

Letter from Working Group to Park Authority 7/12/09

Subject: FW: File ref: FOI/RD/FP/60712
Date: Mon, 7 Dec 2009 17:01:51 +0000

Dear Ms. Worthy,

Further to your letter of November 27th. addressed to the Ardentinny Proposed Housing Development Working Group kindly respond to the following .

With reference to your first paragraph, comments were not addressed to the National Park, they were simply comments expressed by those present at the Community Council meeting. We would appreciate your advising us (a) what were the comments and (b) by whom.

You seem to be under the misapprehension that you have answered the questions raised both in the original responses from Ardentinny village and from those put to you since, by this Working Group.

We note that you have "met with a limited number of respondents", but as far as we are aware, no-one in Ardentinny has any knowledge of any meeting with yourselves and letters from this Working Group have raised questions but received no answers, contrary to the statement in your letter.

We are extremely concerned that it is intended to publish a finalised Draft Plan in February 2010 without Ardentinny having had any opportunity to follow up their written concerns regarding the contents of the original plan. The only communication with any information about review of the Local Plan has been from Councillor Bruce Marshall and the information he has verbally given us is now refuted in your letter.

We suggest that you cannot endorse a finalised Draft Plan as you say, on December 14th.2009, when there has been no consultation on the Ardentinny community's objections and concerns since February 2009. We cannot accept any part of the Local Plan unless you are prepared to consult properly, with us, as representing the village community and we will be advising the Community Council and all residents of this letter and our present position.

Referring to your letter of 15th. May 2009, the Report on Consultation was due to be made available by autumn 2009. There is so far no sign of this and we would be interested in seeing this report as soon as possible.

In light of the above we are requesting an appointment, prior to the 14th.December, to view all the responses pertaining to Ardentinny which should include reports from the partner agencies (SEPA, Scottish Water and the four local authorities that cover the Park)

Yours sincerely,

Pauline Gordon, on behalf of
Ardentinny Proposed Housing Development Working Group

Ardentinny Proposed Housing Development Working Group

Dear Resident,

No doubt you have been wondering what has happened to the Local Plan and the intention to build 36 new houses in Ardentinny.

This correspondence is a result of the Working Group's efforts and frustration over the past few months. We now intend to visit the National Park offices to see, at first hand, what responses were received and judge the weight of opposition to the Plan.

The Draft Final Plan, now published, is published on the National Park website and copies should be available from the 16th of this month.

Meanwhile, we are objecting strongly to the lack of information and opportunity to follow up our initial concerns and will keep you informed through www.ardentinny.org; the Community Council; the Village Notice Board; and any other means.

Yours sincerely,

Pauline Gordon
on behalf of
Ardentinny Proposed Housing Development Working
Group

12 December, 2009.

UPDATE

Letter from Park Authority to Working Group 27/11/09

Filerref:FOI/RD/FP/60712

27/11/2009

Dear Sir,

Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Local Plan

I am writing to you in response to comments which have been expressed by residents at the recent Ardentinnny Community Council meeting.

I note that the Park Authority received an email from the Working Group on 23rd October 2009 stating that the publication of the draft local plan was now over due and that the Working Group had not yet been informed about a specific timetable for meeting with local communities in order to discuss further matters of concern with regard to proposals.

In August 2009 the Park Authority advised the wider community that in order to give sufficient time to address the issues raised by respondents to the draft plan consultation, we would be publishing our finalised draft plan for consultation in February 2010. This is shown in our updated Development Plan Scheme which outlines the process and timeframes for preparing the local plan and is available on our website. A copy of the Development Plan Scheme was emailed to Teresa Forsyth, a member of the Working Group in October. I also note that the community website (www.Ardentinnny.org) published an extract of our press release regarding the change in publication date at that time.

In regards to a specific timetable for meeting with local communities, the Forward Planning team have met with a limited number of respondents over the last few months. Aside from the above mentioned email, I have previously received two letters from the Working Group which I have responded to including any questions which have been raised. I note that this correspondence is also published on the community website.

As outlined in previous correspondence to you, I wish to assure you that the Park Authority is very aware of the Working Group's concerns and objection to the proposed housing allocation. These objections have been individually expressed both verbally at Local Plan Drop In Session which was held on 4th February 2009 at Kilmun and through written responses to the draft plan consultation. I can confirm that cognisance has been given to this as part of preparing housing allocations contained within the finalised plan. The Park Authority is working hard to ensure that the proposals meet with the needs of those communities, while also delivering the Park's strategic aims.

As previously noted, the finalised draft plan will be published for consultation in February 2010. Anyone with an interest in the National Park will have an opportunity to comment on the policies and proposals contained within the finalised draft plan at this time. I am aware that there has been a suggestion in the community that the original proposal is to be deleted from the plan and that the number of houses on this proposed site has been reduced to 6 houses after consideration of objections. Please note that this suggestion is incorrect. The National Park Board will be endorsing the finalised draft plan for consultation on 14th December 2009 and at this time will consider proposed amendments to the draft plan. Until the publication of the finalised draft local plan, the policies and proposals contained within the draft plan indicate the proposed approach of the Park Authority.

We will be notifying the wider community of the finalised draft plan consultation period, how to get copies of the plan and how to respond to the consultation closer to the time. As you are listed on our local plan contacts database, you will be receiving notification of this information directly. If you would like to be kept up to date with progress in developing the plan, please refer to the National Park's website (www.lochlomond-trossachs.org) or alternatively contact the Forward Planning team at the National Park by calling 01389 722600.

Yours sincerely,

**Diana Worthy
Planner (Forward Planning)**