DE

Present: D Martin (DM), M Malloy (MM), L Grant (LG), C McKeown (CMK), S Russell (SR), J Anfield (JA), K McColl (KMC), M Wilkins (MW), J MacFarlane (JMF).
Councillors: E Robertson (ER), K Green (KG), R McCuish (RMC), A Vennard (AV)

Oban Times: F Scott (FS)

Public: N MacIntyre (NMI), K MacLennan (KML), K Miller (KM), R Wynd (RW), A Rennie (AR), P Hammerton (PH).

Police: C Brown (CB)

BIDS: A Spence (AS)

Alienergy: L Mitchell (LM)

Woodland Trust: R Watson (RW)

Apologies: S McIver (SMI), J Moore (JM), J Lynch (JL).

OCC sent best wishes to SMI and approved an extension of his absence from meetings.

2. Declarations of interest: ER Husband involved in Harbour Trust.

3. Police Report: CB 102 incidents. 117 in the rest of the area. No updates on previous meetings. KG Drugs in the area? CB Every year we work with its years at the school Looking at smoking, alcohol and drugs. Also offensive weapons and internet safety. So working with schools on this. AS There has been 7 car accidents in the last week on the Kilmore/Oban road. 2 serious but thankfully nobody seriously hurt. CB E-mail traffic on that. KG I believe there was a diesel spill by WCM. Still waiting on council to fix the CCTV.

4. Minutes of last meeting: Minutes of last meeting 25th February 2019 were checked for accuracy and duly approved.

5. Matters Arising: £114.95 spent on ties and sashes for OCC welcoming cruise ships. RMC Important if there are areas needing bins need to let him know. ACHA Glencruitten development in pre approval stage.

6. Skatepark: CB I am the youth engagement officer. Rejigged skatepark committee with chair M MacQueen. Feasibility study to be done on preferred site. Funding needed for this. MM OCC supportive of skatepark and would be willing to contribute a small donation. ER Great this is moving forward. Area committee has offered its help.

7. Dunollie Woods: RW I am based in Nethy Bridge covering the West Coast. Where there is room to develop the tree scape. A chain of 5 woodlands on the west coast, which is managed woodland. Oban a great place to bring people to look at the woodland. Developing Dunollie will first involve tree safety. Bits of work to be done there. Looking for somebody to tidy round 2/3 times a year. If there is anyone you can recommend let me know. Drop in event at the Corran Halls on the 9th May between 3pm/ 9pm. Hoping for a draft plan by October/November. Ideas going forward are identifying evasive species, and issues in general that need addressed. Looking at signage, fences, gates and replacing steps. Also improving paths. Events to be held possibly in conjunction with Dunollie House. Lantern event on the 25th

October. But first safety of the site is the priority. By 2020 a management plan in place. The 1st 5 years would hope to remove all invasive species and replace with natives. Involve schools and community groups. NMI Any possible development from Dunollie through to Ganavan will this stop that? RW Yes. DM Funding? RW Woodland trust is a charity with 1/4 million members throughout the UK. KG Welcome this. Temperate rainforests are celebrated in the US great to see it here. RMC Outdoor gym? There is one in Tarbert. RW Yes worth looking at.

8. Councillor Reports: ER Community Planning Partnership will present on what is happening in Oban to the Area Committee. Water tap opening on Thursday at 12 noon. Common Good Fund tomorrow. J Gilchrist spoke too him Community Payback busy in the area on litter picks and path clearances. Cruise ship season starting. Trust port meeting on Thursday evening. NMI Still only one street cleaner in the town? ER This has been raised with roads and amenities. Moving forward on improving that. KMC Green machine? RMC Out at 6 in the morning. AV Harbour board meeting. 2m annual allocation for roads. RMC Thanks to AV and JL who are always a great support at Harbour board meetings. Town centre regeneration 1.2m available for towns over 1000. Need ideas by April. Proposed parking charges on Mull there were 300 objectors. Ward 4 councillors looking at Craignure will progress in the next 10 years. Just options at the moment. Wind turbines at Tigh na Bruaich. NMI How much cash for the town centre? RMC 300,00. KG Lighting up Oban? AS Gibraltar street lighting, Lighting extended to the war memorial? KG Carer strategy, we need to support them. IGB meeting this Wednesday Main budget setting looks like it will be a balanced budget. DM Is there money to implement the carers act? KG 160m from the Scottish Government, which was given to the Health and Social Care Partnership.

9. Health Forum: DM Local Health Forum to be replaced by conversation cafes. Its a shame because the Health Forum worked well here. In other places they were negative events. KG DM is correct the forum worked well here its a shame to see it go. This was an officer led decision. If it goes community should take it over. Greater need here with it being a rural hospital. RMC If this works in Oban why ditch it? Pressure should be put on whoever made this ridiculous decision. NMI It should carry on. OCC should let them know we object. MM OCC objecting? OCC said aye. ER and KG stated their willingness to support this objection.

10. Harbour update: PH Stakeholder group a constituted body, will take forward plan. Have proved the baseline feasibility. Trust port development is 12mths of work. RMC Harbour board agreed an extension of a year on 7/3/19. DM Will require a start up budget. Money needing to be raised. A legal process to go through to create trust. PH The real muscle is Calmac/Cmal they want private. We want the Harbour to be run for the benefit of the community.

11. Planning: No significant planning.

12. Car Parks: 3 Car Parks out to tender? North pier, Albany Street and Tweedale Street. KG Council looking to enhance these. KMC People parking on Rockfield Road a real problem, pushed by council parking charges. DM Weekly rates? When? RMC Gone through the committee. KG Monthly charges from April. AS I have asked question on parking to J Smith Head of Services. No answer back.

13. Public questions and issues: None

14.AOCB:Alienergy LM Event to be held on 10/11 May at Corran Halls. On the 10th businesses/community groups. On the 11th open to the public. 3 priorities of the event. Cheaper energy, Insulation/ warmer homes and local energy generation. Look at electric buses/ taxis also cars and bikes. NMI Has the strategic development plan talked to you?This should be in the framework. What is the council doing? ER Area committee has explained the hold up. There will be a report soon. It will be done on time. KG These are two separate things. AS This should be a good event. Its been well publicised. KML Are the council considering electric vehicles?KG Have heard it mentioned but not sure of any definite plans.

KML Martins Monday Club has 20 regular members. Discussions held in private, all very positive. Fund raising being done. Also ladies night going well.MM OCC want to give our support to this.

Co-option of new members to OCC.

Proposed R Wynd Proposed JMF 2nd KMC

K Millar Proposed MM 2nd JMF

N MacIntyre Proposed DM 2nd SR

15.Date of next meeting 29th April 2019.