|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | 10th March 2021 |
| **Time** | 1900hrs |
| **Venue** | Zoom Video Conference |
| **Present** | **Councillors Present:** John Holliday (JH), Phyl Meyer (PM), Alison Clark (AC), John Patience (JP), Gerard McGoogan (GMG), Iona Campbell (IC), Stewart Carr (SC) and Louise Reid (LR)  **Argyll and Bute Councillors:** Jamie MacGrigor (JMG)  **Minute Taker:** Louise Reid  **Public – Approx. 46 devices (at peak) connected to the call including the above** |

1. **Welcome and apologies.**

* The Chair welcomed all present to the meeting there were no formal apologies received. It was noted that the meeting was being recorded for minute taking purposes.

1. **Conflict of Interest**

* **None**

1. **Previous Minutes and Matters Arising**

* The previous minutes are available on the meeting notice on the Community Council Website.

1. **Correspondence**

* The previous minutes are available on the meeting notice on the Community Council Website.
* Discussions are ongoing regarding a new bin lorry for Tiree, it is thought that there will be a new bin lorry and skip lorry allocated to the island. A letter was received regarding the possibility of having a smaller bin lorry allocated to Tiree. **JH** is continuing to liaise with Argyll and Bute Council on this matter.
* It was noted that the condition of the phone box at Baugh is beginning to deteriorate. This phone box is still under ownership of BT. It was agreed to raise this with BT. ***GMG to action.***
* The Road Safety Leaflet published by Discover Tiree was updated in 2020. The final version will be published in due course ensuring that they are readily available to visitors and locals in paper copy and online.
* It was noted that due to ferry capacity issues a Covid-19 vaccine delivery was unable to be fulfilled for Tiree. CalMac have ensured that a similar situation will not occur in the future.
* It was noted that some of the Doctors on the island have been working with other groups to gain funding for seven public access defibrillators on Tiree. The defibrillators have now arrived on the island and are awaiting installation. Locations for installation include a widespread through the East end of the island towards Central, however it has been suggested that it would be good to have a defibrillator over towards the West end. Initial thoughts included the phone box at Balephuil. It was noted that the phone box has been restored as a heritage landmark and may not be a suitable site for the defibrillator. The Community Council encourages anyone with any suggestions to get in touch. It was also suggested that a map be created of public access defibrillators which could be made available to the community.
* A report was received from Police Scotland. Three incidents have been reported within the last month, including one incident of a large gathering in a private property which was dispersed. A reminder was given that people should abide by the Scottish Government Guidelines to ensure an outbreak doesn’t take place.
* It was noted that some training opportunities for Community Councils have become available including topics around community participation requests etc. Councillors were encouraged to attend if possible.
* It was noted that there is a Cattle Sale on August 14th. At the moment, Loganair have one flight timetabled for this date. John MacAskill has requested the use of one of Tiree’s banked flights to have a second flight put in place for this date. Banked flights are made possible by the PSO arrangement with Transport Scotland and Loganair.
* **JH** attended a number of meetings throughout the month, including the Mull Community Council Meeting, issues that arose included Graveyards, Ferries, and School Hubs. It was noted that Tobermory High School is moving to become a Hub with Tiree and Oban. It was suggested that some form of communication should have taken place with the communities to discuss this. A meeting also took place with the Islands Minister and other Councillors from Iona and Mull regarding concerns over the Islands Bill.

1. **Argyll and Bute Council Budget 2021-22 Summery**

* The Argyll and Bute Council Budget has now been set.
* **JMG** noted that Council Tax will be frozen and that £90,000,000 has been allocated towards business development projects. Other investments include technology to support remote learning, climate change mitigation and maintenance, green transportation such as cycle paths and foot paths and community engagement. It was however suggested that Argyll and Bute Council will look to make some reductions over the next ten-year period. **JMG** agreed to share key details via email. ***JMG to action.***

