

ARDENTINNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING HELD 6TH December 2016 in Ardentenny Village Hall

Present; Marian Norris (Convener), Neil Robinson (Vice Convener).
Malcolm Bartley (Treasurer), Eileen Connell (Secretary), Val Kennedy, Bill Tierney,
David Marshall.

David Robertson, (FSC). Councillor Bruce Marshall.

Others. David McDowall. Mary Dodds.

Apologies; David McKenzie (NP) P.C. Donald McKay

1. The convener, Marian Norris opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. She introduced and welcomed the two new community council members Bill Tierney and David Marshall.
2. Apologies were noted and there were no Declarations of Interest.
3. Police Report

P.C. Donald McKay was unable to attend but sent a report as follows.

There have been 6 incidents since the last meeting but no crime reports. Nothing of note other than Police Scotland and Forestry Commission Scotland are in the early stages of putting off season joint rural patrols in place.

1. David Robertson added that he is meeting with Police Scotland tomorrow (Wednesday 7th) to discuss this.
4. Minute of last meeting.
5. Marian asked if the minute was a true record of the October meeting. All agreed.

Proposed Neil Robinson Seconded Val Kennedy

6. Matters arising from Minute

Roads. There has still no work done to improve the verges at particularly dangerous places from Stronchullin Farm to Ardentenny. Marian will contact the Roads Dept again. Bruce will also contact Roads Dept about the situation.

Notice board. At previous meeting it was agreed that an application would be put in to National Park for renewing the notice board. However the application would not have met the criteria but the needs of the Village Hall met the criteria more closely. All CC members were in agreement that the CC would not put in for this funding.

Kelpie donation. A receipt was received for the CC donation to the recent Kelpie Fund.

Traffic mirror. The mirror was ordered after the last meeting but will not be available until early January. All CC members agreed that we would wait until then rather than look for an alternative.

7. Treasurer's Report

Expenditure Calico (website)

Income Nil

Balance £2177.88

8. Correspondence A member of public has asked that all correspondence received by the CC should be made known to the public. All correspondence received by email has been

passed on to all CC members and any pertinent emails are brought to the meeting. Emails received since October meeting have been:

- Drop in dates for discussion of changes to the Mental Health services at Lochgilphead.
- Email from Max Barr re the petition to save the residential services at Struan Lodge.
- How to enter the Scottish Civic My Space awards.
- Invitation to the CC to attend a reception at the Scottish Parliament
- Email from Improvement Services in regard to the CC tweet hour on Nov 8th.
- Email from Elaine Booth, Community Engagement Officer to inform that any events over the festive period can be included in the NHS website.
- Email from Dick Walsh re future cuts. This has already been added to AOCB.

9. Forestry Commission Report.

David reported that, as there been an attack of Phytophthora Ramorum which particularly affects larch trees. There have been restrictions put in place to try to minimise the spread of this disease. The Forestry Commission ask people accessing the woods to be aware of the restrictions and clean their feet on the hygiene/sanitisation mats when both entering and leaving the affected area. The FC will be carrying out an intensive programme to try to deal with this situation.

There is a possibility that tallest tree in Europe is in Ardentinny. Confirmation is still being sought but the impact of this would be good for the village.

As already spoken about earlier David will be working with Police Scotland to benefit the village.

David informed that he would be taking early retirement from 31st March 2017. Marian identified that the input David has provided to Ardentinny over the years has been exceptional and he will be missed by the CC. Bruce reiterated this.

10. National Park Report

No report

11. Councillor's Report

Scottish Water will be installing 3 new septic tanks off road at 3 areas in Kilmun. The siting of a septic tank at Strone will be more difficult and is still to be decided. There will be disruption during this work but SW has agreed that their first proposal of closing the road completely has been shelved.

At Area meeting in Rothesay the subject of care homes was discussed. A Bute was compulsorily closed and 15 residents have been transferred to other care homes, some of them had to go across the water due to lack of places in the A&B area. It was acknowledged that the cost of people going into care has increased. This may be a knock on effect of people initially being looked after in their homes then, as their condition deteriorates and their needs become greater they may move to residential care and the cost of their care is much higher.

Roads manager has given on the spending on roads at present. Half of the budget for the roads had been used by end of October. The dry weather has meant that the roads have not caused major problems over the past few months.

Cutting back of scrub has been done but the scrub behind the cut area is still causing difficulties. The walkway at Kilmun is going to be tarred- if the budget allows.

Scottish Government will be announcing their budget available to councils soon.

Police are doing regular checks for drink driving over the Christmas period.

Bachan Burn windfarm. There is going to be a workshop held in Dunoon early in 2017. It is likely that an application will be put in early spring for a 50 meg windfarm.

Malcolm asked Bruce if, as it has been announced that Scottish Government has £500 million to spend on roads, can it be guaranteed that the money will be spent on roads and not used for other things. Bruce will again make representation to A&B to have the road from Stronchullin to Ardentinny to be improved.

Application had been approved a few years ago to build a bio-mass plan at Dalilongart. This is being taken forward by Northern Energy. When it is built there should be 16 full time jobs with the

possibility of another 20. As there will be a lot of wasted heat there is the possibility by communities in some way.

12. Delegates Report

Caucus. There has been no caucus meeting for 4 months. However, members of CC went to an interesting Area Network meeting at Dunoon Grammar. Marian attended the Community Broadband meeting and gave an update on this. Reception in Ardentinny can be dependent on the individual providers and also how far you are from the box.

Website. Photos of the Co-Hydrover project have been added to the site and Dougie Menzies will put some script to explain each one.

Toilets. The Minute of Agreement has been signed by the CC and A&B Council but we still have not received a copy. The first cheque should have been sent to the Treasurer over the past few days. We wish to buy some cleaning supplies and make the cupboard more user- friendly. Marian asked that a notice is put on the notice board to ask for more volunteers to help with the cleaning etc.

Health & Care Forum. Very few people attended the last meeting. A new convener has been appointed which may move the group forward. It is important to have representation from Ardentinny and other CC's to ensure that there is a forum where people can take any grievances or opinions.

Planning. All present applications have been approved

Community Action Plan.

There have been no changes.

Coulport

there has been a change in the lighting at Coulport.

No reports. Malcolm commented that

13. Community Updates.

Ardentinny Renewables Trust.

Nothing to report

Ardentinny Village Hall. The container mentioned at the last meeting has been sited. All safety regulations and planning rules were adhered to. An application was put in to National Park Moving Forward funding. Although all the criteria was met, such as main priority in the Action Plan etc. The application was not successful. A letter was written to the NP outlining our disappointment and that it was felt that the application was a strong one. This they agreed with but could not reconsider. The Community Partnership has given an assurance that they will help to compile a robust business plan. Ardentinnny Village Hall is being approached more often by the other groups on the shore to work together. The hall management will be supplying and serving the soups at the upcoming BVT open day.

Ardentinny Community Trust.

No report

Ardentinny Conservation & Heritage Group.

Nothing much happening over the winter. Plans being made for tasks for next year. The interpretation boards and leaflets have been a success. The website is being built up with local people willing to share their knowledge to be added to the site.

14. A.O.C.B

All CC members were sent the consultation paper in regard to the cuts by A&B. It was acknowledged that the consultation paper in its present form is difficult for the CC to reply with the opinion of the people of Ardentinnny as it is more for individual responses. It was agreed that our role is to inform people about the consultation to enable them to put forward their own opinions. The consultation can be accessed on the A&B website.

15. Date of next meeting. Tuesday 7th February. Marian closed the meeting.