**TIREE COMMUNITY COUNCIL (TCC)**

**MINUTES MAY PUBLIC MEETING**

**7pm 10 May 2023**

**Virtual meeting by Zoom**

1. **Attendance**: Phyl Meyer (chair), Dr John Holliday, Jacqui Bennett, Tim Arkless and Frances Khetrat. Cllr Andrew Kain. Cllr Amanda Hampsey joined later. There were 6 members of the public on the Zoom call and 140 were watching on Facebook
2. **Apologies**: Cllrs Jim Lynch and Willie Hume
3. **Declarations of interest**: PM declared that he worked for the Tiree Trust. There were no others.
4. **Minutes of last meeting**: accepted asa true record. Proposed TA, seconded PM.
5. **Matters arising**: a Doodle poll has been sent to Mull, Iona and Coll CCs. Coll has replied. The date of the end of the summer timetable has not been fixed yet.
6. **Matters actioned between meetings**: Argyll and Bute Council (ABC) has applied for funding to renovate Taigh an Rudha: repairs to the roof, a back-up generator and creating four en suite bedrooms. TCC had written a letter of support.
7. **Correspondence**:

* It has been reported that ABC will put in place a ‘budget simulator’ to allow members of the public to construct their own Council budgets for the financial year 2024/5. This will provide addition community feedback. This is just a proposal at the moment
* There will be Scottish Conference of Community Councils called ‘Democracy Matters’ on 10 June hosted by the West Lothian Joint Forum of Community Councils
* PM had been asked to get a mirror put in at a road corner. He has contacted the roads department and is still awaiting an answer

1. **Reports:**

* **Ward Councillors**: (1) Andrew Kain: there had been a second meeting of the Marine Infrastructure and Transport Liaison Group. There had been no representative from TCC. This is useful forum with TS, CMAL and CalMac in attendance. This group is asking for the procurement of additional second-hand tonnage The next meeting is on 20 June. This is the time for ‘blue sky thinking’ for new transport links. (2) Amanda Hampsey: she is very against HPMAs
* **Tiree Transport Forum**:this had had its first set-up meeting, facilitated by PM. The minutes will be posted on the TCC website very shortly. The group will meet three times a year. An ABC paver will be coming to Tiree in the autumn to create a new parking area for the business units. Could the roads team make use of the equipment being here? The junction of the doctor’s surgery was suggested. **PM will write to Jim Smith to this effect**
* **Community Garden**: the Facebook page is active with 159 followers. There is a meeting this Saturday. There is to be a bug hotel-building afternoon with face painting

1. **ACHA**: it is possible that ACHA is considering building new properties on Tiree. A meeting of the housing associations, ABC the Tiree Trust and the Hebridean Trust might be in the offing. AH asked to be kept informed if such a meeting took place. We decided to keep an eye on the situation. **JH would draft a letter to ask about this.**
2. **Flights**

* Islander fares under new PSO: there is to be an ‘islanders rate’ which will be capped, but the fares for people who are not resident will not. We discussed how this would work, and decided that the existing Air Discount Scheme, based on the electoral roll would be the easiest and already works in the Western Isles. Using the Clan Loganair facility was also suggested. We are keen to allow islanders to book cheaper tickets for family members who live away, for example at university. Young people already get a Young Scot discount until they are 25. There will be a meeting with TS about this
* Develop a plan for use of community banked flights: these are around 18 flights a year which can be booked to provide extra capacity at busy times. We have to give two weeks notice, and can be rolled over from year to year. We decided that the Transport Forum, or a sub-committee of this, was the best body to deal with this. It needs to be easy to use, well-publicised, transparent and fair. It was proposed that days around the school holidays would be a good place to start. **JH would publicise the contact details. PM, JB and TA will action**

1. **Ferries**:

* **Booking system**: there will be no booking system for three days at the end of the week while the new system is set up
* **Transport of the new R32 refrigerant**: R32 has less impact on global warming, but it cannot be transported on a ferry with more than 30-odd passengers. R32 is used in air source heat pumps. PM has written to CalMac, but no explanation has been given yet. Quite small quantities are involved, up to 10 litres. Possibly a stock could be stored on the island. **JH will do some further research, including talking to the Islands Team**
* **Pilot on the late booking spaces**: PM had been to a further meeting about this. The pilot should run for a year from this July. Around six car spaces (flexibly, at the discretion of port staff, two for Coll and four for Tiree), and possibly more on busy days, will be held back until a week before travel. There will be no check of address. Because it will be starting in mid-summer, some boats will already be full then.

1. **Planning applications**: there were no applications that need to be considered
2. **HPMAs update**:we agreed to maintain the pressure on this. The value of fishing businesses was being affected. We agreed to write to the MSPs – Kate Forbes, Fergus Ewing and Alasdair Allan – that voted against HPMAs, and do this In conjunction with the Tiree Trust. **JH will do this.** We agreed to invite the Cabinet Secretary. **JH will write to her.**
3. **Public information:**

* **Dog mess on beaches**: we agreed to pay for, and put up, signs at the nine beach car parks where there is already some signage. We want people walking their dogs to pick up their own dog’s mess and dispose of the bags at home
* **Fires on beaches**: this is also a problem, with old nails left in the sand. **We will put up signs about this, too. We will liaise with the Trust Ranger**
* **Cycling safely on Tiree Roads**: Discover Tiree still has a stock of the 2020 leaflets. **PM has updated the text and will get several new posters made, and we agreed that TCC would pay for this**

1. **Fly tipping behind Reef Terrace**: TA had reported this to ACHA, who had sent someone from their team to inspect it. There was a considerable amount over a wide area. ACHA will ask ABC to uplift this, but the house owners in Reef Terrace would have to agree to pay their part.
2. **Any Other Competent Business**: the SAAB aircraft are being phased out, and their replacement needs a reinforced runway. Can this be done, or could the runway be re-rated? TCC has already made this point to Transport Scotland. The answer is probably no as the last re-surfacing cost £5 million, but we will ask the Transport Forum to take this idea forward. **JH will write to PM as facilitator of the TF**. TCC will encourage islanders to record any travel disruptions.
3. **Date and venue of next meeting**: we decided to have the June meeting in person. We might have a new conference system by then. Coll CC has clashed with TCC for the last two months. **JH will liaise with them.** Depending on this, the next meeting will be on 14 June.

Dr John Holliday, 11 May 2023