

OBAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES MEETING 29/5/23

1) PRESENT: Frank Roberts (Chair), Sue Barnard, Laura Corbe, Emily Firth, Dougie Graham, Marri Malloy, Duncan Martin, Jessie Macfarlane, Stewart McIver. Kieron Green, Andrew Kain, Jim Lynch, Luna Martin, Andrew Vennard. Beryl Carmichael, Linda Hill, Stuart Lawson, Elaine Robertson, Lorna Tait, Jane Terris.

Rita Campbell, Seonaidh Mackenzie, Sandy Neil.

Ross Jamison, Alex Orr

APOLOGIES: Cynthia McKeown, Neil McIntyre, Willie Hume.

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None.

3) MINUTES : approved by Dougie Graham and Stewart McIver.

4) MATTERS ARISING :

- a) Speeding on Longsdale Road - Duncan has written to the Council and an acknowledgment received. Kieron had an email stating that 85 percentile return was 26mph. There are two 20mph signs and a slow marked on the road. New signs are on order.
- b) Frank has been sent to the High School congratulating them on their piping achievements.
- c) Frank has written to the Council about the dangerous steps outside the Great Western Hotel.

5) POLICE REPORT: the increase in catching people with drugs was noted. Disappointment at the lack of a police presence was again commented on.

6) PROPOSED CORR CHNOC WIND FARM

Alex Orr and Ross Jamison gave a presentation on proposals for an up to 20 turbine wind farm south of Glen Lonan on the Dunach Estate. It is very much at the scoping stage but it is hoped to have artist impressions available in august, with public consultation in early 2024 and an application submitted to the Energy Consents Unit by the end of 2024.

The proposed community benefits are threefold.

1. £100,000 local benefits during construction.
2. £600,000 per. annum over the life of the field which could be 30 -40 years. This is considered to be a realistic figure.
3. Community buy- in option. The field will be valued and the community can raise funds for a 10% shared ownership.

7) PLANNING:

Dunbeg Corridor update: After gathering new transport data, Transport Scotland has agreed that the construction of a roundabout will go ahead on the A85 with a planning application due in the late summer.

Oban Baptist Church: The church are looking to demolish and rebuild the three buildings on their site to create more space for it's growing congregation and to be able to provide facilities for local groups as well as for the congregation. The church is 100 years old and is part of the heritage of Oban. Some Community Councillors felt that they did not have sufficient information to vote.

ACTION - plans and information leaflets to be circulated. A site visit will be arranged and a vote taken by the middle of the week.

8) PUBLIC TOILETS: Complaints have been received about the open hours of both the public toilets. Item deferred until June.

9) INFORMATION: Items were noted.

10) COUNCILLORS REPORTS : Councillors reported that they were pleased to award money from the Common Good Fund to Soroba Community Enterprise, Link Club and Adventure Oban. Visits for the Design Awards are complete with the winners being announced next month. Beach cleans at Ganavan and Tralee were both much improved on last time. There has been unanimous agreement against the HPMA from island communities however the process has given them a louder voice to speak together.

11) PUBLIC QUESTIONS: an update and thanks was given to OCC by Elaine Robertson for their involvement in the Centenary War Memorial event taking place on Remembrance Day.

12) AOCB:

It was reported that the The Oban Development Plan has been restarted. Oban Community Council are looking forward to being involved.

Concern was expressed at the condition of Care Home buildings. Difficult to plan, partly because of uncertainty about the National Care Plan.

The ongoing problem with the traffic lights is causing huge traffic tailbacks and frustration to motorists. No update on when it will be repaired.

There is a new defibrillator at the Adventure Shed, Dungallan Park.

Marri Malloy expressed deep concern about the lack of access and communication for constituents in Oban (South) to their councillors, three of whom live outwith the area.

Emily Firth asked if there had been any contact from West Coast Motors. It had been National Bus Week with adverts and timetables from other companies but nothing directly from WCM. They did have an article on a new bus which is bike friendly for country areas. They still have timetables up which are two years old. It was agreed to have buses on the agenda next month.

NEXT MEETING - MONDAY 26th JUNE at Oban High School 6.30pm.

This will be a hybrid meeting to include the AGM.

