

THE DRAFT MINUTES ON THIS PAGE WILL BE ADOPTED AT THE
NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY
1st DECEMBER 2015

ARDENTINNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held 7th October 2015

in Ardentinny Village Hall

Present; Roy Harrison (Convener), Marian Norris (Vice Convener), Eileen Connell (Secretary), Malcolm Bartley (Treasurer), Val Kennedy, Bill Williamson, Dennis Gower.

Apology; Neil Robinson.

Present; David MacDowall, Sandra Tweddle, Vicky Fairley, Dougie Menzies, Gerry McGinty, David Robertson. Bruce Marshall

Apologies; David McKenzie, P.C. Donald McKay.

Roy Harrison thanked everyone for attending and informed that the meeting would be recorded for the minutes.

Declaration of Interest. None

The convener asked if anyone had anything for AOB (item 14 the agenda) with a reminder that it had been agreed that such items should be declared preferably 2 weeks before the meeting but at least prior to the meeting.

Marian wished the Caucus meeting which she had attended that afternoon to be included in AOB.

Bill Williamson put forward an item but refused to inform the Convener what it was about.

Matters arising from the minutes.

CC website.

Eileen reported that the website is now "live" and that she has volunteered to be administrator for this. It will be an ongoing process and will be beneficial for people to access minutes, agendas etc.

Bill raised several concerns he had about the site and also wished to know what the annual costs would be. Malcolm confirmed that the administration grant would be available for these costs. It was agreed that Eileen would find out what the annual costs would be for the next meeting.

Complaint Marian raised a concern she had from the last meeting which she wished minuted. This was in regard to a comment made by Bill Williamson. He had said "You knew you could not complain about me so planted a friendly visitor in the audience to do it for you". She stated that she found this comment offensive and she and other members of the CC refute this and she requested that Bill apologise to the community council members.

The reply from Bill was "I have no response"

Dennis added that he did not feel insulted by the comment made by Bill.

This was not the view of the other members.

Flytipping

Roy explained why he had not sent a letter to the people Bill accused of fly tipping.

Travel expenses.

Dennis asked for clarification of the mileage for travel expenses. It had been clarified at a previous meeting that the first 20 miles were not claimable.

Amendment to minutes.

Dennis asked for several amendments to the minute of last meeting.

Adoption of August minute,

Proposed Eileen Connell Seconded Val Kennedy

Bill asked that it is minuted that he did not agree with the procedures set out by the convener.

Treasurer's Report

Malcolm gave his financial report.

Income		Nil
Expenditure	Rural Watch signs	£28.00
	Transport /admin costs	£80 07
	Scottish Rights of way	£20.00
	Balance in Bank	£1794.88

He informed that the Governance Department are getting back to him about Travel insurance.

Secretary's Report.

Information on the competition for Scotland's Tree of the Year. Votes needed for the Giant Redwood at Benmore.

Information on the road works on the A83 near Campbeltown.

Police Report

There have been 4 incidents in Ardentinnny since the last meeting, none of which have resulted in any crime.

Shepherds Point has been given extra supervision during the pleasant month of September during routine patrols and also as part of Operation Ironworks. On the whole, campers were respectful of the area and presented the Police and Forestry Rangers with little cause for concern.

Rural Watch is currently being given fresh promotion, due to an increase in rural thefts and also with wildlife crime being one of Police Scotland's' priorities. Constituents are reminded and welcomed to affiliate themselves to the scheme via the Neighbourhood Watch

Scotland website, enter personal details and search for COWAL EAST for which I am the co-ordinator.

The Mobile Police Office is back on its rounds again and should be in Ardentinny on alternate Thursdays.

Councillors Report

Councillor Marshall outlined some of the proposed cuts which may affect the village. The decisions on these proposals will be February of next year.

The boundary changes will have a major effect on Cowal as well as Ardentinny. Kilmun have developed a petition and asked that Ardentinny CC support this and also contact the Boundaries Commission individually. Councillor Marshall felt that there has to be representation from all CC's to prevent the changes taking place.

