

PRESTWICK SOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting: Thursday 27th June 2019

Sederunt:

PSCC Community Councillors:

Chair Cllr M. Evans, Vice Chair Cllr N. Smith,
Secretary Cllr A. Quinn, Treasurer Cllr J. Whittaker, Cllrs L. Bowman, J. Park, T. Piper
(Co-Opted), B. Smith

PNCC Community Councillors:

Chair Cllr D. Hart

South Ayrshire Council:

Cllr I. Cochrane, Cllr H. Hunter, Provost H. Moonie, SAC Cllr M. Toner

Police Scotland:

PS D Barlas

Apologies:

PSCC Cllr M. Dorans, PNCC Secretary Cllr M. Milligan, J. Riach, PC McLymont

Welcome: The Chair, Cllr Evans, welcomed those present and advised he would be leaving at 8pm.

Recording of Minutes: Cllr Evans confirmed that the meeting will be recorded for accuracy of the minute, with permission given from those present.

Sederunt / Received Apologies /Declaration of Interest: Sederunt and Apologies as above. There were no Declarations of Interest submitted.

Police Report: PS Barlas reported:

PS Dean Barlas is the new Police representative for CC meetings
Provided new email address for Police Scotland correspondence
There is a new Chief Inspector, Brian Anderson
No Stats provided for the current meeting, preferring a different format going forward
Priorities and issues identified are parking problems in the town, speeding and issues at the Oval
No serious crimes to report in the Prestwick area
Car Crash in Hunter's Avenue
Trend of young folk driving at night, over July there will be a campaign to crack down on Speed and Drink Driving
Shoplifting is causing problems by what seems to be 'opportunists' and this will be investigated by PS Barlas

Questions asked/Issues raised by CCs were:

'Boy racers' at Heathfield area are causing problems – PS Barlas advised Police are aware of the situation. Young drivers are using Heathfield as a base, driving up the A77 or the country roads as a 'racetrack'

There was a robbery reported on FB – PS Barlas to check for details. Confirmed there was an arrest at the beginning of the week

Parking at the Biggart Hospital on double and single yellow lines seems to get worse at visiting time

Parking in a disabled bay, particularly on the Main Street – PS Barlas will speak to the shops in the area

Do Parking Wardens need to patrol at night?

Parking at the Tennis Court, Mansefield Road and surrounding areas, Cllr Hart advised a 'Table Top' will be used at this area

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The Minutes of the May meeting were proposed by Cllr N. Smith and seconded by Cllr Park.

Matters Arising:

Re Police Request, Cllr Quinn confirmed that the telephone number requested had been passed on to PC Lyall.

Re Ayrshire Horizons, Cllr Quinn confirmed the Administrator's letter which was difficult to read had been re-circulated by email. Cllr Whittaker will contact the Administrator by telephone.

Re Zurich Insurance, Cllr Quinn confirmed the insurance company, Zurich have confirmed receipt of payment and had provided continuous cover since 1st April.

Re SAC Grant for PSCC, Cllr Whittaker confirmed the Grant Payment had now been received and a cheque was issued to SAC for payment for Auditing the PSCC accounts for the previous year. Cllr Evans recorded his upset at receiving Demand Notices from SAC for the payment, even though cheque had been posted on 16th June. Cllr Evans was concerned that this would have an effect on his personal credit rating. There was a discussion about SAC process to recover debt as Cllr Quinn had heard of similar harsh tactics to recover late payments for small amounts of Council Tax Arrears. Provost Moonie advised that SAC use debt collectors Stirling Park to recover outstanding debts once two demand notices have been given by SAC.

Re Christmas Lights, Cllr Evans asked Cllr Hunter what was happening with the lights for Prestwick Toll re previous agreement about the lights. Cllr Hunter said the PB was concerned about splitting the community between two events but was happy to revisit it suggesting a different date. There was a conversation about the timing of the application, Cllr Quinn advised it could be applied for **this** year re the recent email from Marie Welsh, Cllr N. Smith confirmed he had responded to the email.