1. **Transport Update – Ferry Travel**

* It has been suggested by Transport Scotland and CalMac that the Monday Ferry service is removed from the timetable. **GMG/JH** have been consulting with various key groups on the island to gauge the impact this change might have. It has now been confirmed that this change will not take place.
* It was noted that the winter timetable will now run until 26th April, bookings until this date have now been suspended, and the seasonal price change has been confirmed to begin on the 26th April also.
* Due to a delay in the drydocking schedule the return of the Clansman to the Oban-Coll-Tiree route is also delayed.
* It was previously discussed that a buoy will be placed in Gott Bay to allow for tidal/current/swell measurements to be gathered. By gathering this data, it is hoped that the number of cancelled sailings due to uncertain conditions on the island can be reduced.
* It was suggested by a member of the public that various simulations could be done to gauge the possibility of different berthing scenarios in periods of higher winds and swells.
* It was noted that there is currently independent research underway regarding the viability of the purchase of a catamaran to join the CalMac fleet.
* Tiree Transport forum is undergoing some changes, but a meeting will be scheduled in the near future. ***GMG to action.***
* Correspondence will continue with CalMac to find solutions to improve the reliability of the service next winter, it has been suggested that the drydocking schedule could be moved to take place earlier in the year, meaning the more robust vessels will be in place over the winter.
* It was suggested that Tiree Community Council write to the political candidates taking part in the upcoming election to ascertain if there are any thoughts on current ferry provision. This was agreed by all present.
* A member of the public asked what can Tiree Community Council do to ensure that availability for locals remains during the Summer months and that the ‘turn up and go’ arrangement continues.
* It was noted that Tiree Community Council are looking for feedback from the Community on what might work best for the island heading into busier periods of travel. It was noted that CalMac have planned to reserve 20% of passenger only capacity to allow for the ability to ‘turn up and go’ this equates to approximately 50 people, but it is unsure if this fulfils the needs of the community effectively.
* It was suggested that last year’s arrangement did work well, however the reliability of the service will have an impact on the available capacity, it was suggested that Tiree Community Council consults with the community to gauge the need and take it forward to CalMac.
* It was noted that last year’s arrangement was different to the proposed plans for this year, in that it is thought that there will be a tier structure in place, meaning that there could be an impact on demand at different stages. At present there are 8 full sailings on the route.
* It was further suggested that ensuring that islanders are able to travel for essential reasons should be the priority, in addition, including some form of car space reservation as well as passenger spaces would help ease uncertainty within the community and allow for unexpected travel off the island.
* It was put forward that when conducting a survey the needs of the entire community are taken into consideration and the questions are tailored to cover all categories of resident and business owner.
* A number of questions and comments were received, these are as follows:
* **Dogs must be booked in advance due to the limited seating in the dog area, this may mean that dog owners may not be eligible for the 20% ‘turn up and go’ spaces.**
* **Visitors tend to book in advance and are less likely to use the ‘turn up and go’ spaces or use the standby system.**
* A member of the public noted that they were unable to get off the island to attend a medical appointment recently.
* A number of comments were noted regarding the importance of having car space reserved for last minute essential travel.
* It was suggested that travel with a car will become more popular in the Summer due to people being more hesitant to use public transport whilst the virus is still present.
* It was noted that it may be difficult for CalMac to fulfil some of these requests due to their contractual agreement with Transport Scotland, imposing certain rules could be argued as a form of discrimination, however there may be ways to work round this. It was further suggested that CalMac are also obligated to serve the communities, meaning such requests should be possible to fulfil.
* It was agreed to carry out a survey to gauge the needs of the community before making a proposal to CalMac.

1. **Pier Area Working Group Report**

* **AC** gave a brief update from the Pier Area Working Group
* It was noted that the survey is ready to be circulated. It was agreed that the survey will be open for completion by stakeholders and the wider community and will be placed on the website and on social media.
* Feedback has been received from CMAL, it was suggested that the tender documents for works to the existing area are scheduled to be returned by Autumn 2021, after which the Community Council will become involved. Confirmation is still pending regarding the sale of the piece of land currently owned by the council.
* It was noted that the Regional Harbour Manager is declining to provide details of the initial risk assessments or original report carried out for the area. It is thought that these would be required for the Community Council to make valuable comment prior to the tender process beginning.
* It was agreed to write to the Regional Harbour Manager to request the Risk Assessment and Safety report be shared with the Community Council.
* It was also suggested that further thought be given to the provision of a designated bus stop in the area and the possible inclusion of a speed restriction.

