

Minutes of Meeting of Col-Glen Community Council

Thursday 17 January 2013 – 19.30 Colintrave Village Hall

Community Council members present:

Michael Kaufmann, Tom Mowat, Danuta Steedman, Anne Lamb, Suzy Munro, Martin MacFarlane, John Sutton, Danielle Clark

Community Council members Apologies:

Cathleen Russell

Public present:

16 people present

Apologies of Charles-Dixon Spain of CGDT

1. Welcome and introduction of new councillors

After a word of welcome, Michael Kaufmann introduced John Sutton and Danielle Clark as new councillors and announced that Danielle Clark had accepted the position as Community Council Secretary.

2. Minutes 8 November 2012 meeting

The minutes of meeting were read and accepted (proposed by John Sutton and seconded by Martin MacFarlane).

3. Loch Striven fish farm proposals

CGCC received an extension till tomorrow 18 January to formulate their objection/approval. No reply from A&B on the further extension requested on 5 January received. Tomorrow the A&B planning portal will shut down for maintenance work.

Sara Maclean's objection was praised as a thorough formulated response which highlighted the following points:

- Conflict with indicative separation distances for marine cage fish farms.
- Visual Impact Assessment as the planned new fish farm would be visual from within both houses and residents would also experience disturbance due to the noise and lights day and night for up to 48 hours.
- Up to 2 Scottish Salmon vans are sometimes parked along the single track road. This might increase if these extension/new fish farm goes through.
- Emission and environment

Sara Maclean pointed out the 2 applications are not considered together in the planning process and the impact of each fish farm considered separate, not consolidated.

There are also blurred boundaries as the extension of the fish farm at Strone Point is listed under Dunoon not Colintrave.

The members of the community council as well as the public present voted unanimously for the community council to object against the 2 applications. Michael Kaufmann will write a letter of objection and requested anybody of the public, who has not yet done so, to write a letter of objection.

4. Kilbridemore wind farm

Charles Dixon-Spain and Michael Kaufmann attended the meeting, together with representatives of other community councils, organised by Banks who presented the visual impact on the area and explained they want to work with the community councils on how to use the funding stream and what benefits will accrue for each community if we go along with it.

Banks would like Colglen to take the lead.

It was agreed to be involved to see what the benefits would be.

Michael Kaufmann will inform Banks that we will continue to explore the possibilities together but that we do not commit ourselves to anything.

5. Development Trust

Sara Maclean provided an updated on the **Warmer Colglen** project.

73 households are engaged.

The roll out of free insulation is ongoing as well as the distribution of energy monitors.

Warmer Colglen supported 4 quiz nights.

The **thermal imaging camera** is available till a week on Sunday. Anybody wanting his house surveyed has to contact her.

The tender documents for the **Colintraive Village Hall** are out. The hall will be closed for the work to be carried out during the latter half of February and most of March.

Glendaruel Village Hall is following suit. During the works, the hall will partly or complete close.

Jim McLuckie provided an update on the other CGDT projects.

Colintraive shop: need to make contact and reappraise the situation.

Glendatuel Hotel: same problem as a year ago.

The CGDT will resurrect both projects as soon as possible.

Footpaths:

Colintraive: Today they met with representatives from Paths for All, walked the circular route and discussed the work to be done. Despite the fact that the work which needs to be done is expensive, the path is very desirable and CGDT will try to take it further.

Glendaruel: The same applies to the proposed walk in the Glen at Ballachandrain Bridge

Stronafian Forest: The project is close to completion and should be completed by the end of this month. The funding is nearly in place. They applied for the funding of a Forest Development Officer.

Cowal Way: CGDT is trying to progress it and discussed it with Paths for All. They applied for a student intern for 10 weeks to 3 months to do a feasibility study of the Cowal way next spring.

6. State of public roads

Danielle Clark pointed out drains/culverts on the roads have not been maintained for many years. This increases the risk of flooding and pothole creation. At least one house in Colintrave experienced flooding due to a blocked drain/culvert. Water also runs alongside the roads and undermines the roads resulting in the re-occurrence of potholes and road subsidence. The non-maintenance of drains/culverts results in higher repair bills for A&BC.

Close to the Leanach at Dunans is a pothole of approx 10” deep. Potholes are not only detrimental to cars but also lives are at risk.

The council is not responsible for accidents due to potholes if they are not reported.

Each pothole needs to be reported. This can be done by the A&B council website.

Alex McNaughton will report the culverts/drainage ditches problem.

7. Collecting of prescriptions from Kyles Medical Centre

Many people need to drive a 30 miles round trip to collect their repeat prescriptions. A collective pick-up can be organised by small local groups of people living in close proximity of each other.

8. Councillor’s report

A&B Council is considering the closure of Struan Lodge in Dunoon in order to save money. Colglen Community Council will object to the closure of Struan Lodge.

The new budget is due soon. The budget cut for A&B Council is 5.8 million. The budget for roads would not be cut.

Tom Mowat asked if the company, extracting the wood from Balliemore, contributes to the maintenance of the roads as the wood lorries damage the road between Balliemore and Dalilongard.

9. Preparing for extreme weather

Thursday 7 February at 7pm, Colintrave Village Hall will host the film “Are we ready?”. Everybody is welcome and refreshments will be provided.

The project is to study if we are ready for extreme weather events such as the winter storms of last year. Colglen community is one of the 10 communities to pilot this project across Scotland. Snippets will be filmed at the presentation and compiled with others into a film.

It will help to prioritise what/who/how we would be affected, which equipment is needed and how to get funding for the equipment.

It will increase the communities' resilience through emergency planning.

10. OAB

There is a problem with dog fouling behind ferry terminal. Alex McNaughton will speak to A&B Council to obtain signs/bins.

Progress parking at ferry terminal: Michael Kaufmann will speak to Rhona Sutherland to reconnect with Bute Estate

11. Next meeting

14 March 2013 – 19.30 provisionally at Glendaruel Village Hall. Michael Kauffman will speak to Kilmodan Head Teacher and Reverend David Mitchell for alternative location in case the village hall would be closed.