

DUNADD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in the Village Hall, Ford on Tuesday 31 January 2017

Present: Jim Malcolm, Barbara Holness, Marion Thomson, Helen Mackie, Donna Kennedy, Paul Holness

In attendance: Cllr Donnie MacMillan (A&B Council), Cllr Dougie Philand (A&B Council), PS Danny McGeachy (Police Scotland), Forest Enterprise (Tommy McGrory, David Jardine and Donald Sansom), Gordon Gray-Stephens (Kilmartin Museum), Craig Ward (Ford Village Hall Ltd) plus 9 members of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Sandy Taylor and Colin Ferguson

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 29 November 2016 were approved and signed by the Convener.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

4.1 **Kilmartin Defibrillator** – Di Roberts advised that it had been decided to purchase a defibrillator through Trossachs Search and Rescue as they provided the best overall package.

4.2 **Purchase of Kilmartin Phone Kiosk** – The Convener advised that he had tried contacting BT regarding this, but had so far been unsuccessful.

5. Ford-Dalavich Public Road Resilience Project

Presentation given by Tommy McGrory and Donald Sansom from Forest Enterprise.

It has been estimated that 150,000 tons of trees need to be removed between Dalavich and Ford as they pose a threat to the public road in the event of extreme weather events. Felling approvals are in place - work will ensure more light reaches the carriageway and allow continued views along the road. There are some problematic areas which will require specialist equipment and plans will now be made for undertaking the work. Plans for replanting were also outlined. The CC will be kept updated.

Any further questions can be sent to Tommy at tommy.mcgrory@forestry.gsi.gov.uk.

6. Proposed Fish Farm at Dounie

Had been expecting a presentation by Dr Richard Luxmoore, Senior Conservation Advisor to the National Trust for Scotland, and Mark Smith, wildlife film maker, but they did not turn up.

Kames Fish Farming Ltd have applied to SEPA for a licence for a 12-cage salmon or trout farm at Dounie. Concerns have been expressed that a new fish farm could have a detrimental impact on endangered skate that live in the area as well as ending the migration of wild salmon and trout into the River Add. It was also pointed out that the area is Marine Protected as of last year and is designated as a National Scenic Area. Whilst it is appreciated that a fish farm would provide much needed jobs, it was also felt that it could be detrimental to jobs in other areas.

It was agreed that the Convenor should write expressing objection to the proposal and ask to be kept involved in process should it reach the planning stage.

7. Petition to designate Loch Awe as a National Scenic Area

A request has been received from Avich & Kilchrenan Community Council to support a petition to have Loch Awe designated as a National Scenic Area. If enough support is received, Michael Russell MSP has agreed to take it forward.

As the petition is quite detailed, it was agreed to provide a link to the website so that interested individuals can read further and sign the petition if they so wish. This will also be put onto the CC website. www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/committees/petitions/index.htm

8. Reports

8.1 Police Report

No major incidents. Several planned shoots taken place, plus some reports of shooting, which turned out to be legal. Two reports of cars coming off the road at Barbreck and Cairnbaan. Drunk driver stopped in Kilmartin. Fuel spillage on road.

8.2 Treasurer's Report

In the Treasurer's absence, there was no report.

8.3 Mid Argyll Partnership Report

Minutes of meeting held on 13th December 2016 had been distributed and were noted.

"Proposed New Way of Working" document from A&B Council was discussed. The Council want to change to a caucus-style approach to networking where CCs operate an independent informal forum to discuss items of common interest and then take action on an ad hoc basis. CCs would be able to attend the MAKI Area CPG on an individual basis and provide input from the caucus.

This proposal was felt to be a cost-cutting measure by the Council and not in the best interests of community councils. It was also felt that if governance of the meetings was left to volunteers then it would not happen. The Convenor will respond expressing our opposition.

8.4 Planning Report

No applications for consideration by the Community Council. All applications for this area have been put on the website.

8.5 A'Chruach Community Fund

£65k was handed out to local projects in Round 1 of awards - notices have been placed on noticeboards and the website giving details of successful applications. Round 2 for applications closes on 13 April (not 1 March as previously advised).

The microgrant scheme (for individual awards of up to £250) is now progressing and it was agreed that that the CC will administer the scheme.

9. Correspondence

9.1 Broadband Update – Update received from Highlands & Islands Enterprise on Broadband rollout. Details are available on the HIE website at www.hie.co.uk/digital or on Twitter @HIEDigital. The cabinet at Slockavullin is now installed and residents are encouraged to sign-up to a high-speed broadband service to benefit fully.

9.2 Community Empowerment Event – Notification received of event taking place on Saturday 11 March, but no venue has been announced. The Secretary asked that if any CC member was interested in attending, to let her know.

10. AOCB

10.1 **Kilmartin Museum Redevelopment Update** – Proposals for a community consultation have been delayed. Should be something announced over next couple of months.

10.2 **Mid Argyll Initiative** – Legal set up of MAi to be finalised and they are now seeking Trustees to oversee running of the fund. If anyone is interested, they should contact the Convenor.

11. Public Questions

11.1 It was queried whether the CC would be prepared to act as the official 'body' in order to set up a Development Trust to ensure major local projects are progressed. Once the Trust is set up, it would be possible to employ a Development Officer to oversee projects (such as community buyout of the Kilmartin shop and the new Ford Village Hall) and obtain funding. It was mentioned that ACT are currently looking for community projects which need help and Di Roberts agreed to speak to them regarding assistance in setting up the Trust.

11.2 Sheila Brolly reported problems with A&B Council Planning Department and access rights being granted across Torran land. Cllr MacMillan and Cllr Philand agreed to speak to her after the meeting.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 28 March 2017 in Kilmartin (venue TBA) at 7.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.