

## ARDENTINNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held August 2012 in Ardentinnny Village Hall

Present; Val Kennedy, Eileen Connell, Dennis Gower, Bill Williamson, Malcolm Bartley.

Apologies; Stephen Johnston.

Others; Jessie Crowe, P.C. Donald Mackay, Bruce Marshall, David McDowall, Vicky Fairley

Apologies; Aidan Docherty, Gordon Blair, David Robertson.

Val thanked everyone for coming and explained that the first part of the meeting would be the A.G.M. She began by giving an outline of the work of Ardentinnny Community Council over the past year.

- Hydropower. This continues to be investigated with notices put up looking for interested people in the village to take this forward. As yet there has been no response.
- Difficulties with power cuts, loss of telephone services due to gales at beginning of year showed the support within the village to ensure that some of the more vulnerable people were safe and warm.
- The good relationship with the police continues and there should be regular visits by the police mobile unit in the near future.
- Val has been sitting on the NHS 24/7 review group regarding forthcoming out of hours care options. At present Option 1 is being further investigated.
- The area known as Coronation Wood is to be tidied up and developed. Ardentinnny Community Council, Hall Association and Community Trust will be working together to get the project completed.

- There has not been a lot of reported trouble at the picnic area. This may be due to more police presence due to Operation Ironworks.
- Glenfinart Walled Garden. This is now owned by the village after the hard work done by the directors of the Community Trust.
- The annual Carrick/Ardentinny walk has not taken place yet but will be arranged as soon as feasible.
- The Community Council hope to recruit new members at the next elections in September as we are down a secretary and 2 members.

Treasurer Report (Audited accounts)

Income	(Admin Grant)	300.00
Expenditure	Scottish Rights of Way	20.00
	Assoc for Protection of Rural Scotland	20.00
	Assoc of A & Community Councils.	10.00
Bank balance	31st March 2012	2,019,54

Val asked if there were any questions from the floor in regard to her report. There were none but Vicky informed that, at the election hustings, it had been reported that there would be expenses for community councillors for journeys exceeding 20 miles.

Val then went on to the usual meeting.

Declaration of Interest                      None.

Minute of June Meeting

Val asked if the minute was a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed                      Val Kennedy    Seconded      Bill  
Williamson

Matters arising from minute.

Village noticeboard. As yet the Perspex has not been fitted. There had been a suggestion that the noticeboard is relocated to make the sightlines better for cars coming out the car park. After discussion it was suggested perhaps there is no necessity to do this. It was agreed that checks should be made of the site to see if there are still difficulties.

Walled Garden.

Dennis reported that work has been done to clear one quadrant of the area which has been cleared of goat willow etc. The dangerous areas are to be marked off for safety reasons. There are further plans to erect a poly tunnel and shed. There is more clearing to be done and they have volunteers willing to help with this.

Malcolm asked about the safety aspects of the site. Dennis said there would be fencing put up to try to keep people away from the more dangerous areas.

Hydropower. Dennis informed that he is unable to devote any more time to this investigation and would like to find someone to take over this project. Certain areas have been identified as suitable areas- Drynain being one. Val stressed the importance of developing this.

Golden Cross. Val has received the information asked for by Mr. and Mrs. Bradley in regard to the tug moored outside their home. Val has written assurances from Captain White which he will pass on to Mr. and Mrs. Bradley and Teresa.

Dennis and Bill raised concerns that procedures had not been adhered as Val had dealt with the issue without consulting the rest of the community councillors.

Bruce Marshall outlined the procedures of his receiving the initial email from Mr. and Mrs. Bradley.

Dennis raised concerns about the integrity of the owners.

Vicky asked if she could raise a point from the floor and suggested that the concerns of the tug may not be an issue for the community council.

Dennis and Bill asked that all communication Val had in regard to the tug should be distributed to all community councillors and Teresa. Val agreed to do this.

MOD representative. Val had received notification of the invitation to the evenings meeting but had not confirmed their attendance. She had also had an invitation, as Chair of the Community Council, to attend the Clyde Local Liaison Committee (CLLC) as representative from Ardentiny.

Coronation Wood. It was agreed that the Coronation Wood project would be match funded by Community Council and other groups involved.

#### Police Report

P.C. Mackay reported that Operation Ironworks is continuing

There is a speed campaign being carried out along the shore to the Cot House.

