

Minutes of Meeting held 19:15 on Monday 22 June 2020 by remote video link

Present

Kilmallie Community Council

Carol Anne Campbell
John Hutchison
Russell Leaper
Ann Moffat
Colin Wood (Chair)
Gwyn Moses

Sarah Tune – SEPA
Callum Boyd – Boyd Brothers
Sandra McColl – Boyd Brothers
Paul Russell – Gael Force Marine
Michael Foxley – Ardgour CC
3 members of the public

Highland Council

Cllr Allan Henderson
David Mudie – Area Planning Manager

Apologies

Sgt Ross McCartney (Police Scotland)
Cllr Ben Thompson
Cllr Denis Rixson

1. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the remote meeting on 25 May 2020 were approved.

2. Declarations of interest

CW noted he was an immediate neighbour of the Annat industrial land.

3. Complaints of noise and pollution from Annat including breaking up on barges on the beach. Consideration of KCC response to application 20/02027/S42 for extended operating hours for vessels berthing at Annat jetty.

KCC had received complaints from ten different households during May and early June about noise from breaking up fish farm barges and cages on the foreshore at Annat, which was ongoing for several weeks. David Mudie noted the planning had been investigating but it was currently unclear what permissions were required for such operations. SEPA had also been investigating the waste aspect and were currently evaluating an application for a waste exemption.

Callum Boyd explained that he was unaware that any consents were required. The contract with Mowi for the dismantling work had come at short notice. He noted that the land adjacent to the foreshore where the cages had been broken up was an industrial site and some noise was inevitable. However, he did not consider the noise from the breaking operations using hydraulic shears to be excessive.

It was noted that noise problems associated with the Corpach Port and Annat jetty had been ongoing for some years, including discussions at previous meetings of KCC. While the BSW operations do have noise limits, there are no such limits related to the jetty at Annat. Because of the ongoing concerns over noise it was agreed that KCC should object to the proposal in 20/02027/S42 to change the conditions associated with the Corpach port to allow berthing and disembarking of vessels on Sundays. It was proposed to establish a

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liaison group to include all the operators at Annat as well as Highland Council officials, SEPA, residents and the relevant Community Councils. The aim of the group would be to find satisfactory solutions for everyone to any noise, disturbance or other environmental impacts. If it can be shown that the issues that are causing concern can be satisfactorily addressed through the ongoing work of a liaison group then KCC might reconsider the objection to Sunday berthing at some point in the future.

4. Application from Caol regeneration Company to Marine Scotland for dredging associated with Corpach Marina

It was noted that this application was for renewal of a permission that had expired. The dredging was considered to be a relatively short-term disturbance and the previous KCC had not commented on this aspect of the marina. It was agreed that there was no need to make any representation, although there were concerns that the dredging would add to the overall noise and disturbance in the area.

5. Update on planning application for Banavie Quarry and relocation of asphalt plant

KCC had received the planning application 20/02154/FUL on the day of the meeting. This was for 'Lateral extension to, and further workings at existing Banavie Quarry to incorporate revised working and progressive restoration; Proposed extraction rate of up to 80,000 tonnes per annum and extension of operational lifespan to 2045'. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting to allow time to read the extensive associated documentation.

6. Revisions to the Highland Council's Scheme of Delegation During the COVID19 Pandemic

KCC had received assurances that the enhanced delegation powers created in response to the COVID19 Pandemic would not be extended beyond 30 June when they were due to be renewed. This addressed the concerns that had been raised.

7. Traffic speeds in Corpach

Residents on the A830 had reported an apparent increase in vehicles breaking the speed limit during the lockdown. The Police had been informed and will carry out speed detection checks although there is currently no speed camera operator at the Fort William station.

8. Date of next meeting

It had been intended to hold the AGM immediately following this meeting, but given the time constraints it was agreed to postpone this. Although KCC has not met in July in previous years, it was agreed that a July meeting would be necessary. A date for the AGM will be circulated as soon as it can be fixed.