**Troon Community Council Meeting**

**Council Chambers, South Beach Troon**

**September 5th 2017.**

**Sederunt:**

**TCC Members:**

H.Duff (chair), D.Graham (Vice Chair), E.McNish (Mins Sec),J.Thornhill (Correspondence Secretary), B.Phillips (Treasurer), L.Matheson, D.Barr, K.Workman , R.Milligan, A.Cameron, N.Power, A.McIndoe, E.Williamson.

**South Ayrshire Councillors:**

Craig Mackay,  P.Convery

**Police Scotland:**

Chief Inspector Gary I ‘Anson & Sgt. Lynsey Booth

**Youth Forum:**

No members

**Media Representative:**

S.Houston (Ayrshire Post) & Pippa Smith (Troon Times)

**S.A.C.**

Paul Scully (Community Safety Officer)

**S.A.P.I.**

C.N. Clark

**Apologies:**

A.Wainwright, Cllrs. P.Saxton & R.Pollock

**Chairperson’s Welcome:**

H.Duff opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and asked the new Chief Inspector to introduce himself to the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Approved by J.Thornhill, seconded by D.Graham

**Police Report:**

C.I. I ‘Anson reported crime figures for July/August:

* + - South Troon
      * 414 incidents
        + 151 incidents in June
        + 152 incidents in July
        + 111 incidents in August
      * North Troon
        + 664 incidents in this period
* The following figures are over a 3 month period, June, July and August.
  + - Disturbing the Peace: 12 @ month on the beach and streets
    - Breach of the Peace: 57
    - Assault: 25 total, 2 in town centre
    - House Break-ins: 8
    - Road Traffic Accidents: 11
    - Road Traffic Offences: 52
    - Concerned Persons: 59
    - Sexual Assault: 1
    - Commercial Break-ins: 33, 11 have been attributed to 1 person
    - Vandalism: 26
    - Other offences: 27
* **Street Disturbance:**

Police were called to Hunter Cres & Wilson Avenue for children causing a disturbance in these areas, it seem to dissipate with the return of school starting.

* **Marr Playing Fields:**

Members of the TCC were alerted to vandalism occurring on the playing fields. The police were called and have said they will be vigilant but, they cannot make a commitment to be there continuously due to officer’s workloads. It was pointed out that a Campus Officer that used to be there should be reinstated.

* **Beach Invasion:**

Chief Inspector I ‘Anson gave a precise and detailed report on the invasion of youth to Troon the previous week. He explained how Troon is easily accessible by train from all stations and this is a challenge for both Scot-Rail staff and Police. Extra staffs from both organisations were in place but the sheer volume of people totally overwhelmed everyone. It was calculated that 6,000 kids descended on Troon.  While the vast majority behaved and enjoyed the day a small minority were intent on causing trouble. There were 10 arrests. Police Scotland bulked up their attending officers (an extra 50 officers were deployed) pulled from Ayrshire and beyond. D.I.  I ‘Anson said the feedback he has received is it was a planned event on Social Media, lessons have been learned. Scot Rail enforced an alcohol ban on the trains and has confirmed 2,500 youths came down from Glasgow and Paisley. Councillors had a meeting on the 21st August to discuss how we move forward and get officers to areas of need. A follow-up meeting will take place on September 20th with other concerned bodies, Paisley and Glasgow stations will be checked for entrances/exits to try to stem the flow getting through with alcohol and communication to Police Scotland kept informed as to volume of people and destination on given days.