6 UV property marker pens have been made available. It was agreed that each councillor will take a pen and pass it on to others. Eileen agreed that she would put her name up on the noticeboard to inform residents that the pens are available and could be collected from her.

The new Chief Inspector has agreed that P.C Mackay will carry out the appropriate driving test as a priority so that the mobile unit can be utilised in the village.

#### Treasurer's Report

Expenditure	Nil	Income £300 (Admin Grant)
Balance	£2,319.54	

#### Secretary's Report

Safe & Sound at home information events are to be held by Cowal Community Safety Forum. It is their intention to set up dates and locations to be delivered locally and for specific audiences.

Training Needs Analysis. These were received by community councillors and were to be filled in to develop a future training programme for councillors. Malcolm asked that a letter is sent to the Argyll & Bute Association of Community Councillors to ask what we are paying our subscription for as we never get any information. Bruce suggested that Val bring this up at the next caucus meeting. Dennis suggested that a contact number is given to the Association.

Caucus meetings. Val outlined the remit and makeup of these Community Empowerment Bill. Dennis agreed to look at this and comment.

### Councillor's Report

Roads. Bruce was disappointed that the proposal to resurface the road beyond Stronchullin to the quarry has been postponed until next year.

NHS 24/7 review. Ardentinny is now considered as rural which may result in emergency cover being considered under Strachur rather than Community Hospital.

Grass Cutting Bruce reported that the verges had only been cut once but he had been informed that, in a 30mph area, the verges should be cut 6 times a year.

The ponticum at the road coming from the village hall makes it dangerous to come out as the sightlines are reduced. The resident is to be asked to cut this back.

Val asked if the scrub on the shore side at Stronchillin could be cut. Bruce will look into this possibility.

Hydroscheme. Bruce stressed that this was initially raised over 5 years and that Ardentinny is the ideal spot for this project. David McKenzie gave an outline of tariffs etc.

Rest and be Thankful road. Discussions continue on how to deal with the difficulties of landslips on this road. The forestry road as an alternative is not suitable but the old military road is a possibility.

### Forestry Commission Report.

- Japanese Knotweed. The following areas have been treated. Shore path, Road at Laird's Grave, Walled Garden (inside and out), Gairletter entrance. Current work is being carried out at Knapp.
- Bridge on Carrick Route. David Robertson and Ian Adams are meeting with a horse rider to look at this bridge to see if they can improve the access for horses as at present it is not suitable for all horses. They will also be looking at the burn crossing.
- Litter. The litter has not been so bad around the beach area which may have been helped by the extra bins which have been put in place. Forestry commission commended the police for their regular patrols as it has had a good impact on the site.
- Blown Trees. All blown trees have been cleared.
- Rhodedendron Clearing. Rebecca Smith the Conservation Ranger is planning to cut and burn the rhodies on the riverside between the 2 bridges within the next few months as this is a seed source and is also affecting the river bank. The area around the walled garden is also to be cleared.
- Caravan in picnic site. They have been asked to move to another site for the next 2 nights.
- Toilets. Still waiting for approval from SEPA and National Park Planning Authority. To erect new toilet block.

At a previous meeting Stephen had stated that there had been agreement between Forestry Commission and National Park to fund repairs to the road between the main road and picnic area. This agreement is refuted by FC.

The shore path from Ardfin Avenue to picnic area is the responsibility of FC and, when resources are found, it is a possibility that work will be carried out on this.

Bill asked if there were any plans to demolish the big shed. As yet there are no plans and CC would be informed if this was going to happen.

A.O.C.B.

Shore Path. Malcolm gave an update on the Shore path between Ardfin Avenue and Coronation Wood. Over the past years he has had extensive communication with authorities but there is still no confirmation as to whether it is classed as a Right of Way but is included as a path in the National Park Core Paths Plan. Malcolm will continue to investigate.

Actual Reality.

Aidan was unable to attend the meeting but supplied an update on the future plans of Actual Reality and their impact on Ardentinny.

Ardentinny operations will move to Toward for approximately 6 months. They hope to be back for Easter but June at the latest.

During the 6 months some refurbishment will take place at Ardentinny. This will be mainly inside the building and there will be no major upheaval outside. Some staff will remain at Ardentinny for caretaking duties, cutting grass etc.

Aidan stressed that the Centre is not closing down and that negotiations to buy the property etc. from Argyll & Bute are ongoing.

It is hoped that either Aidan or Peter Wilson will be able to attend the next meeting.

Next meeting Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 7.30pm