

ARDENTINNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting 29th November 2011 in Ardentinny Village Hall

Committee Present: Val Kennedy (Chair), Malcolm Bartley, Eileen Connell, Stephen Johnston

Apologies, Teresa Forsyth, Jimmy Gordon.

Others Present; Bruce Marshall, Jessie Crowe, Vicky Fairley, David McDowall, PC Donald McKay, David Robertson (Recreation Manager Forestry Commission)

Apology Bruce Marshall

Val thanked everyone for attending and asked if anyone had a declaration of interest in regard to any items on the agenda.

Declaration of Interest None

Minute of meeting held on 29th November 2011.

Val asked if all had read the minute and if it was a true and accurate record. Jessie asked that the wording of her report was changed to read that the forestry commission “does not carry insurance to cover this form of reinstating” this was agreed.

Proposed Val Kennedy Seconded Malcolm Bartley

Val suggested that the agenda be adjusted to enable PC Donald McKay and David Robertson to give their reports and leave the meeting. This was agreed.

Police Report.

Donald McKay had been no crime reports in the Ardentinny area.

He informed that the 5th November celebrations had gone well with no incidents.

There have been reports of bogus callers in the Cowal area with thefts from gardens of metal, heating oil etc. There are also internet scams, PPI scams and foreign lottery scams doing the rounds. There are posters available which can be displayed on the noticeboards.

There are also free Fire Safety checks available when a fire officer will visit individual homes to give advice and possibly provide free smoke alarms.

There is Awards for All funding which could benefit small projects.

Vicky Fairley asked if there was any update on both the investigation into the caravan fires and the drugs raid at Glenfinart Caravan Park. Donald could give no further information at present.

David McDowall raised the question as to how the information about bogus callers, scams etc. and fire safety checks could be disseminated throughout the village. A suggestion was made that, as the hall is a place which is used regularly this may be one of the ways to

inform residents. Eileen informed that, after the Friday soup and sandwich the committee has been taking surplus cakes etc. to those who cannot manage to the hall and this would be an opportunity to pass on information to those who do not have access to the noticeboards or internet. She agreed to take this to the hall committee for their approval,

Forestry Report

Jessie gave an update on the work of the Forestry Commission.

- Rhododendron Programme ongoing.
- Fencing issues- no further progress with Mr Cartledge but they still keep pursuing this issue with him.
- Hedge cutting – still waiting on contractor to carry out this work. As yet the machine is still not repaired.
- Stronvochlan road clearance – if not included within the rhododendron clearance work we will carry out this work in the new year.
- Carrick route – log or bench to be installed on this route depending on availability. This has been added to our work programme for the spring. We will be carrying out a round of facility inspections in the new year on this route and if Stephen wishes to accompany FCS staff during this time he is very welcome to do this. If he contacts Martin McFarlane on 07764838751 he will arrange this.
- Big Shed – no plans to demolish or sell the shed at present as there is still a use for it. If however funds become available to build an extension at Glenbranter the situation could change. The Community Council will be informed if there are to be any changes.
- Toilet Block – new toilet block to be installed in the new financial year 2012.2113. It is hoped that FCS will be able to have toilets installed early in the season.

David Robertson introduced himself as the new Recreation Manager for our area and gave an outline of his job. He asked if the committee had any questions which perhaps he could answer.

Stephen stated that he felt that the bridge to access Hilary's wood was being used by Actual Reality and that it was in an unfit and dangerous state. Stephen felt that this may be Forestry Commission land and that they would be responsible for the bridge. There was question over who actually owned the land but both David and Jessie stated they would look into this and report back.

Stephen informed that there was a hydro board pole on the Larach which he felt was unsafe. David suggested that Stephen contact Scottish Hydro direct to inform them of this. Val asked P.C. McKay to have a look at this pole on his rounds and, if he considered it a road safety problem report it to the appropriate authorities.

Malcolm asked if there was still the possibility of the Forestry Commission being part of the upgrading of the Coronation Wood. This will be discussed further in the future.

David McDowall raised the subject of the deterioration on the shore road from Coronation Wood round to the nursery field. The part from Coronation Wood to Ardfin

Avenue is privately owned and is an access road for Scottish Hydro. From Ardfin to Nursery field is Forestry Commission responsibility and it was agreed that this area will be assessed. Malcolm will contact Rights of Way to find out the situation on regard to the privately owned section.

Val thanked David Robertson for attending the meeting and welcomed any future input and information.

Val returned to items on the agenda.

Matters Arising from Minute.

Japanese Knotweed. Teresa was unable to attend the meeting but had left updates on the areas she was investigating. Jessie Crowe has given a contact number for Ian MacGregor to follow up on JK eradication. As this is not the right time to treat the JK, Teresa will follow this up later.

Fly Tipping on the beach. Bruce had put Teresa in contact with Derek Mathews who came to view the rubbish. A pickup was organised for 11th November but had to be cancelled. A further arrangement is to be made.

Single track road. Welcome repairs have been made to the road at Gairletter and areas throughout the village. Still concerns about the corner at Gairletter Caravan Park which is prone to flooding due to the camber of the road. Val will contact Bruce to ask if anything can be done about this and also ask if there is any clarification when the Stronchullin to Ardentenny road will be done.

24/7 group. Val informed that Heather Grier is now co-chair of the 24/7 group and would like to do a presentation to areas which would have an interest. She will contact Val to arrange this (possibly March). Information will be put in the notice board.

Signage on Larach. There has been no further information re this. Donald suggested that snow poles may be an advantage. Val will pass this on to Bruce.

Bracken Spraying

As agreed, Val contacted the contractor who carried out the spraying. The Company Secretary, on behalf of the Chief Executive, informed her that all proper procedures had been carried out. Val was unable to obtain the email confirming this due to computer difficulties. Taking into account that the Forestry Commission also felt that all procedures were in place it was felt that the situation had been dealt with.

Vicky Fairley thanked Val thanked for contacting MFH Helicopters. In her own communications with relevant authorities Vicky said that "The CAA had conceded that, whether or not signs were posted warning of the aerial spraying, they had not fulfilled the intended task of forewarning the public and that, without apportioning blame, they were in contact with NFH Helicopters in an effort to see what extra measures need to be taken to avoid this happening in the future". Vicky asked that this be minuted. She outlined the communication between their website and the relevant authorities and was

in agreement that perhaps there were lessons learned from the situation and future communication could be tightened up.

Local Plan. The consultation period is now over and there had been no negative comments from any community council members. Val had contacted National Park representatives and congratulated on the format and layout of the finalised plan.

Treasurer's Report

Expenditure	Association of Argyll & Bute Community Councils	£10.00
	Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland	£20.00

Income Nil

At the Caucus of Community Council meeting the possibility of additional funds for some CC's for simple expenses such as travel to outlying places.

Secretary Report None

Councillor's Report None.

AOCB

Walled Garden. Mike Russell and Ron Simon visited the Walled Garden to have a look round and find out what is planned for the future.

Ferry Situation. A meeting to discuss the difficulties with the passenger only service between Dunoon and Gourock. This was instigated by Dunoon Community Council and was a well-attended meeting. There was no resolution to the problems.

Val thanked everyone for coming and set the next meeting for Tuesday 7th February 2012 at 7.30pm.

