

Minutes of Oban Community Council held on 30th September 2019 at 7pm in the Rockfield Centre, Stevenson Street, Oban, Argyll, PA34 5DE

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

Councillors: A Vennard(AV), K Green(KG), J Lynch(JL0).

Public: L Cox(LC), P Hammerton(PH), G Berry(GB), A Rennie(AR), K MacLellan(KML).

Apologies: R MacCuish(RMC), E Robertson(ER), N MacIntyre(NMI), J MacGregor(JMG), A Harper(AH), R Wynd(RW), M Wilkins(MW).

2. Declarations of interest: None.

3. Police Report: No police.

4. Minutes of last meeting: Minutes of last meeting were checked for accuracy and duly approved.

5. Matters Arising: P1. Lorn Resource Centre. KG Two focus groups set up and concluded successfully. Care inspectorate attended the last two meetings. HSCP staff will be kept informed as construction work gets underway. Should happen soon because of the August 2020 deadline.

6. Councillor Reports: Concerned about contacting council officers and apparently no response. JL This is being looked at. JMF Why is Pennyfuir in such a state? KG Lack of staff. MM Maintenance charge is paid when buying a lair? KG Looking at budgets, decisions have to be made. KG This year Pennyfuir has suffered because of lack of man power. KG Look to communities to come in and help maintain cemeteries. But they will need to be properly trained in using equipment.. MM We must keep this on the agenda. JL Oban Community Harbour Development looking good, more to come. Now on the Highlands and Islands Music and Dance festival committee. Shinty on the up. Most acknowledge the achievements of Oban Camanachd and Oban Celtic. Attended the extinction rebellion meeting. Went to OHS with KG to talk with the pupils. They are setting up a short term climate group. Still working on the issues at Soroba with the car parking. PH Could it be possible to get some signage up for the top up tap at the station? AR OCC offered money to Oban Community Harbour Group. Now that we are able to accept money, we have now received that money. KG Meeting with the school pupils at OHS was a really good debate and questions. Argyll may already be carbon neutral but we need to work further on it. Went to the Tulloch water treatment works opening. Attended the Health forum. Community justice Scotland looking at the costs of sending people to jail. Not much money about for this. GB On green issues I am not anti green but I do think we look at this all a wrong. Electric vehicles are not the answer. Diesel being done away with will cripple the transport industry. Ground planes, heavy sea going sea liners stop them. People should have their vehicles properly serviced every 4 months. Emissions decrease by 90%. KG Electric vehicles will improve over time. Servicing vehicles great idea.

7.MM I received an e-mail from AV concerning the recent meeting held by OCC. This was an opportunity for people to express their opinions.Parking in Oban dominated. PH I would like to say that I was disappointed we couldn't be there. Was it properly advertised and did it properly represent the community? KG One weeks notice was not enough.The Oban Times can be a good way to advertise.CMK It was on Oban FM. MM There were posters up. Also on Facebook.. GB I feel that there is too much emphasis on the George Street / Oban Bay area. What about the rest of the town? Need to reach out to all people and areas of the town.MM Lets be honest people just don't turn out. The meeting NMI put together got a fairly good turn out. We also got something out of it. We will go forward with public meeting. JL I was there and would like to suggest that maybe toning down the language and not so much attacking the council officers. LC I drew up a list of the points brought up. We should look at them and see if we can come up with a positive way forward.DM Still working on the Community Empowerment Act and using it to push forward. We will need to gather ideas to act on. Also the Traffic survey results will help with data. So when will we see that?AR The Community Empowerment Act that DM is working on, got to act on it. Its a participation strategy which the council are required to engage with.

8.Planning:SMI Nothing there that needs attention.

9.Public questions and issues: KML MMC continuing to do well. Doing exactly what it was set up to do. Supporting men and women in the community. LG Is Fort William up and running? KML As far as i know.

GB At a meeting at the fire station fire officers claimed thee were no problems. That they can deal with anything, a perfect world scenario. The issues at Soroba with the car park is problematic as to extend the car park would require a compulsory purchase order on the land.

10.AOCB: LC If there is a housing shortage, are green spaces protected? KG Green areas are part of the Local Development plan.Consultation before Christmas. OCC can ask for any area to have protection.

GB and LC have been formerly invited to become members of OCC.

JMF When is the next hospital meeting? KG There is no date as yet for the next conversation cafe. I will be asking for the situation to be reviewed.

KMC Over the years I have heard all the same talk on parking. LC has a very useful resume from the Corran Halls meeting. This should be used when DM hears back on the Community Empowerment Act.

11.Date of next meeting: 25th November 2019.