

Minutes of Col-Glen Community Council AGM and meeting Thursday 13 June 2013 – 19.30 Colintraive Village Hall

Community Council members present:

Michael Kaufmann, Cathleen Russell, Tom Mowat, Danuta Steedman, Anne Lamb, John Sutton, Danielle Clark

Community Council members Apologies:

Suzy Munro
Martin MacFarlane

CGDT apology: Charles Dixon-Spain

Public present:

14 people present

AGM

Overview of the year by Michael Kaufmann

There is still one item still ongoing, the main one being the parking at Colintraive ferry where making progress is difficult as the factor of Bute Estate is difficult to get hold off. He congratulated Colintraive Village Hall for the excellent refurbishments which are now complete as well as Elisabeth Fairburn for the progress made with the refurbishment of Glendaruel Village Hall which is ahead 1 week ahead of schedule. The funding for the 2nd phase of the Glendaruel Village Hall is almost complete.

Danielle Clark and John Sutton became members during the year and having a secretary is a boon.

Accounts by Tom Mowat

As there is only one item of income and 3 items of expenditure, presentation of the accounts is extremely short. It took the accountant only 5 minutes to audit the accounts. The Council grant increased with 7 ½ % from £300 to £325.30. Some of the money will be needed this year for the local notice boards and other items. He proposed that the secretary of the community council should receive an honorarium for the work which was agreed by everybody. The amount of the honorarium will be established in consultation with the secretary.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by John Sutton and seconded by Mr Munro.

Community Council Meeting

- 1. Declaration of Interest**
None
- 2. Minutes 28 March 2013 meeting**

The minutes of meeting were read and accepted (proposed by Cathleen Russell and seconded by Michael Kaufmann).

3. Ruel Restoration Study by Andrew Barker

Michael Kaufmann contacted the local farmers but none were willing to meet the Ruel Improvement Association for further discussion.

4. Loch Striven fish farm proposals

Although Alex McNaughton championed our cause greatly, we lost on all accounts and the fish farms were approved.

Sara McLean: A&BC stated during meeting they would like to see the Scottish Salmon Company engaging with the community. She wrote to Scottish Salmon Company asking if a screen could be planted to obscure the fish farm view but no answer has been received till now.

Cathleen Russell reported the presentation Scottish Salmon Company did at Toward School was very good and Scottish Salmon Company brought lots of material to the school.

J. McKenzie approached Scottish Salmon Company for a contribution of £150 towards the Ladies Day for the Colintrave Bowling Club, but no answer received there either.

If no answer received within one month, then Michael Kaufmann and Alex McNaughton would see what can be done. Everybody is requested to copy Community Council in on all requests made to Scottish Salmon Company.

4. Kilbridemore wind farm

The Kilbridemore wind farm project has been cancelled for environmental reasons (nesting birds).

6. Community Council Boundaries

The boundary of the CGCC will change to include everything west of Loch Tarzan. Although Glenlean farm will not be included, this is important for Colglen as it increases the number of families with children in CGCC which is important for Kilmodan school. The school bus still goes down to Loch Striven. It was pointed out that the school boundaries might not conform with this boundary line.

7. Development Trust

Mark Chambers - Community Forest Officer introduced himself. He was appointed on 2/4/2003 and moved from Newcastle to Granny's bungalow here in Colglen. Mark is sharing the office with the other CGDT officers in Colintrave Village Hall, but he will relocate to Glendaruel Village Hall next month.

Mark reported the commercial timber production will be leased out to a tenant. There is a survey on the CGDT website about the future and development of the forest. Mark requested as many people as possible to participate in this survey as input of the inhabitants is needed for the business plan and to move forward.

Paper copies of the survey are available upon request. Ideas included in the survey are:

- woodland crofts
- wind farm feasibility
- wood fuel
- picnic sites
- walking and biking paths

and many other ideas.

The CGDT website also gives links to examples such as the Gigha community wind farm, Harris Hydro Project and woodland crofts.

J. McLuckie reported the CGDT is now employing 4 people inclusive and intern for the Cowal Way study.

Community Resilience: Sara McLean reported on the 2nd “Are we ready” event held in May where everybody was asked to consider where we are now and where will we be in 50 years in order to develop the ideas into a more concrete format. As it is clear funding streams will need to be sought to realise all the aims of the Community, the participants were divided into 3 groups and asked to consider what measures might be taken to increase our Community resilience in terms of eligible funding from the Climate Challenge Fund. The main focus would be how to deal with severe weather and emergency responses and a smaller Focus Group was formed, whose initial tasks would be to pursue the Emergency packs, prepare a draft Action Plan, and help to support a further funding application to the Climate Challenge Fund. She thanked Suzy Munro for the emergency packs which she acquired and for looking for funding for the generators for both village halls. The group is also looking at the following:

- Draft Community emergency plan
- Can we use our own forest for wood fuel
- How to get more local services and goods.
- Food growing project (potential location of polytunnels and allotments on community owned sites, venison and sea food etc.)
- Recycling green waste (might be funded by A&BC and Climate Challenge Funds)
- Travel (decrease in car travel would be a challenging project, due to the geographic linear spread of ColGlen)

The whole project might create 1 or 2 posts for contract workers and volunteers. Once they know what the Climate Challenge Funds will approve, they will meet again.

The 3rd “Are we ready” meeting is scheduled for 15 July 2013 at 7pm Glendaruel Village Hall.

Danuta Steedman stated the meetings were great and interesting thanks to Sara.

8. **Councillor’s report**

There is only one issue which is the closure of **Strachur Post Office**. During a period of 3 months, it will be open 3 days a week in the present building.

Funding for roads: no change. A&BC is cutting back on grass cutting. E. Sutton reported the A&C Streetscene people did do a good job with the pavement.

On the question about the **speed restriction signs** for Colintrave, Alex McNaughton reported they have been approved and are now ready for implementation. Date cannot be given.

State of the road signs: There is now a program for cleaning of the road signs. The result is that the road signs have improved.

Potholes: report them to Alex McNaughton

9. Glendaruel Village Hall

The work is ongoing but 1 week ahead of schedule. The 2nd part of the funding is more than likely to be obtained. The Glendaruel Village Hall Committee is now strengthened by:

A. Craig: Bookings Clerk

S. Reed: Grant Funding Raiser and Project Manager

M. Dickson: Secretary/Treasurer

10. Wikipedia

D. Clark reported that although the Glendaruel wiki is now much better, the Colintrave one, is still unchanged. Both contain several typo errors and the Glendaruel one is in telegram style. M. Kaufmann states we should ignore it and move on. C. Russell reports people look at it and we need to do something about it and police it.

11. AOB

M. Chambers reports that the state of Fearnoch Point is appalling. Fishermen camping there leave their rubbish everywhere. S. McLean reports there were people camping in front of Rhona's caravan just before Couston and C. McLean went for a walk to see if everything was OK with the caravan. The next morning they discovered all windows of the caravan had been shot out with an air rifle.

A. McNaughton would consult with A&BC and M. Kaufmann with the police.

Propose to ask police to attend CGCC meetings.

There is a Mobile Police Unit in Colintrave every 2nd Thursday.

M. Kaufmann resigned as chair of the CGCC to become effective after the next CGCC meeting.

J. McLuckie reported there is now an intern for 10 weeks, Catriona Philips, to study the Cowal Way as an economic asset for Colglen and to write a report as to how the Cowal Way can become a great long distance path and an economic

asset. She will stay with M. Chambers for 2weeks but accommodation for another 7 weeks is needed pretty soon.

12. Next meeting

Glendaruel Village Hall. Date to be announced later.