1. **Community Garden beside Pier View**

* **GMG** gave a brief overview of the Community Garden Project; the main points are as follows:
* Funding has become available up to £2,500 for projects such as Community Gardens
* TCBhave purchased land previously owned by HIE in Scarinish, **GMG** is in correspondence with TCB regarding using the area for a pop-up Community Garden. It is thought this could include some raised beds etc.
* **GMG** encouraged anyone with any concerns to get in touch, it was noted that TCB have engaged with the tenants of Pier View regarding the proposal.
* **JP** noted that the Community Council have done some investigation regarding this type of project in the past and there are many successful examples of where this has worked in other communities.
* It is proposed that **GMG** apply for the funding and put together a small working group to take the project forward.
* All present agreed that the project should move forward.

1. **Simultaneous Translation into Gaelic for Community Council Public Meetings**

* **JH** attended a meeting organised by Fèisean nan Gàidheal.
* It was noted that Fèisean nan Gàidheal can organise for Tiree Community Council Public meetings to have simultaneous translation into Gaelic using zoom.
* A meeting is scheduled for the 17th March with Argyll and Bute Council to discuss possible funding options. It was noted that Mull Community Council are also interested in taking part in a trial period.

1. **Planning Sub–Committee Report**

* It was noted that the first draft of the Tiree Community Council Planning Policy has now been created.
* The next stage is to organise a planning sub-committee meeting to discuss the proposed policy, the notice of which will be published on the website and be available for public attendance.
* After this meeting has taken place and all sub-committee members comments are incorporated a final proposed policy will open for discussion, initially by members of the Community Council and then by the public. A final decision will then be made as to wither the policy will be adopted or rejected.
* A member of the public noted the importance of population growth and architectural integrity on the island and suggested that the planning policy should support these initiatives.
* It wasensured that the policy would not hinder any of these initiatives and noted that it will be open for public comment before its proposed approval

1. **Meeting Format Going Forward**

* The Scottish Government have begun investigation as to wither Community Council Meetings should continue to take place via Zoom in the future.
* It was noted that attendance has increased over the past year when Zoom has been used, however it was suggested that there are pros and cons to an online format.
* By using an online format, it was suggested that the meetings have been more accessible to those with children, caring needs etc. It is also easier to have outside guests attend such as representatives from the Council, Scottish Water etc. and those who are off island but still hold in interest in the community.
* It was also suggested that a hybrid approach could be implemented whereby both options could be available and put forward that a consultation of attendees take place to gauge what format would be best in the future.
* It was proposed that the Community Council AGM take place at the beginning of the April Meeting pending clarification that it is in line with the funding stipulations. All present agreed. ***JH to action.***

***12.* AOCB**

* Discussion previously took regarding the telecare alarm system, it noted that the system is expensive in comparison to other areas. Jim Lynch previously agreed to take this matter up with the Argyll and Bute Council Social Care Department and is awaiting a response. It was agreed to peruse this matter. ***JH to action.***
* It was questioned as to if there were any plans to include charging points for electric vehicles in the proposed fuel station at Crossapol. It was noted that there are two points within the carpark at the ferry terminal in Scarinish, however, Tiree Community Enterprise Ltd are investigating the possibility of including them in the plans for the proposed fuel station as well. A discussion took place regarding the different options available. It was noted that there is a meeting scheduled to take place with SSEN, **PM** plans to attend to discuss the network infrastructure on the island and what its capacity might be.
* Support was given regarding the Zoom format and the success in reaching more attendees.
* It was asked whether or not the Community Council website might be an appropriate place to provide information on the upcoming election. **PM** declared a conflict of interest on this matter. It was agreed that information on opportunities to engage with candidates could be placed on the website for information by **LR**  or **IC** however, no political manifests etc will be present on the website to ensure neutrality.

***There being no other business the meeting was closed.***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ACTION** | **BY WHOM** | **BY WHEN** |
| Raise Baugh phone box repairs with BT | GMG | 14th April |
| Share details of 2021/22 Argyll and Bute Council Budget | JMG | 14th April |
| Clarify and Confirm details of April AGM | JH | 14th April |