

Argyll and Bute Council
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NOTICE OF MEETING

DUNOON COWAL TRANSPORT FORUM
MONDAY, 17 JUNE 2019 10:00 AM

TIMBER PIER BUILDING,

BUSINESS

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 3. MINUTES**
- 4. APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CLYDE, KINTYRE AND ISLANDS FERRY STAKE HOLDER GROUP**
- 5. FERRIES UPDATE**

Transport Scotland submitted the following written update:

- Scottish Ministers announced that effective from 21 January 2019, the Gourock to Dunoon ferry service would be transferred to CalMac Ferries Ltd (CFL) as a passenger-only service. This has ensured the continued provision of a passenger ferry service, under the terms set out in the Clyde and Hebrides Ferry Service contract.
- Following the transfer, further consideration will be given to future vessel and service requirements. Consideration will also be given to improved harbour-side facilities for passengers. This will ensure that the ferry service is best placed to meet the needs of passengers into the future.
- Transport Scotland is committed to ensuring that the views of the residents of the Cowal Peninsula are listened to, which is why we attend the Clyde Ferry Stakeholder Group, organised by HITRANS. Following the transfer of the Gourock to Dunoon service to CFL, engagement with the local community will be taken forward as per the Clyde and Hebrides model, which includes six monthly Ferry Stakeholder Group consultation events.
- Transport Scotland also receives feedback on the views of the local community via regular engagement with CFL, which includes monthly contract meetings.

- M.V. Argyll Flyer dry dock will take place in May 2019 during which time a single vessel service will operate.

Argyll and Bute have announced that work to improve the ferry passenger experience at Dunoon Breakwater will begin on Monday 11th March. The work will improve safety and provide facilities more suited to a passenger-only service, while any disruption will be kept to a minimum. The first stage of the work will see the toilets and waiting area relocated, which will be undertaken over the course of the week and require those facilities to be closed in that time. Temporary toilet facilities will be provided for the duration of the works and the ferry schedule will not be affected. Shelter for waiting passengers will be available at the existing shelter at the Breakwater and at the existing bus shelters. Works are due for completion by Friday 15th, with the waiting room expected to be operational mid-week.

Signage

CalMac have been working closely with an external contractor to develop new way finding signage at both Gourock and Dunoon ports. The signage should be installed within the coming months.

Uniform

All crew onboard MV Ali Cat and MV Argyll Flyer have now received their CalMac branded uniform and can now be visible wearing these.

Waiting Room Refresh

CalMac have received confirmation from CMAL to proceed with refreshing the waiting area at Gourock. CalMac have appointed a contractor to undertake the works which will be completed by the end of March.

Vessel Rebranding

CalMac are currently developing plans to rebrand both MV Ali Cat and MV Argyll Flyer. Once these have been agreed internally, CalMac will share these images with the public to advise what the vessels will look like. Both vessels will be rebranding during their scheduled annual overhaul i.e.

- MV Argyll Flyer - May 2019
- MV Ali Cat - November 2019

Website

CalMac have now included all information regarding the Gourock - Dunoon route on the CalMac website. CalMac are advising all customers to use the CalMac website for information on this service. We are also reviewing the activity on the AFL webpage ensuring this is decreasing before shutting this website down.

A statistical update was also tabled at the meeting.

The Chair updated the Committee on arrangements that are now in place for Elected Members to visit the Scottish Parliament for a meeting with the Minister for Transport and Connectivity on the 12th March 2019 to discuss the future of the Dunoon-Gourock ferry service.

1. The Forum requested clarification on why the

Stage 1 – Relocation of Portakabins (to area shown hatched red on attached Location Plan).

- Stage 2 – Reconfiguration of mustering area road markings to create formalised car park incorporating drop-off area.
- Stage 3 – Address the outstanding objections from TRO process and proceed with formal implementation of bus lane.

2.3 In terms of Stage 1, plans are in

years public transport will make representation to CityLink and West Coast Motors to continue using this stop during the winter months. The situation regarding parking at this stop will continue to be monitored.

