**MINUTES of TIREE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**APRIL PUBLIC MEETING**

1. **April 2022 7 pm**
2. **Present**: Dr John Holliday (chair), Phyl Meyer and Iona Campbell. Brodie Sim attended from the Tiree Trust. A maximum of 17 devices were connected to the meeting.
3. **Apologies**: John Patience, Don McKillop and Alan Hood from CalMac
4. **Declarations of interest**: Phyl Meyer declared that he was a candidate in the forthcoming local elections.
5. **Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising**:
* There has been no reply from Jenni Minto about heating at Pier View
* We have had a reply about the increased charges for campervans over 6 m. **We will put this on the website**
* We have called a meeting of a small group to look at accommodating Ukrainian refugees on the island. We did not write to the Home Secretary as matters had moved on after the last public meeting
* John Patience has completed the National Planning Framework 4 consultation on behalf of TCC
* We have worked quite hard to plan some sort of celebration for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. There has been no response to our request for individuals or committees to come forward. The hope is still there, but time is running out
* PM proposed the minutes and IC seconded them
1. **Correspondence**:
* Argyll and Bute Council Community Consultation on West Coast Air Services PSO. Closes 1 May. This can be found on the ABC website. We agreed to support the PSO and to re-instate the Monday service. **PM will do this**
* Consultation on community councils: the [Community Council Review 2022 (argyll-bute.gov.uk)](https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/community-council-review-2022). Closes 22 April. **JH will do this**
* Island Bonds Consultation events: IC has written to Jenni Minto and Mairi Gugeon because no events have been scheduled in the Inner Hebrides. We are still waiting for a substantive answer
* Consultation on a draft Strategic Transport Project Review 2 (STPR2). Closes 15 April. The Scottish Government aims to decarbonise, becoming carbon neutral by 2045, and reducing car mileage by 20% by 2030. There was little that TCC could contribute to this body of work
* Argyll and Bute Council has a scheme to create Digital Hubs in public halls. PM has been dealing with this and has contacted them. It may not be applicable to Tiree as our hall already has wi-fi and An Talla is not in the ‘village’. He will also contact the Hall Committee. A further meeting has been arranged
* Police report: there have been nine incidents in the last two months. One reported shoplifting at the Coop and a white rib has been taken from Heylipol to Scarinish. Please contact Police Scotland on 101 if you have information. He reminds dog owners to be especially careful during the lambing season
* We submitted a request a year ago for the Council to look at the pavement at Sruthan Terrace in Crossapol. The Roads Department have now assessed the situation as low risk, and it will be dealt with in due course
* Letters Patent for the Tiree flag, written on vellum, have now arrived. This is currently in the Convenor’s house
* National Development Plan for Crofting: **IC has put this on the website**
* The SSE Community Resilience Fund closes on 13 May
* Julian Sartorius, who did some research on Tiree on attitudes to climate change, is returning to the island 7-11 May
* Oban Orthodontic service: this has now stopped to new patients due to retirement. We have written to John Lyon, the head of the dental service in Inverness. Patients can be referred to Glasgow instead, although the waiting list there is high. It is not clear if travel expenses will be paid. **JH will find out about this**
* We have written again to Lesley McInnes, the chief executive of West Highland Housing Association to ask about heating costs at Pier View
* We have been asked about fuel poverty on the island: Argyll and Bute Council has a link on the Council webpage. **We will come back to this subject next month**
1. **Ferries:** Don McKillop and Alan Hood did not attend the meeting, as the new Terms and Conditions have not yet been signed off. The Coll Transport Forum has had one meeting attended by JH and Donnie MacInnes. It had resulted in a press release complaining about the poor service during dry docking. The successful berthing rate on Tiree in February was just 32%. CalMac are seeking to address this next year, and these plans will be announced soon. We need to re-establish the Tiree Transport Forum. **We will contact Philip Knowles from the airport, the main hauliers, Andy at the Coop and someone from Discover Tiree.** If anyone else wants to be a member, please contact us. The Trust will help to facilitate this. Donnie MacInnes agreed to be part of this. He recommended stronger links with Coll. We have had a letter from a crofter about the difficulties in moving a new pedigree bull to the island and getting the old bull off. This has had to be re-scheduled several times and now there was no capacity for a booking. The crofter was in despair at the difficulties of keeping their business going. And to get a booking to take a member of the family to an appointment on the mainland, they were having to close their business three days early. They said that our so-called ‘lifeline service’ was full of tourists. Now the Clansman’s stabilisers are broken and is unable to carry livestock. **We will contact the correspondent to see if we can use this example to campaign with.** The solution is to keep some tickets back for sale nearer the sailing date. There was a question about a dedicated ro-ro freight boat, but CMAL say that that there are no boats available worldwide. A small freight boat would need containers made up in Oban and a pierhead crane and is unlikely to be adopted.
2. **Argyll and Bute Council elections**: PM stood back from the discussion. JH had met one candidate. Any other candidate is welcome to contact one of the councillors for a similar meeting. **We agreed to try to hold a virtual hustings**. We have written a joint letter with Iona Community Council to candidates.
3. **Consultation on the Collective Leadership Model:** we have published our response which is on the website and has been in the Oban Times. The conclusion will go the next Community Services Committee in July or August. We will lobby candidates and then the new members of the committee.
4. **Consultation on the proposed multi-establishment headship between Tiree High School and Oban High School**: the Education Department is engaging with the Tiree Parent Council over the appointment of a head teacher on Tiree. Louise Connor is leading on this. She is coming to Tiree 19-20 April. JH has written to her, putting the point that the wider community had an important stake in the school and would also like to be consulted. She had agreed to that under the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006. We agreed to make ourselves available for a meeting with her, while acknowledging that the Parent Council was the lead body in this consultation and that our most important function was to support the parents. Our request for an Island Community Impact Assessment under the Islands (Scotland) Act 2018 had been turned down. This decision appears not to have followed due process, and **we agreed to appeal this decision**.
5. **End of Gaelic simultaneous translation pilot for Community Council meetings:** we agreed that this had been a valuable pilot project. We had no way of counting people who had used the service, but we estimated from two to four per meeting. There will be a formal evaluation. The translation was an important symbol of the importance of Gaelic in civil life. A three-month pilot was really too short. However, we felt that the encouragement of conversations in the community was even more important. It would be good to learn the lessons. **JH will write to Iain MacIlleChiar to thank him.**
6. **Community Councillors Meetings Report**: JH had been to a Mull Community Council meeting. There were no issues relevant to Tiree.
7. **Tiree Trust report:** BS reported that the Trust is running a consultation on a new Community Development Plan 2022-27. There is currently an online survey. Paper copies can also be obtained. There will be focus groups, round-table discussions and a public meeting on 14 May in An Talla. The filling station has been delayed by components, but it should become operational in late May. The Trust is building some business units in Crossapol, and are looking for volunteers to sit on the steering group. Discussions about Hynish are continuing. The Trust is looking at helping people build their own homes, and to set up some social housing. Tilley is now turning again.
8. **Planning**: there were no items for discussion.
9. **AOCB**: the first bike stand has been installed in Crossapol; the second will be installed at the Coop in the next few weeks.
10. **The AGM will be held in June in An Talla**: **we will book the venue**.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Dr John Holliday 14 April 2022