Cllr Hart stated the application was for funding for more lights. Provost Moonie read the email to the group that said "one application is for new, replacement or enhanced

Christmas Lighting within their area and should come from one town/village and all organisations work together to develop a joint approach". Cllr Moonie advised to act as soon as possible and Cllr Evans declared a need for action. Cllr N Smith requested Cllr Hunter to facilitate a Christmas Lights 'team meeting' with PNCC, PSCC and Prestwick Business Association (PBA) and Cllr Hunter said he would do this. Cllr Evans was pleased the ball was now rolling.

South Ayrshire Councillors Reports:

Cllr H. Hunter reported:

SAC met today and authorised the Young Carers card, a revised Young Scot Card tailored to suit young carers
Parking Charges under Leadership Panel Review
A disappointing decision was the Budget of 2019/2020 at the Integrated Joint Board

Cllr I Cochrane reported:

The BID Ballot was agreed at the SAC Leadership Panel
Re the issue with the lamp post on East Road raised by Cllr Thomson at previous meetings, Cllr Cochrane spoke to ARA who confirmed they had problems with contractors and would be undertaking the job themselves
Summer Beach Clean completed and 70% of the stone removed is natural stone. (Cllrs Thomson & Hart commented that the natural stone was rubble that came from houses dumped at Newton Shore).
The owner of the land at Shawfarm Road is looking for quotes to block access to his land that has been illegally occupied by Travellers

Cllr H Moonie reported:

The LDP came before SAC with a Budget of £217M and a £17M shortfall
Please note that this refers to two separate agenda items
[Item 8](#) – Budget 2020/21 Update and
[Item 11](#) – Proposed Replacement – South Ayrshire Local Development Plan
(Cllr Evans questioned the 1% allocated to community groups and asked how do we influence spending, where is the guidance for Community Councils? Cllr Evans also stated that the LDP had geographical information on it - no maps)

The Leadership Panel met on 11th June discussed Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy with a working group of SAC Councillors (SAC Cllr Cochrane reminded the group about the Climate Emergency declared by the First Minister that SAC will have to put policies in place that Officers must adhere to)
The Head of Planning has left SAC
there is a Local Biodiversity Plan and would circulate the paper
(please now find attached link to the [Local Biodiversity Action Plan](#))

Cllr Evans left the meeting at 8pm and Cllr N. Smith took over as the Chair.

SAC Cllr Toner left the meeting at 8pm and returned at 815pm.

Cllr Moonie also gave information about the discussions surrounding the re-establishment of a single Prestwick Community Council:

There is a consultation on the Blue Book

SAC were not consulting on boundaries

SAC determines how many Community Councils there are and where

No process where the CC can determine this themselves

There was a lengthy discussion about how/why the original Prestwick Community Council (PCC) had been dissolved. Cllr Hart said there were differences of opinion on how this had come about, including political disagreements amongst the members of the original group, Police being called to a meeting; Cllr Moonie stated that SAC dissolved the group and discussed other groups.

Cllr N. Smith stated that some Councillors from both sides are going to resign if the groups continue as they are and that having two CCs is genuinely holding the town back – Cllr Smith had been to three meetings in the same week - PNCC, Civic Pride and now the 'third spoonful' of more or less the same information at the current PSCC meeting and all groups were discussing the same things – Police are also attending and therefore wasting Public money. Although, Cllr Hunter said that they (Civic Pride) are not doing this formally. Cllr Whittaker asked if we could request a review and Cllr Quinn advised PNCC & PSCC had requested a review and a meeting had taken place with SAC Karen Monaghan & Linda Warwick, where boundaries and wards were also discussed. Cllr Hart commented there was not a great deal of difference on the numbers of Councillors and reaffirmed that we had already requested a review. SAC Cllr Moonie advised she had spoken to SAC CEO Eileen Howatt for advice before attending the meeting. Cllr Bowman commented there were 'undertones' of the discussion. Cllr Whittaker said that lots of other areas are merging their CCs already. SAC Cllr Hunter confirmed that two villages in Ayrshire merged as part of a wider review under statutory obligation. SAC Cllr Moonie confirmed the two groups could meet together, CC is a Consultative body. Cllr N. Smith said he was proposing a meeting in August where all members could vote. Cllr Hart said Ayrshire CC has equal voting rights. Cllr Whittaker suggested putting the ideas in the Prestwick's Going Out Publication. SAC Cllr Moonie suggested the response to the suggestion could be all the members could resign and re-establish as one, however it would be unlikely that this would be the mechanism for bringing this about. Cllr Quinn questioned the costs of resigning/re-election processes as opposed to a merger and SAC Cllr Moonie advised that was not the process and the budget is there. Cllr B. Smith asked how should we consult with the Public – perhaps using surveymonkey? Cllr Whittaker suggested using the existing joint website, social media and Prestwick's Going Out to create a post to explain that the original CC had been split in two and now, the two groups work together for the common good of Prestwick at heart, we are looking to saving money by cutting down on duplicate meetings, reducing Police Time etc, does anyone have objections to that? Cllr N. Smith stated that we need to establish the facts and thanked Cllr Moonie for her help.

