

DUNADD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Convener's Report 2019-20

As most of you will know, it's my sad duty to report the death of one of our Council members. Marion Thomson was a long-standing and feisty councillor who worked tirelessly for the community. Diagnosed with a brain tumour, she had to give up her car and it was my fortune to take her to her weekly hair appointment in Ardrishaig. I got to know her personally over the past few months and, although unable to attend meetings, she was still interested to hear what was happening in the community. A good number of Kilmartin residents assembled on the green to pay their last respects.

Elections for the Community Council were due to be held in March but were postponed with the 'lockdown'. We were unable to meet in March for the same reason and it's highly unlikely we will meet in person for the AGM on the 26th May. We can conduct a 'virtual' AGM via a Zoom conference. I've attached the agenda and minutes of the last meeting for you to consider and comment upon. I have been unable to contact the treasurer so I'm not sure audited accounts will be available.

There has been much discussion over the past year concerning traffic in the villages and, thanks to Councillor Sandy Taylor, we had arranged for key figures from the roads department to attend the March meeting. The Covid-19 pandemic put paid to that but perversely it also put paid to much of the traffic! Dunadd Community Council has supported Dunadd Community Enterprise in all its endeavours and together we established a resilience scheme to offer support to those self-isolating. With a co-ordinator in each village we sought and secured some 50+ volunteers to collect essential food, medicine and to keep an ear open for other needs. Dunadd Community Enterprise applied for and received a £3,000 grant to purchase PPE and to provide financial help to those in need. Operating under the umbrella of the Community Council proffered insurance and advice from Argyll & Bute Council. To date, there has been little for the volunteers to do as the community of family, friends and neighbours have stepped in.

After eight years, this has to be my last Convener's report. When I write up the minutes it will be my last act as 'temporary' secretary. I've made this widely know at community gatherings with no response. If we can't find office bearers and a further four councillors, the Community Council will fold. I explained in some detail in the last report why this would be detrimental to the community. Thoughts please!

Jim Malcolm

11th May 2020 – updated 17th May