* **Recommendations Suggested:**
* Police Scotland is conducting a UK wide search for other beach side towns plans to handle such mass influxes. All concerned bodies will exercise these plans in 2018 to prevent it happening again.
* A site plan was organised for aid and support e.g. Bins, Toilets, First Aid stations etc. It was suggested a beach buggy would be ideal for patrolling the beach at such events in conjunction with the R.N.L.I. this would enable more interaction with the youths on the beach. It was also suggested that an organised open-air event would be controlled and policed so it can be monitored.
* Amanda Wainwright suggested the Scot Rail staff could inform Police Scotland if ticket sales in stations to beach areas are excessive in given days indicating an event has been organised.
* Mr. McGee (public forum) asked about the legality of an orchestrated event as this on social media and said it was unfair on local residents as many of the inebriated youths had to be helped putting a strain on emergency services and safety issues surrounding the day.
* C.I. I ‘Anson indicated local shops did not supply the alcohol it was brought down by the youths.
* Sgt. Lynesy Booth reiterated the fact that calling 101 police office worked well that day and this will patch through to the on-duty Sgt in the Ayr office.
* TCC E. Williamson asked where and what responsibility the youths parent hold, they should be contacted to come and collect their inebriated children instead of them being put on the trains home causing distress and concern to travellers.
* C.I. I ‘Anson said following up the youths is difficult because of lack of officers most parents didn’t know where their children were or what state they had gotten into. He said Troon want the visitors not the hassle that came with the youths.
* TCC D.Graham said for the past 4/5 yrs the weekends bring the youths down to the dunes area which is popular but the downside is the locals don’t go to the beach at these times.
* Chair H.Duff reported incidents in Irvine were not reported in the papers.
* Nan McFarlane (Public Forum) reported the situation at Troon station at 6pm was overwhelming and unsafe, the youths were pushing onto the trains preventing people alighting, her daughter, who is blind was trying to get off and being pushed back onto the train. Thankfully she managed to alight but there was no supervision at the station, man-power was there but did not intervene.
* C.I. I ‘Anson will return in the spring with an up-date.
* **Other Police Business:**
* TCC Anne Cameron reported speeding on Brodie Avenue when it is clearly displayed it’s a 20 MPH zone. She also reported an abandoned car sitting outside the sheltered housing complex.
* Parallel Parking is causing problems in Hawthorn Place; C.McGee reported Barassie Street has the same problem as does Bentick Drive where emergency services were hampered by the same problem the police will investigate.

Chair H.Duff thanked both officers for their report.

* **OPEN FORUM:**
* Michael Connelly reported the toilets in Ayr bus station opening times are not displayed clearly (the inside toilets are open from 9am-4:15pm). He has written to a Mr. Bridgel about the lack of display notices and was informed the services are not available to display these signs but there are 18 signs of another various natures displayed.
* **Youth Forum:**

No attendees.

* **Wintertainment:**
  + A problem has arisen for the ground which is leased by Red Button through Lasals, Glasgow; Chair has been informed they can’t help this year. Saville (the owners) were contacted and stated that the agents cannot lease the car park this year due to a re-surfacing programme after numerous attempts to contact them with no reply; “an anonymous gentleman” e-mailed the chair to inform her that he would do his utmost to secure the car park. An alternative arrangement needs to be found. TCC N.Power suggested asking Morrison’s Supermarket, TCC A.McIndoe suggested sending them a letter. TCC A.Cameron suggested Troon Primary School Playground. TCC D.Barr said this area is used for overflow car parking on the day.
* **Treasurers Report:**
  + Brian Phillips (TCC Treasurer) reported funds are fine and healthy, TCC D.Graham asked when the accounts would be ready for review, they should be ready for the next TCC meeting.
* **Correspondence:**
  + TCC J.Thornhill had a comprehensive amount of correspondence due to the summer break.
* Incoming mail.
  + Strength in the Community; applications are invited for funding
  + Marie Welch re resignations of Susan Dunning, Gregor Baird, Moira Love and Dennis Cram and thanked all of them for their commitment to the TCC.
  + Applications for PVG Checks for TCC members at a cost of £25 per member
    - TCC L.Matheson asked what the duration of the PVG is and was informed 5yrs ad to apply you need your N.I. No and a personal I.D.
* Outgoing Mail.
  + A letter to Marie Welch inquiring about external funding
* Donations to TCC sent to local companies:
  + Damien Cross, Annemarie Cowell, McTaggert & Mickel & Helen Collins
* **Other Community Business:**
  + Community Conference 15th September (Helen & Anne to attend)
  + Troon Locality September 16th in the Walker Halls
  + Doorstep Crime Stop October 3rd
  + Member’s drive for TCC in Library, Facebook and TCC webpage
  + A sub-group for TCC social media being set up-volunteers needed
  + A monthly newsletter on the webpage (Annie & Linda to be administrators)
  + TASS which was formerly disbanded has been revived with Campbell Malone a £50 cash donation has been made in the form of chocolate products for the Secret Santa
  + The right of way through Marr College has been compromised because a gate has been installed and locked at night compromising the ROW.
  + A meeting with Marr College should be arranged to request an alternative route for ROW
  + Concerns voiced if new build will have an effect on ROW
* **Bus Users Group:**