Marian Norris took the opportunity to report what had been discussed on the subject at the Caucus meeting she had attended in the afternoon. It appears that the initial meeting about this was held in secrecy by A&B council. The Chair of the Caucus has written a strong objection and urges that all CC's write with their objections. Councillor Marshall explained the process that lead up to the changes being proposed.

Marian suggested that, as a CC we should compose a letter and all take an area of the village to distribute. This was agreed by 6 members with one who refused to be involved.

Bill asked Councillor Marshall about whether leaving branches on the shore was illegal. Councillor Marshall stated that it was in his opinion that this was the case.

Malcolm asked why the single track roads around Lochgilphead, Tayviallach were maintained to a much higher standard than in the Ardentinny area. Also that he had read a report that BEAR had been taken to court for defrauding the council. Bruce had no knowledge of this.

Forestry Commission

David Robertson reported that the clearance of the sightlines on the Larach should be taking place in first week of November. Traffic management will be in place.

Dennis asked if there had been any progress with the installation of mains water. David Robertson stated that there has been no major progress and that all residents involved have been informed. There is no date for installation.

Community Council Notice board.

Val informed that the notice board is showing signs of wear & tear. She suggested that we investigate replacing this with one which will be more appropriate for the needs of the village. It was agreed that we will look at designs and prices and bring it to the next meeting.

Gerry McGinty objected to his notices being removed from the board. Marian stated that the only notices which had been removed by the CC were those including a political activist group logo. She confirmed that no subsequent notices which did not contain the logo had been removed by the CC but may have been removed by other residents of the village.

Community Council Action Plan

Marian gave thanks to those who had been involved in producing the Action Plan. It had been suggested that the progress of the plan is discussed at CC meetings and that she will write to the other 4 organisations involved, i.e. Ardentinny Hall Assoc, Ardentinny Community Trust, Ardentinny Conservation & Heritage group, Ardentinny Renewables Trust to take part in the monitoring of the plan.

All agreed.

Ardentinny Hall update.

It is intended that a feasibility study, structural survey and architects plan will be carried out as the start of the process to refurbish the hall. A company has been identified who can carry out this part of the project. It seems to be working with small groups organising events. Eileen informed what events will be taking place over the next few weeks.

Ardentinny Community Trust

Held a successful Harvest Fair which raised between £1400-£1500. The next job will be restoring the wall.

Dennis is standing down as Treasurer and this role is being replaced by Jeannie Rowland. Dennis was asked who the convener was. The new convener is Anna Williamson.

Ardentinny Renewables Trust

A committee has been set up from the steering group

Convener	Dougie Menzies
Vice Convener	Rob Bray
Secretary	Neil Robinson
Treasurer	Bill Tierney

The planning application has been sent to National Park. Plantlife Scotland raised concerns about mosses which are at the site but have agreed that the project can go ahead.

The feed in tariff has been cut by 40% which impacts on the money which comes to the village. It is hoped that work will start at the beginning of next year.

Ardentinny Conservation & Heritage Group

Work will be starting to put in steps from the main road into Coronation Wood. No other major work is intended until nearer spring.

Marian reported on the Nature Trail and the work which has been carried out e.g painting the hide, pulley system for bird feeding, clearing ditches. FC volunteers helped to trim the paths. One area which needs specific work is the bridge which needs upgrading. Laird's grave has been cleared and bark put round the outside to make it more accessible. We are investigating whether we meet the criteria for help to restore the stone.

Planning

No applications

AOB

Flytipping.

BW asked that the secretary write a letter to the group involved in Coronation Wood to ask that the branches on the beach be removed. This was agreed.

Water discolouration

MB asked if there had been any reports of brown colouration in the water. It was suggested that he could contact Scottish Water regarding this.

TV Reception

Some homes have been concerned that their television reception has declined. It was agreed that the secretary will contact BBC to inform them that the licence payers are concerned at the lack of service.

Next meeting Tuesday December 1st.

The convener closed the meeting.