The Forum agreed to request additional gritting by Transport Scotland and Argyll and Bute Council in order for buses to utilise the area better in the winter months, noting the commitment given that safer driving conditions would lead to WCM re-evaluating their current stance on this.

(d)

This has not been actioned yet, however actioned by Transport Scotland (Ar) (128820068Tj) (

This

ferry is off that the last bus to Colintrave from Dunoon will still operate.

1. Murray Rogers will take this item forward with Argyll and Bute Council for a workable solution going forward.
2. West Coast Motors will ask City Link to look at addressing the gaps in timetable of the 926 service raised by Cairndow Community Council.

1. PC Smith agreed to look at concerns raised regarding vehicles parking on the corners in Kirn.
2. PC Smith agreed to investigate the camper van that is currently permanently parked at the foot of Clyde Street, Kirn, blocking sightlines.
3. PC Smith agreed to look at issues regarding cyclists on the pavement in Argyll Street.
4. Debbie Donald, on behalf of Cairndow Community Council, thanked Police Scotland for their increased presence in Cairndow noting that this was working as a deterrent against speeding.

Iain Catterwell had submitted apologies to the meeting which were received post meeting with the following update- Positive progress was being made on timber companies liaising over the sharing of the allowed numbers and frequencies of loaded timber lorries per day on the B8000.

The Forum raised concerns regarding lorries mounting the pavement at Strachur Bay and asked if the Timber Transport Group could look into it.

Roads Representatives had submitted apologies to the meeting and a written update was tabled.

(a)

Pier Rd Dunoon TRO - 10 objections received at least are going to be upheld, this may be forwarded to an independent reporter.

Queen Hall TRO - objections received, these will require to be reviewed and removed if possible otherwise the TRO may g q 1 0j 26.0039p46 043t

Operational Services will programme the requirement to erect on site, once delivered.

(d)

Awaiting sub-contractor to complete previously issued works. As previously stated, this work is highly weather dependent with contractors working to timescales for mobilisation, which are unable to take advantage of short term localised improvements within network

The period of snow and sharp frosts late January were a feature of the whole Argyll and Bute network. However, that apart, all treatment plans have been delivered as per Policy.

Graeme Revill on behalf of Kilmun Community Council asked if the large volume of grit remaining on the pavements in Kilmun could be swept.

(h)

Road Closure Notifications. Emergency Services; Public Transport; Chair of Area Committee; local Councillors and local Community are all informed of Road Closures.

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Cowal Transport Forum Briefing Note 17th June 2019

Response from Transport Scotland Regarding Various Questions raised by Councillor Alan Reid:

A83 Task Force

I know the Minister cancelled his attendance at the March A83 Task Force meeting for a good reason. However, Community Councils have asked me why the Task Force could not have gone ahead without the Minister. *The Cabinet Secretary is the Chair of the A83 Taskforce. A written update was issued to all Taskforce members in the absence of a meeting. The next meeting has been scheduled for Scotland*

A83

each year. Could you please look into this? *I have raised this with BEAR Scotland. When clearing snow during snow events, the A83 Trunk Road is treated first as a priority. If conditions allow, the bus turning circle is cleared also. The bus turning circle is gritted twice during winter treatments, once by BEAR Scotland and once by Argyll and Bute Council.*

VMS Signs at Kilmun and Strachur

These do not appear to be working. I have been told that there are never any messages on them, even when road closures at the Rest & Be Thankful are planned. Could you please look into this? *These signs have been handed over to Argyll and Bute Council to manage and operate.*

Manual signs at the B839/B828 junction

We were told at the last meeting of the Task Force that these manual signs warning of closures on the A83 were the responsibility of BEAR, but they are never used. Could you please look into this? *This was picked up as part of the debrief for the landslide incident last October. BEAR have been reminded that these signs should be used when there is an incident at the Rest and Be Thankful.*

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had not been treated especially if road surface temperatures are around 0C as they were on the morning of 10th March.