Teresa Smith attended meeting

* Alternate buses begin on September 17th
* Bus timetable changes- every 30 mins to Troon/Ayr but not to Irvine
* The no 14 will stop servicing Muirhead
* The no 14 will move from its stance in Douglas Street-the hospital bus will take the stance
* The no 14 A will continue to service Barassie
* No councillors attended the bus users group meeting nor the name of the company wanting to operate in Troon
* Stagecoach made objections to competitors wanting to service South Ayrshire
* **Cycle Paths and Users:**
  + SAP Initiative Cycle & Walking Groups part of SUSTRANS
  + Colin Farr reported they will be promoting at community events
  + Check the maintenance of roads etc. on the walks
  + The routes are open to all
  + Car-free routes are better for the environment
  + In partnership with Roads Alliance to propose new paths and give updates
  + Setting up of a new “Cycle-Friendly Troon” contacts by end of September
  + Promoting the safety of users, particularly children
  + Arrange pilot meetings for late October open to everyone to choose new paths
  + Lighting issues on paths- contact Scottish Power
  + Information on work being done on paths by utility companies- SUSTRANS inform on social media
* **Cllrs Reports:**

***Cllr McKay reported:***

**Beach Invasion**

* Re: Police report-they did a fabulous job under extreme circumstances
* The cost of the damage and destruction will fall on the local community and train users
* The behaviour and mess on the beach was disgraceful
* More enforcement on the trains needed to find and confiscate alcohol
* Making an example of offenders might help

**Schools:**

* Marr College and Troon Primary extensions are now complete and a fantastic improvement to both schools
* An open day is planned for the public and facilities in the schools will be open for groups to use
* The goal is to make the schools the “Heart of the Community”

**Toilet Block:**

* Common Good Land- the toilet block issue is going to court on the 13th September
  + Chair responded: The Duke of Portland gifted the land to the people of Troon; she said to be careful selling off public assets. The public toilets at the kiosk installed gates that suggested a yearly income of £13,00 but so far has only generate £600

***Cllr Convery reported:***

**Finger Posts:**

* Posted around Troon signing various venues and tourism areas
* Funding has dried up for more signage

**Paddling Pool:**

* Harris Fencing at paddling pool in disrepair, the shelter is due to be demolished
* The pool could be filled in and various suggests could be made for it’s use

**Virtual Reality:**

* London operates a “virtual reality” speed bumps show highlighting excessive speed and it’s dangers in towns and streets, could be an idea for Troon to emphasise the dangers of speeding

**Overgrown Trees:**

* Willow Lane-Fiona Ross sent out a photographer to investigate shading of the lamps-mo issues were found, the tree foliage will drop in the winter

**A.O.B.**

* TCC A.Cameron suggested each Troon organisation should letter Fiona Ross re: the step removal at the sand dunes as visitors have voiced they are unsafe. The chair objects as this would be detrimental to the local public, she suggested it should be a case of updating and maintenance for the locals not the day-trippers , this was carried unanimously by the members
* The metal shelter on the esplanade is in bad repair
* Charles Drive disrepair of pavements were repaired after 2 days of a report being called in
  + *Cllr Convery answered the council has a matrix system that decides who gets what and when regarding repairs*
* TCC D.Barr thanked Community Safety Officer Paul Scully for organising tree cutting
* A golf ball was reported smashing a window  not being caught by the netting in place in Ottoline Drive-Cllr Convery stated a ticket issued by the golfer gives air cover if there’s an accident with a ball, the insurance will pay for any damage
* Barassie Roundabout-the cutting of the plants are unsightly, the roundabout is reported as being difficult to get around and has a dropped drain
* The toilets in Church St. Has had a cubicle out of order since July
* Ivy Cottage pathway slabs in poor condition Cllr Convery will photograph and take it in hand
* Roads Alliance for repairs have no number for lighting, they have varying times for general repair, the patching work on roads and pavements are abysmal and need inspection
  + *Cllr Convery states this is a result of division of officers*
  + *Cllr McKay states a quick repair negates claims for injury*
* The Chair reported on an elderly couple celebrating 60 yrs of marriage were surprised by the provost Helen Moonie, Major Dixon and a piper for their special day

**Planning Applications:**

* South Beach Lane Objections:
  + No visible reason for lack of privacy
* A 50 bed, 3 storey nursing home
  + Concerns about a nursing home being sited in a commercial area
  + Fiona Sharp is in charge of the application

**Live at Troon:**

* TCC N.Power thanked the chair for the banners advertising “Live at Troon”.
* Chalk markers will be put on the pavements directing the public to event areas

**Christmas Lights:**

* Donna Reid sent a report that Ayrshire Roads Alliance will be switching the Christmas lights on at 4pm.

**Social Evening:**

* A collection  for a social night out for TCC members will begin at the October meeting for members to have a social night out

**Moira Love:**

* Our retired secretary Moira Love is in hospital poorly and has been transferred from Ayr hospital to Crosshouse hospital, all members wish her a speedy recovery

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS CLOSED.**

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE TROON COMMUNITY COUNCIL WILL BE ON:**

**TUESDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2017**

**THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, SOUTH BEACH, TROON TOWN HALL.**