

ARDENTINNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting 4th October 2010 in Ardentinny Village Hall

Committee Present: Val Kennedy (Chair), Malcolm Bartley, Teresa Forsyth, Jimmy Gordon, Dennis Gower, Eileen Connell, Bill Williamson.

Apologies, Stephen Johnstone.

Others Present: Bruce Marshall, Jessie Crowe, David McKenzie, Elaine Allan, Bill Bincham, Vicky Fairley, David McDowall, Sandra Davidson, Pauline Gordon, PC Donald McKay.

Val thanked everyone for attending.

Declaration of Interest. None

Val asked if everyone had read the minute of the last meeting and if they were a true record.

Jessie Crowe asked that an amendment be made in the recording of her Forestry Commission Report. This was agreed.

Accepting of Minute.

Proposed Val Kennedy Seconded Malcolm Bartley

Matters Arising from Minute.

The dumping of rubbish on the shore between Ardentinny Hotel and the Outdoor Centre. The boat which had been there for some time had been auctioned at the recent Garden Party and is now owned by Billy Lunney who intends to remove it from the beach. Additional rubbish continues to be dumped on the same site. Teresa and Bruce Marshall will liaise to get this removed.

Dennis asked that a further amendment is made to the minute of the last meeting in regard to his report on the Local Plan. This was agreed.

Police Report

P.C. Donald McKay reported that there had not been many calls to the police from Ardentinny. There had been an incident of wilful fire raising of the toilets at the picnic area. A youth has been charged and a report has been sent to the Procurator Fiscal.

Val thanked P.C. McKay for the good level of communication received from the police regarding the situation and the quick result in finding the culprit. It has been recommended

by the police that, if the person receives community service, then this may take place in the village.

P.C. McKay reported that the feedback from the questionnaires filled in by some local residents should be available soon.

Vicky Fairley asked there was any further information about the caravan fires and the drugs raid at Glenfinart Caravan Park. P.C. McKay informed that the cases are still ongoing.

Treasurer's Report

Expenditure	Rights of Way	£20.00
Income	Nil	
Bank Balance		£2049.34

Secretary's Report.

- **Coastguard Service**

Val received correspondence in regard to proposal to change the Coastguard service for the Clyde area. This would mean that calls would be dealt with by Holyhead in Ireland and Aberdeen. Val read out the draught letter available for people to comment on the situation.

Sandra Davidson clarified that, although the Coastguard service will still operate from the Clyde area, the calls would go direct to Ireland and Aberdeen. This raised the question of whether the other centres are familiar with the Clyde and how that may impact on the service. Sandra agreed to send an email to Val with her comments and concerns.

- **NHS Review of Greater Glasgow & Clyde.**

An invitation to attend this review to be held at the Marriot Hotel on Monday 17th October. No-one wished to attend.

Copies of this available for anyone who wished one.

- **Health Issues in the Community**

A 6 week course being held in Lochgilphead looking at learning new skills. This begins on 26th October

Forestry Report

Jessie gave her report and update of what has happened over the past 2 months.

- Portaloos are now in place after the others were burned down. There are plans to replace these when funds permit.
- Work on the fence between the caravan park and the nursery field has still not begun. Mr Cartledge has still to carry out work on his ground before work can start.
- The rhododendron work is still ongoing.
- The hedge cutting through the village has still not been done as the contractor still has not got the equipment repaired.
- The clearance work on the Stronvochlan road is still to be carried out.

- **Water issues. There are no problems at present. The bowling club still require water this month so the system will not be drained until the end of October.**
- **Carrick to Ardentinny route. There are no plans to install a rail or a bridge but the situation will be monitored. Stephen can make arrangements to view the risk assessments at the Glenbranter office. Martin McFarlane has offered to walk the route with Stephen at a date and time which would suit him (including weekends). The mileage of the route is shown on finger posts at both ends of the walk. How long it takes is dependent on the individual.**

The FC will be looking at putting in a couple of logs at the track to allow people to rest or have a picnic. This will be added to the recreational programme but there is no timescale when this will be done.

Teresa asked who is responsible for the Himalayan Balsam which is taking hold in several areas of the village. Also there are areas where Japanese Knotweed is becoming problematic. A large patch is on the beach in front of the Outdoor Centre and also in the Nursery field.

