

ARDENTINNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held 7th June 2011

Present; Bill Williamson, Teresa Forsyth, Jimmy Gordon, Eileen Connell, Val Kennedy, Malcolm Bartley, Dennis Gower.

Apology; Stephen Johnston.

Present; Bruce Marshall, Donald McKay, David McDowall, Elaine Allen, Jessie Crowe, Vicky Fairley, Jim Robinson.

Declaration of Interest None.

Val welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if the members of the committee had read the minutes of the meeting held in April and if it was an accurate account. All agreed.

Matters Arising from Minutes.

MoD pier at Shepherds Point Jessie Crowe reported that this is leased to the MoD on a yearly basis. Although the Forestry Commission own the ground they will not accept the land back from the MoD until the area has been cleared.

Invitation to representative from MoD to attend our meetings. Bill has sent a letter but, as yet there has been no reply.

I.C.E Further information regarding this has not yet been obtained. Dennis felt that a statement outlining the information could be put on the noticeboard.

Police Report

P.C. Donald McKay reported that there has been very little crime over the past few weeks apart from the issues at Glenfinart Caravan Park. He acknowledged that people would be concerned about the situation but could not give any details as the case was on-going. He reported that the police presence has trebled over the past while.

It had been necessary to have a Police Support Unit at the beach area when it had been reported that there was a party arranged for a considerable amount of young people. This was to ensure that the party went off without incident.

Val invited questions to be put to P.C. McKay.

Jimmy asked if proper procedures and time scales are being adhered to after the arrests made at the Glenfinart Caravan Park. P.C. McKay gave assurances that the C.I.D. is taking the case forward.

The Mobile Police Van will have regular times in the area due to the closure of the Kilmun office.

Val suggested that P.C. McKay can be contacted if there are any issues of concern.

Dennis asked that, as this is the beginning of the busy season at the picnic area, would there be liaison between the police and National Park Rangers. P.C. McKay reported that the Operation Ironworks operation is run in conjunction with from the National Park rangers, Forestry Commission, Police and is a scheme to tackle anti-social behaviour and Ardentinny will be included in this initiative.

What is the law in regard to motorised vehicles such as quad bikes being used on the beach? P.C. McKay stated that this would not come under the Road Traffic Act but he would investigate to try to find the owner of the quad bike and advise them.

Treasures Report

Expenditure	Nil	
Income	£300.00	(Community Council Admin Grant)
Total	£2,069.54	

Secretary's Report

None

Councillor's Report

The toilets at the car park by the hurch are not yet fully operational due to a burst pipe in the ladies. Bruce will contact appropriate department to get this rectified.

No further improvement on the Blairmore to Stronchullin Farm part of the road. Area meeting was held and the emphasis will be on A roads. Val agreed to write a letter to the Roads Department regarding the condition of the road and how it impacts on the village.

Bruce advised that people should use the call centre to report potholes. 01546605516 or email- Complaints @Argyll-bute.gov.uk.

The increased budget cuts will have an impact on services throughout Argyll and Bute and will mean cuts resources and staffing levels.

There is a moratorium on school closures until June 2012.

Malcolm asked if there was a programme for spraying Japanese Knotweed this year. Last year Ardentinny was not included as they ran out of weed killer. Malcolm asked that Ardentinny be included this time. Bruce informed that the spraying season is from late July to the end of September but could not confirm if we would be included.

Forestry Commission

Jessie Crowe gave the report and outlined what would be happening over the next few weeks.

- Erecting a fence between the nursery field and the caravan park . This work was held up due to the workforce being employed clearing storm damage.
- The field beside Lochview has been leased on a temporary basis for grazing. Repairs have been carried out on the fencing and broken stobs replaced.
- The beech hedge will be cut again this year at Soldiers Rock and at Malcolm's. this will be carried out when the contractor can arrange it.
- There is still some windblown damage to be cleared at Riverside Walk
- The vegetation on the lane to Stronvochlan will be cleared and sprayed.
- The Japanese Knotweed on the River Finart will be dealt with this year-weather permitting.
- Over 160 hectares of rhododendron cutting and spraying work will take place over the next 1-2 years.

Ardentinny Shore –Shepherd's Point towards Knap

Upper Clunie

Glen Finart-around Sligrachan Wood area.

Baron Turner

Barnacabber

Gairletter

Ardentinny roadside between Ardentinny and Gairletter.

- There is a new member of staff at Glenbranter. Rebecca Smith will be covering conservation and her job will be supervising the above contracts.
- The new stands for the bins at the picnic area have still not been provided by the council.
- There is wedding on the beach on Saturday 11th June.
- The blocked culvert at the Laird's Grave has been cleared.

Community Support.

Jimmy suggested that the village takes on an awareness how some people can be vulnerable in the winter and proposed that there could be databank of those who wish to be included to receive assistance if necessary. Val felt that support should be available throughout the year. Jimmy agreed to look into this and approach those who may wish the service.

Response to Draft Local Plan.

In response to a question from the Reporter who is considering the Finalised Draft Plan, Dennis had replied that a question from the Community Council raised within our response to the original Draft Plan, about the possibility of part of Ardentinny being considered a conservation area should now be reconsidered. It was clear that this would require the support or otherwise of the whole village and consideration of Listed Building status for some parts might be a better alternative.

Information on any listed buildings is available on the internet. Val will contact Historic Scotland for more information.

Cowal Hospice.

There are 6 options being considered and the public are invited to respond to these options. Val made available a list of the options and asked that people are encouraged to send in the response forms. Forms will be available at noticeboard and Ardentenny Village Hall. It was suggested that the Community Council also respond and asked if David could put it on Ardentenny.org.

A.O.B.

Jim Robinson stated that the Ardentenny signs at each end of the village are deteriorating and need replaced. Bruce will approach appropriate person but did inform that each sign cost £1100 and, with all the budget cuts, the signs may not be a priority.

The Perspex in the noticeboard was blown out in the recent storms. This needs replaced. Approach has been made to a contractor for pricing.

On 2 occasions the Minutes have been removed from the noticeboard. Should anyone in the village require copies of the minutes please get in touch with Eileen who will provide them.

The walk from Carrick Castle to Ardentenny on behalf of the Community Councils was a great success. Jim Robinson suggested that it would be beneficial to have a small bridge over the stream at the far end of the walk as it was difficult to negotiate without getting wet as the water was quite deep.

There is still no-one willing to take on the role of secretary of the Community Council. A suggestion was that there should be a notice put up on the noticeboard inviting someone to fill this role.

A boat sitting on the beach between the Ardentenny Hotel and the slipway is deteriorating so badly that it may be a danger to others. The owner has moved out of the village but can still be contacted to ask if it can be removed.

Hydro Electric Scheme

Vicky agreed to email this link for this to Eileen to pass on to Val. The deadline for funding may have already passed but an alternative may still be available.

Val asked all committee members if there were any other items. As there were none she thanked everyone for attending and informed that the next meeting will be on Tuesday 2nd August at 7.30pm.