

Minutes of the Ardentenny Community Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on 6th October 2009

Present

V. Kennedy
D. Gower

M. Bartley
E. Connell

D. Menzies
V. Fairley-McDowall

Apologies

S. Johnston

M. Goldie

B. Marshall

Declaration of Interest

None

Val opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending.

There was a short discussion regarding arrangements for the inaugural meeting of the new community council committee. The Returning Officer will call the meeting and it was agreed that 17th November at 7.30pm may be a suitable suggestion for the meeting to take place. Val agreed that she would contact Shirley McLeod (Area Corporate Services Manager)with this suggestion.

Val asked if all had read the minutes and if they were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed Dennis

Seconded Malcolm

Action from Previous Minutes

Baron McInturners Cairn Malcolm had received e-mail from Paul Farrell of the Roads Dept . This was an outline of the possible development at the cairn site and the requirements necessary. Malcolm will liase with Ceci Alderton to arrange a meeting with Shirley Leake (Forestry Commission).

Roads Letters have been written by the council to relevant local people to ensure that sight lines are not hampered by vegetation. Some residents have made efforts to rectify this. A tree within Mrs Gray's garden requires some work to make sure it is safe. This may mean that it will have to be taken down.

Verges are in a poor condition but as previously reported the council budget does not extend to this.

Hedges have been cut over the previous couple of weeks and a good job was done of this ask.

Val will email Bruce regarding the state of roads.

Hydropower scheme. Dennis has made contact with a farmer who is in the early stages of hydropower use. Dennis is to visit the farmer and will have further information for the next meeting.

Ardfin Avenue Contact has been made with Forestry Commission to ask if there are any decisions made regarding eradicating ponticum from behind Ardfin Avenue. As yet no decision has been made.

Neighbourhood Watch. Malcolm had a contact address for appropriate neighbourhood watch signs. Despite a cheque being sent –though not cashed- and several emails forwarded, there has been no response. Malcolm will investigate another provider.

Caravan Park There has been work started on putting in a new water supply to the caravan park and a separate supply to the other seven properties also on the present system.

Coronation Wood Dougie, Dennis, Malcolm, Mary and Eileen had a meeting at the site with Steve Gillen (Forestry Commission) and Jim Downie (Forestry Commission) to discuss suggestions for the maintenance and upgrading of the small area of wood. Some of the suggestions, a desire path, bench, bat boxes etc, small cairns and low wall at the entrance, hedging such as hawthorn at the boundary by the roadside. A survey is necessary to identify the types of trees and plants there are there at present. A group of volunteers have already expressed an interest in helping with this. There may be the possibility of small funding grants available such as Forestry Commission, Social Welfare grants. Also using the area for educational use by involving local schools. Vicky suggested that perhaps educational “tasks” could be in memory of Hazel King.. Contact to be made with Steve and Jim to get advice on the next step. This will be once the new committee is in place.

A suggestion was made that the village tub, which is situated at the notice board, could be moved to a more open site in an effort to prevent any more thefts of plants from the tub. The suggestion that a better place would be at the side of the post-box. To still have some flowers at the notice board some wild flowers could be sown.. Everyone present agreed with both suggestions.

Beach Clean This was carried out the previous Sunday. Despite the bad weather there were still a few volunteers turned up.

Caravan Park There has been no further information or contact from Sue Laverge

Local Plan As yet there has been no Local Plan. It should have been ready by August but there has been a delay. Dennis suggested that Keith Hacking , Chair of the Working Group, be asked to write to National Park to ask for n update.

Police Report

Martin was unable to attend but had informed Dougie of the incidents in the area.

Only two incidents reported over the past few weeks.

A vehicle had been stopped and it was found that the driver had been disqualified.

Theft from a tent at the picnic area. No suspects.

Update on the theft of solar lights from a homeowner in the Swedish Houses. One person had been charged with this. The homeowner had been re-imbursed by the perpetrator.

Treasurers Report

Malcolm provided the financial statement.

Expenditure	£28.90
Income	nil
Bank Balance 18 th September 2009	£2240.39

Secretaries Report

Letter received from Leslie Cuthbertson. From Lochgoilhead. They had received money to upgrade their end of the Carrick Castle to Ardentenny path. Work should begin at the end of October and should be finished before Christmas, weather permitting. It is hoped that, when the path is completed, that the bus timetable will publish that the path is available to walkers etc.

Recycling Complaints received about there being no recycling collection on Cowal Saturday. Derek Matthew (Street Scene Technical Officer) apologized for any inconvenience caused.

Community Partnership A gathering is to be held in Buchanan Arms in Drymen on 7th November. Open to all community representatives.

Whistlefield barrier There will not be a safety barrier erected at the area of the whistlefield road which is deemed dangerous. As reported at previous meetings, any approach to the ombudsman would have to be by individuals as they would not accept representation from community councils.

Annual review Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS are holding an annual review on Monday 19th October in the /thistle Hotel Cambridge Street.

Association of Community Councils. The Association is holding a meeting at the Scottish Parliament on Saturday 14th November.

Scottish Planning System Letter from Scottish Government stating that, from August, future planning applications will be discussed at Community Council meetings as part of the pre-planning system.

Lochs and Glens Dougie handed round a new publication which replaces the "Shore Herald" This gives all the information of events, information, contacts in the local area.

AOCB

As Dougie had decided not to be put up for nomination, a vote of thanks was proposed. It was acknowledged how much work he had put in over the years and has been a large part of how the village is today and that his work as secretary would be a hard act to follow. Dougie offered his support to whoever takes over the envious task of secretary.

Dennis brought to the committee's attention that recent press reports designates a man as a resident of Glenfinart Caravan Park. This gives the impression that the 10 months out of 12 which is stated in the licence is flaunted as does the fact that there are several residents on the voters roll with their address being the caravan park. Val will email Bruce Marshall and Sue Laverge with this information.