

## LISMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY AT LISMORE PUBLIC HALL

#### Present

Mandie Currie (MC) – Secretary; Archie McGillivray (AM) – Convenor; Clare Howarth (CH)  
Cllr Keiron Green – A&BC

#### 1. Apologies

Cllr Andrew Vennard – A&BC; Cllr Luna Martin- A&BC; Donald MaColl

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

AM – related to planning application at Point (item 12)

#### 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 09/03/2023

Proposed by MC; seconded by CH. The minutes were adopted as a true and accurate record.

#### 4. Matters Arising

Office bearers – AGM is to be held before the end of June (to align LCC with all other CCs in A&B following the by-election) so office bearers will be confirmed then.

#### 5. R100 project

OpenReach representatives at the island meeting had advised that all properties are likely to be included but it was agreed that it was worth double checking. **AP: MC to double check with OpenReach.** It was emphasised that it would be helpful if householders could register the request for an update via the BT website as this will enable OpenReach to gauge uptake and may help to bring the installation forward sooner if there is evidence of high demand.

Maps and Plans from the R100 meeting are being held in the Heritage Centre.

#### 6. Health and Social Care

Although there has been a decrease in the number of elders on the island, ongoing discussion is needed as the next generation will require support in future. Work is required to identify community need and assess the feasibility of establishing some sheltered accommodation on the island. A consultation could be undertaken on housing and social care needs. **AP: CH to draft key questions for a community consultation.** This links in with the wider discussion on island resilience.

#### 7. Ferries

MC advised that she had emailed Calmac again about the revised timetable (i.e. cancellations in advance) due to tidal restrictions, following an earlier letter to them. No agreement had been reached on alternative sailings. It was agreed that it was appropriate to ask again about alternative sailings when both the outward and return sailings were cancelled as this would not represent an increase in costs for the company. **AP: MC to continue with email dialogue with Calmac and copy to MSPs, MPs and Ministers.**

A further issue is that sailings may leave once the check-in time has opened, if all the booked vehicles are on board. This means that foot passengers who commute to work and therefore are unable to get to the ferry early may miss the ferry. Many people may be unaware of this so LCC should alert the community. **AP: MC to organise posters for the ferry and waiting rooms. CH to put reminds on Facebook.**

This is a particular problem if the 17:15 ferry sails at 17:05. If early sailings are to continue then we should request that the 17:15 sailing be put back to 17:25, allowing time for workers to get to the ferry. **AP: MC to organise community consultation on the time of the last sailing each day.**

### **8. Roads and car parking**

There was a discussion about the problem of long term parking at Point. Some were second home owners or others who were not resident on the island but it was thought some of the abandoned vehicles had been moved. There was a suggestion of putting a notice on Facebook and possibly sending individual letters to the people involved (although this had been done previously and had not been successful). KG warned that there could be a danger of tighter measures being introduced by the Council that might adversely affect islanders, for example, car parking charges.

### **9. Visitors and dogs**

The problem of dogs being loose where livestock graze continues, with a significant number of owners refusing to leash their dogs. Lismore has many unfenced fields where sheep and cattle graze and many of these run right down to the sea, which increases the risks if livestock are chased. MC had consulted the Police who agreed to provide signage and suggested that the community could consider the introduction of a by-law requiring dogs to be on leads on other people's land. This would not affect working sheep dogs belonging to islanders and their workers or people walking on their own land. It was agreed that a community consultation should be held. **AP: MC to organise consultation.**

### **10. Boreholes**

It was reported that Robert Smith was unable to continue to help with this programme and there was a need to find someone else to help complete the site checks. **AP: MC to put a notice on Facebook asking for a volunteer.**

### **11. Church and graveyard**

MC reported that the graveyard extension was now with the legal departments of the Church of Scotland and the A&B Council. KG reported that there were 7 lairs still available.

### **12. Planning applications**

A letter was received from R. Livingstone seeking support for his planning application for a wellness retreat at Point. AM had already declared an interest as he is the tenant for the land in question. Without the involvement of AM the meeting was not quorate. It was agreed that a separate meeting should be arranged to discuss this matter. **AP: MC to organise meeting.**

CH queried whether planning applications usually came to the LCC. MC confirmed that in the past, a member of LCC would have responsibility for checking planning lists but that in recent years this had fallen to the Secretary. Applications were generally only brought to the meeting if there were obvious issues that might impact the community or if business related applications requested letters of support from LCC.

### **13. LCT funding**

No updates

#### **14. Resilience and emergency planning**

It has already been agreed that a LCC sub-group should be convened to discuss resilience in relation to emergencies and to redraft an Emergency Plan for the island. A resilience and emergency planning meeting should then be held. **AP: MC to organise redrafting of the Plan and arrange a resilience / emergency planning meeting.**

This can be incorporated into a wider discussion about resilience in terms of future proofing, for example on mitigation and adaptation to climate change; on biodiversity loss; on future support to elderly or vulnerable people; on the changing profile of the island's community; on sustainable transport and increasing visitor numbers. Resilience takes many forms and we need to set a context and framework to define what we mean by resilience (on the island) and what aspects we should focus on. LCC is keen to work with other groups to consider resilience issues. **AP: MC to organise a meeting of island groups and interested individuals to agree terms of reference for a working group on resilience and to identify initial actions.**

#### **15 New correspondence**

KG described the potential boundary changes to Argyll and Bute regarding the Scottish and Westminster constituencies. Detailed information of these could be obtained online.

#### **16 AOCB**

CH enquired about a possible talk by a representative from Sustrans but MC had concerns that their focus was merely to promote active travel and not to address some of the issues relating to promotion of Lismore as a cycle route. Further consideration was needed before organising such a talk.

CH mentioned that the island Firefighters were on the front page of the Oban Times illustrating their walk in aid of a second defibrillator.

Bob Hay reported that he had discovered that Oban Information Centre not only had no copies of the Lismore Information Leaflet but had not seen any and had made up their own leaflet.

Sebastian Tombs (as previous chair of the Community Trust) explained that they had 15,000 copies printed, which had been placed in the two phone boxes at Point and Achnacroish and in various other places on the island.

#### **17. Date of next meeting**

AGM - June 29<sup>th</sup>

Ordinary meeting - 6<sup>th</sup> July.