Bruce felt that these areas were not the responsibility of A & B or the Forestry Commission. Teresa suggested that the community take some responsibility for eradicating it. There is funding available for this and Teresa agreed to get in touch with those in Strachur who have set up a programme to get rid of it. Jessie will also provide Teresa with information.

Bill asked if insurance money could cover the cost of replacing the toilets. Jessie stated that the Forestry Commission, does not carry insurance to cover this form of reinstating.

Bill also asked if there were any plans for the big shed next to the bowling green. Jessie replied that there is nothing as yet.

Pauline Gordon asked if there was any pressure that the FC could put on Mr Cartledge from Glenfinart Caravan Park to get him to carry out the work. Jessie replied no.

Councillor's Report

Bruce has again spoken with the roads department about the sign at the beginning of the village which needs to be renewed. It is possible that this will be done.

He continues to push for the road at Gairletter to be re-surfaced. It has been recommended that this area goes on the programme for next year (June 2012)

The enhanced bus service to Ardentinny will end on 23rd October. Changes to the Sunday service and some buses during the week will no longer go to Sligrachan.

Argyll & Bute are carrying out a budget review with some services being cut by 20%. This may mean redundancies and service cuts. Cuts of budget were 4.5 million last year and for the coming year cuts will be 2.4 million. There is a freeze on Council Tax in England and Whitehall is giving Scotland money to freeze Council Tax in Scotland for next year.

There will be a LACPG (Local Area Community Planning Group) meeting on 1st November. As Chair, Val has represented Ardentinny Community Council in the Caucus meetings held prior to the LACPG meeting to express particular concerns which affect the village.

Representatives from N.H.S. Police, Fire also have input to enable networking with all agencies.

Palliative Care Investigation Group. The Project Group have agreed to the findings of the Investigation Group and this will be reported soon although CHP (Community Health Partnership) have still to approve it.

24/7 Group. This has been set up to look at doctors out of hours service. 9 groups have been set up throughout the area and will report back to the 24/7 group.

Val informed that, Dunoon Hospital, although refurbished, is still downgraded to casualty rather than A&E. Ward 1 is being upgraded at present.

Signage on the Larach. Discussions at previous meetings over the past few years had been around the dangers on this road in wintery conditions. Several suggestions were made in regard to what form this signage should be but no agreement was reached. Malcolm suggested that police should be consulted to suggest proper signage. Bruce agreed to contact Paul Farrell. Dennis stated that he felt that Argyll & Bute council should be left to decide where the signage should go.

Community Council responsibility in informing the village that Bracken Spraying would take place.

At last meeting it was agreed that Stephen would investigate the legal situation of CC responsibility. As he was absent from meeting this could not be clarified.

A robust discussion followed with various viewpoints raised in regard to who had responsibility for informing the residents. There were suggestions from some community councillors and from a few members of the village that the contractor had not effectively informed the public on the day of the spraying and that signage had not been put up. Dennis commented that he felt that the contractor was dodging his responsibilities by not putting up signs. Bruce stressed that all appropriate agencies such as SEPA F.C. etc. had been informed including the Community Councils of Kilmun and Ardentinny.

Bill Williamson suggested that the contractor and our M.S.P. are invited to the next meeting but other community councillors not in favour of this.

Val agreed to contact the spraying contractor to establish if all procedures were carried out. She would also discuss the subject to the next Caucus meeting.

Jessie Crowe reiterated that, given all the information and past dealings with the contractor involved, she was of the opinion that appropriate signage was in place.

AOCB.

- Eileen asked if there were any of the Community Councillors who would like to take over the role of Minute Secretary or of compiling the Agenda in conjunction with the Chair. There were no volunteers.
- A copy of the National Park Local Plan was available. This to be distributed to all members to read and comment. Consultation ends on 16th November. This subject to be put on agenda for next meeting.

Date of next meeting. Val is unable to attend out next meeting scheduled for beginning of December. She asked if anyone would like to chair the meeting in her absence. No volunteers from Community Councillors. It was agreed that the meeting would be held on Tuesday 29th November instead so that Val could continue to chair.

Dennis informed that he had not heard back any information about Hydro Power so had nothing to report as yet.