

# ARDCHATTAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in Ardchattan Primary School 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Margaret Adams (Convenor), Tim McIntyre (Secretary), Jill Bowis (CC), Lachie Strathern (CC), Ashley Stones (CC), John Campbell (CC), Ronnie Campbell (CC), Robin Dodman (CC), Sian Griffiths (CC), Tony Dalgaty (CC); Cllrs Elaine Robertson & Iain S MacLean; Kieron Green; and 7 members of the public.

- 1. Apologies:** Geoff Miller (Vice Convenor), Anne Hilditch (Treasurer), Gordon Wood (CC), Colin Morrison (CC); Cllr Julie McKenzie; PC Stuart Johnston
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** John Campbell declared an interest in the SAMS seaweed project (Planning), as a potential contractor to the applicant.
- 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, were approved.
- 4. Police Report:** PC Johnstone had provided a report detailing incidents since last meeting, all minor/routine in nature; Sian reported that a guest of hers had been subject to an unpleasant encounter with a Police officer following a speeding offence. It was suggested that the lady should make a formal complaint about her experience, and the CC agreed to pass the comment back to PC Johnstone also as our community officer. Tony asked about the suggestion of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme – PC Johnstone to be asked how this is progressing.
- 5. Matters Arising: Village:** Forestry Commission kindly provided two new picnic benches which have been installed in Benderloch turning circle with Lachie's assistance, many thanks to both FCS and Lachie for this. **Victory Hall Car Park:** The Community Council also thanked Lachie for work carried out on the carpark surface and entrance barrier stones which have made a huge improvement, and also would like to thank the Parent Council for providing funding. **Pot Hole at Kintaline Mill Farm:** there is still a pot hole in the road near to Kintaline Mill – CC to write to Council about this.
- 6. Shian Road link path:** Landowners are quite happy for the link path to be built, subject to agreement over ongoing maintenance and public liability insurance. Margaret had asked for clarification on whether the CC insurance would cover this, but this was not possible. Some other suggestions are being followed up – e.g. Council or Community Council to rent the land for a 'peppercorn' sum, which would then bring it under the relevant PL insurance. Elaine looking at funding possibilities. Council can provide some funding, but cannot be quantified at present. Sustrans will provide 50%, which means it needs to be built to their specification. Stephen Wilson (Parent Council) is looking into this with Iain MacInnes (A & B Council). Jill suggested that CC could take responsibility for arranging maintenance, even if we couldn't do it ourselves. Margaret raised the fact that the 20mph zone has still not been extended across the bridge – Elaine to follow up.
- 7. Proposed Sand Quarry, Glasdrum** – a pre-application consultation is underway. We have been invited to Appin CC meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June to see more about the application
- 8. Bonawe Rubbish** – A bin is now in place at the entrance to ferry island near the quarry, though there have been some concerns about it not being emptied often enough.
- 9. Scottish Land Fund** – There is money & support available for community land purchase projects which might suit e.g. Victory Hall Carpark or other similar issues. Sums of £10k up to £1m are available. Margaret suggested setting up a sub-committee to consider potential projects. Jill to gather information in preparation for a committee meeting.
- 10. A828 evening/overnight closures in May:-** BEAR is proposing to close the road from 7pm to 7am for a couple of weeks in late May. CC to write to say that this will lead to unacceptable disruption to both locals & visitors.
- 11. Treasurer's report** – no change since last meeting;- overall balance is 3,103.97
- 12. Secretary's report** – Correspondence received & circulated; **Community Planning:** the next meeting is on 19<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm in Oban High School; **Community Empowerment Act:** Consultations have now opened on the various sections under the new legislation, open for

comment until 20<sup>th</sup> June; **Local Government Finance**; Melissa Stewart has provided a presentation document to assist community councillors with understanding how council finance is organised; **Police Scotland**: “Your View Counts” survey for community councils; **Argyll & Bute Council**: invitation to Oban Lorn & Isles Economic Development Plan Workshop on 27<sup>th</sup> May.

13. **Health matters – Robin** will be attending MEDCAT meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> April. **Elaine**: Integration of Health & Social Care has now taken effect, from beginning of April. The new locality manager is Annie MacLeod. Oban & Lorn, and Islands locality group is looking for one representative of Rural CCs. There is a new MacMillan nurse for Oban & Lorn. **Defibrillators**: Tony has re-applied to Argyll & Bute Council & Connel Surgery for funding. It was agreed that Bonawe would be the most suitable location for the first unit, being furthest from emergency service provision. It may be possible to use the telephone box if this is disused.
14. **Planning – SAMS** are proposing a seaweed farm consisting of floating grids with ropes on which seaweed is grown & harvested, in the Firth of Lorn. All agreed this was an interesting and positive proposal and there were no objections.
15. **AOB –** A complaint had been received about pollarding of trees in the village centre. The café owner, in attendance at the meeting, explained that this was to improve light to the ground and to the café, and that he had consulted his neighbours. The trees could be expected to grow new branches in time. **Cllr Iain Angus MacDonald**: the CC noted that Cllr MacDonald, former chair of the CC, had now stepped down as an elected member of Argyll & Bute Council. CC to write & thank him for his support & assistance since his election.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:15pm

If you would like to contact the Community Council, please write, email or telephone:-

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