

DRAFT MINUTE

ARDENTINNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held 3rd June 2014

Present; Val Kennedy (Convener), Bill Williamson, Dennis Gower, Malcolm Bartley, Marian Norris, Eileen Connell.

Apologies: Stephen Johnstone, Roy Harrison

Present: Gordon Blair, David McDowall, Vicky Fairley, Anna Williamson, Linda Naismith, Lynn Kerr, Rob Bray, P.C. Eddie McGonagle, Bruce Marshall, David McKenzie (National Park), David Robertson, Laurie Williamson (Forestry Commission).

Apology: Aidan Docherty (Actual Reality)

Declaration of Interest: None

Minute of April meeting:

Val asked if everyone had read the minute and if they agreed with their content. Bill raised the point that he had not had sight of the Police report and questioned the wording on an item contained in the report. PC McGonagle contacted the office and was able to verify the content but not the exact wording. As the secretary was unable to attend the meeting so could not clarify these points, the minute was not accepted and would pass on to the August meeting. Bill also had queries about the report on the discussion regarding the MoD report

Dennis wished the wording of the report on Green Energy changed. This was agreed.

Matters Arising:

The minute of the meeting held in February was accepted.

Proposed Bill Williamson. Seconded Eileen Connell

Police Report:

P.C. McGonagle reported that there had been 4 incidents.

- Fire at former Ardentenny Hotel
- Rescue boat was set loose and brought back by MoD
- A report of vandalism
- Neighbour complaint.

Rural Watch. There have not been many residents who have joined this. It was agreed that information would be put on the notice board again.

Treasurer's Report:

Malcolm had presented the audited accounts at the AGM.

He stressed again that CC members should put in for expenses incurred by CC business.

Secretary's Report:

A letter was received from Douglas Hendry regarding the request to allow the Convener and Treasurer to serve for another year if no-one comes forward to take over these roles. Douglas Hendry gave permission for this.

At the AGM It was agreed by majority that Val Kennedy would remain as Convener

It was unanimous that Malcolm Bartley would remain as Treasurer.

Also requested at the AGM was an update on the progress of the Emergency Plan and the Complaints Procedure.

These are being taken forward by Roy (Emergency Plan) and Marian (Complaints).

Forestry Report:

- Acknowledgement that the work done on the riverside road has been a vast improvement.
- David Robertson reported that there is extensive work being carried out by SSE which is the reason for the helicopter presence which will continue for a few weeks.
- The ponticum spraying continues.
- 3 owls eggs laid in the owl box in Coronation Wood have failed.
- Tree felling at Stronchullin Farm will be carried out.
- At Cowalfest this year, one of the items will be a visit to the Nature Trail to study the range of bryophytes there.

Val brought up that some of the sightlines in the village are obscured and making it difficult for drivers. Some areas in the village were identified. David will check on areas under FC responsibility.

Marian gave an update on the Nature Trail. There had been correspondence concerning volunteer input, the overall responsibility for the trail, and the need for update of information posts and a replacement of the bird and squirrel feeders and platform. Marian is to arrange a meeting with the Forestry Commission to discuss possibilities. This had been delayed due to illness and holidays.

Councillor's Report:

- The potholes have not been as serious a problem as before.
- Concerns have been raised about large stones being placed on verges through the village. This contravenes a local bye-law as the council are responsible for 1.5 metres from the road. Steps will be taken to have these removed.

- Japanese Knotweed at the side of the roads along the shore road was sprayed last year and will be sprayed over the next 2 years.
- Sea defence work has been carried out in the village and along the straight road.
- Decriminalised parking programme has started.
- Ponticum. Although there is work going on to get rid of some of the ponticum, Bruce gave an example of an eco friendly method of getting rid of it as advocated by the newly formed Argyll and Isles Countryside Trust.
- The new bus timetable has caused difficulties for people catching ferry etc in Dunoon. Bruce reported that this has been acknowledged by A & B council and that there should be adjustments made by July.

Bill asked again for confirmation on whether A & B paid for the repair to the coal pier. Bruce stated that the information he had received was this was not the case.

National Park:

- The draft plan is out for consultation and any comments need to be in by 7th July.
- Dennis agreed to collate a response. All CC members will access the draft plan and pass on their opinions to Val by 20th June.
- There is to be a consultation on proposed bye-laws which would cover the NP area.
- Elections for the NP board are to be held. There are 2 people standing. Voting papers will be sent out in July.
- Planning. Val explained that there is only one planning application which is an amendment to an existing one. This is on the noticeboard.

Actual Reality:

Aidan was unable to attend.

Dennis asked whether beach cleans by Actual Reality were taking place. Others were able to confirm that this was the case.

Japanese Knotweed:

Dennis reported that he had been unable to access funding for additional requirements as agreed at the February meeting. He has spoken to Geoff Carr who has assisted him in identifying funding agencies. The optimum time for spraying is August/September.

MoD Coulport:

At the April meeting, some residents requested that Val contact MoD and ask for representatives to come to a meeting. A meeting was refused by the MOD despite initially agreeing to do this.

Val had attended a meeting with Clyde Local Liaison Committee meeting and when there, presented the questions Dennis requested were put to the meeting. Val gave the replies to

these questions. (see Attachment.) Dennis expressed disappointment that his questions had not been answered in writing. Val pointed out that an address had been provided by MoD to which members of the public can write any questions or concerns. This address will be put on the village notice board.

She read out the letters of communication on the subject of the loud explosions.

A resident expressed dissatisfaction at the refusal of the MoD to attend a meeting. She asked that Val make another approach to MoD to ask them to attend a meeting in the village. Val stated she would make a further attempt.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 5th Aug 2014 7.30 p.m

Pre-agenda meeting Tuesday 22nd July 2014 7.30 p.m