SAC Cllr Moonie offered her help in the next steps.

Cllr M Toner reported:

parking paper returned for information on Bellevue Road, Midton Road
displacement of cars could cause a problem for other areas
Some High hedges and a summer house causing some issues
Some trees to be taken down
Planning – LDP Consultation after holidays
Planning Manager Fiona Mullen, David Love and a Solicitor have left SAC
15 volunteers from Coca Cola to do a litter pick on Prestwick Beach – suggestions
from Cllr B Smith & Cllr Cochrane to clean from Powburn back to Kidz Play & Cllr
Whittaker suggested Boydfield gardens.

SAC Q & A:

Beach for SAC Cllr Cochrane:

Cllr B. Smith asked if an additional beach clean could be undertaken to get rid of the tree trunks from recent storms, Troon and Ayr have been cleared.

Planning Report:

Although Cllr Evans was absent from 8pm, he had prepared his usual report in advance, which had been circulated to the group. Cllr N. Smith asked if there were any questions for Cllr Evans regarding planning. No questions were submitted.

Licensing Report:

Cllr Bowman attended the SAC Licensing forum, where the increased workload of issuing occasional licences and extended hours were discussed – some decisions can be dealt with in less than an hour, eg items of National Interest like the recent visit of Katie Price. Next meeting in August.

Treasurer's Report:

Cllr Whittaker reported that the SAC Grant for £877.23 had arrived. Debts had been paid to Zurich and SAC. Ongoing issues with the change of signatory at the bank and the online process had to be started all over again.

Prestwick Airport Report:

Cllr B. Smith reported on the Prestwick Airport meeting on 4th June and confirmed that the Airport was currently up for sale in the Official Journal of the EU.
Re Military/Cargo business; planes stop to refuel on 'great Circle Route'; no increase in passenger flights; no increase in winter; Oil industry related freight from two airlines
Houston – Prestwick Frankfurt continues; PIK Airport open for military flights all year round; Heathrow hub lots of work to be done; SAC Interests lease part for MRO part of the growth deal; Might get some business for football charters for new tournament;

some damage on main runway being repaired; Dakotas back to the USA event at the Airport that 3000 attended, and said a sad goodbye to the 80 year old aircraft 'Placid Lassie'

Town Twinning:

Cllr Park reported that 20 members of the group were going to Lichtenfels the next week and 32 were coming from Ariccia in August. The Ayrshire Fiddle Orchestra helping to host young people. Cllr N. Smith asked who visits and what happens on the visits to Prestwick? The folk from the Town Twinning from Lichtenfels bring their families and young children and will attend the civic reception, visits to Culzean and Falkland Palace

Correspondence: Cllr Quinn reported that all current correspondence had been emailed to members; discussion about Social Media and Cllr B. Smith agreed to be a Facebook Admin (along with Cllrs Quinn, N.Smith & Whittaker); a request was received from the Clydesdale Bank Financial Wellbeing Team to make the Community aware of their services providing general information about financial wellbeing.

AOCB:

Cllr Park asked about Bruce's Well and SAC Tom Burns report. Cllr N. Smith confirmed the fence can be repaired. Email received from SAC to be checked.

Re question from Cllr Piper re Belleisle Hotel, Cllr Cochrane advised a formal question was asked at SAC from Cllr Lee Lyons - 'Can SAC confirm they will pursue the purchase of Belleisle Hotel' and the answer was Yes, just as the previous Council.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday August 29th Kingcase Church Hall