

ARDENTINNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held 3rd April 2012 in Ardent inny Village Hall

Present; Val Kennedy, Eileen Connell, Dennis Gower, Jim Gordon. Bill Williamson.

Apologies; Teresa Forsyth, Malcolm Bartley, Stephen Johnston.

Others; Pauline Gordon, P.C. Donald Mackay, Bruce Marshall, David McDowall, Vicky Fairley

Apologies; David McKenzie, David Robertson.

Val began by thanking everyone for attending. She asked if anyone had a Declaration of Interest regarding any items on the agenda.

Declaration of Interest None.

Val asked if the Minute of the last meeting was a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Dennis pointed out that the word Chief had been missed out in Chief Inspector and that Mosley had been miss-spelt. Otherwise the Minute was accurate.

Proposed Val Kennedy Seconded Dennis Gower

Matters arising from Minute.

Picnic Site. It had been suggested that members talk to residents to ask their views on how the area at Shepherds Point could be used effectively and if there were any ideas on how wild camping could be controlled. It

was agreed that this subject would continue to be discussed again at a future meeting.

Shore Path at the Swedish Houses. Malcolm was unable to attend the meeting but provided an update in regard to the communication he had with the Scottish Rights of Way as to whether the shore path was a designated right of way. Malcolm had identified that the shore path was included in the advertised Laird Grave's Walk. He will continue to investigate the position.

At a previous meeting it was agreed that information provided about Kilmun Mausoleum would be put on the noticeboard. This had been done but may have been removed. Dennis suggested that contact with Ann Galliard to supply further information. Bruce proposed that this may more beneficial in the near future when there is more information.

Police Report.

P.C. Mackay reported that there has been no significant crime in the Ardentinny area over the past few weeks. He highlighted the need to repair a large pothole at the Bowling Club.

There was a positive outcome in regard to last year's drugs raid with one man jailed for the offence.

Previous suggestion about the Mobile Police van being used at Shepherds Point was raised. P.C. Mackay stated that he hopefully will organize visits to the picnic area and there will be further discussion on this at June's meeting. Suggestion was made that drop-in sessions could be organized and marking pens either made available.

Treasurer's Report

Malcolm was unable to attend the meeting but had left a report. As the Treasurer's account has now changed to a business account, there has been no statement sent out as yet.

Jim Gordon suggested that the Community Council purchase marking pens for the use of the residents. P.C. Mackay will investigate this possibility and will liaise with Jim.

Secretary's Report

None.

Councilor's Report

A 82 upgrade has cancelled for now.

Drew Gray has been written to in regard to the larch tree in his garden which Teresa felt was dangerous. He has been in touch with Teresa. Another possible dangerous tree is in the grounds leased to Actual Reality and further investigation showed that it is rotten at the base. It is possible that severe pruning may be adequate.

Some of the holes in the riverside road have been filled badly and Bruce felt that the Forestry Commission needs to carry out work especially from the caravan park to the picnic area. Val will contact the Forestry Commission re this.

At an Area Committee Meeting third sector grants were granted for various projects.

Ardentinny Community Trust asked for £2875 and was awarded half (£1440)

Crossroads asked for £231 and were awarded £120

Burgh Hall Trust asked for £7,700 and were awarded £2,900

£61,000 was recommended for repairs to the Ardentinnny road. Bruce emphasized that this will not be enough to complete all of the road.

Val highlighted a claim put in to the council by Jim Robinson who had damage to his car due to potholes. His claim was discounted as Argyll & Bute Council stated that the potholes were not as bad as Jim had reported. It appears that, to make a successful claim you have to provide photographic evidence, size and depth of pothole, position etc. Jim Gordon

asked the council policy on this situation. Any potholes have to be reported whenever they are seen. The pothole has to be repaired within 3 days of this. If this does not happen and your car is damaged after this timescale you may have a claim. Bruce was asked to relay back to the council how difficult it is to make a claim. Val will write to Douglas Hendry (Director of Corporate Services). Bruce recommended that, if damage is done by pothole, he can be contacted and he may be able to find out if the pothole has already been reported. P.C. Mackay added that, any serious accident caused by a pothole would have police involvement which may also help a claim.

Money has been allocated for the upgrading of several roads in the Cowal area.

Forestry Commission.

No report for this meeting.

Val has again contacted Stephen to meet with representative of Forestry Commission to discuss his stated concerns.

Item 9 to be included in the agenda for next meeting. Members were asked to get comments from residents for the next meeting.

Margaret and Bill Tierney had contacted Val to ask for a letter of support in principle to their application to develop Ardentenny Hotel. As the timescale for putting in the application was short all community councilors were contacted and asked for their comments, and those of residents they spoke with, and a letter with the collated views was sent to Gordon Watson and Fiona Logan from the National Park supporting, in principle, the application.

Bill and Margaret Tierney passed on their thanks to the Community Council for doing this.

Bruce stressed that, once the planning application has been lodged is the time for objections/agreements to be put in and. At this stage the letter of support was agreement- in principle.

The question of whether the Chair should have Declared an Interest at the beginning of the meeting, whether there was a conflict of interest, whether it is the role of the community council to put in a letter of support, is it a community councilors role to be asking the opinion of residents, whether there should be procedures put in place for future requests by residents in the village were all vehemently discussed.

Bruce Marshall chose to leave the meeting toward the end of this discussion.

Bill Williamson asked that Bruce Marshall is censured for remarks he made during the discussion.

It was agreed that a meeting is held to discuss procedures and brought to the next meeting.

Hydropower.

Dennis reported that he had no communication back from the Forestry Commission since October.

Developers are in process of identifying suitable sites. He agreed that details should be lodged with the developers.

He had contacted the FC the previous week but had no reply.

Val suggested that there may be some people in the village who have a particular interest in the subject and may like to take it on. She will compile something for the noticeboard which may attract interested people.

A.O.C.B.

Compensation.

Dennis felt that some people in the village may not be aware that they could receive £75 compensation for loss of power during the storms at the beginning of the year. Vicky Fairley offered to find out if there was a cut off point for claims. Val will put information on noticeboard.

Wind Farm

Update on the Wind Farm is that Argyll & Bute have asked for a full report involving 3 dimensional plans and models, more information and expertise etc. which will probably cost around £100.000. To be completed and considered before planning permission is accepted for consideration.

Walled Garden.

This now belongs to the village. The title deeds to be passed on from the solicitors.

Consultation meeting to be held at the end of April in the village hall.

Noticeboard.

Jim Gordon asked that the noticeboard at the church car park is moved (straightened) to enable drivers to see oncoming traffic coming past the Swedish Houses. Another suggestion was that it is lowered slightly to allow notices to be put on the board more easily. As Eileen has already asked a contractor for a quote for new perspex she will ask for an estimate for the additional work to be carried out.

Next meeting June 12th at 7.30pm