

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 24 March 2016 at 7.30pm in Appin Village Hall

Present: Alison MacCorquodale, Paul Zvegintzov, Lorraine Drysdale, Linda MacLeod, Jane Parkin, Elaine Venters, Caroline Henderson (NHS) and 5 members of the public.

1. Apologies: David Craig, Charles Steuart Fotheringham, Councillor Elaine Robertson, PC Stuart Johnston

2. Minutes of the last meeting (14 January 2016) were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 A828 Trunk Road

>Noted that preparations are being made to implement the 50mph speed limit for the A828. ACC to find out when it comes in to force.

>No update on request to change road sign from Invercreran to Fasnacloich from Creagan Bridge roundabout. Cllr Robertson to be asked to follow-up.

>No update on potholes reforming at recently repaired road surface at Creagan Roundabout (coming off bridge, direction north)

>No update on road drain/gulley at bus stop continually flooding – school children and local residents' windows being hit by spray from passing vehicles driving through the standing water.

3.3 School Transport/Public Transport

Nothing to report.

3.4 Port Appin and other Council roads

>Subsidence on the road at Taychreggan: No further update – awaiting Openreach and Scottish Water to move their equipment.

3.5 Broadband and Mobile Phone

>Bob Cornish provided the meeting with the following update:

Appin: Nothing new to report. Progress is slow with delays in firm plans being confirmed.

Lismore: slow progress in finalising 10 mast sites for wireless solution, verbal agreement with most, negotiations underway for others.

3.6 Safer Routes to School

Nothing to report.

3.7 Recycling/Litter

Nothing to report.

3.8 Planning Applications

>Recent planning applications forwarded by A&BC to Appin Community Council for comment were:

Certificate of Lawfulness (existing) use as scrap/haulage yard Knap. Alterations to bellmouth for existing access on land south of Taychreggan (Scottish Woodlands). Alterations and erection of extension, 1 Appin Terrace. Non Material Amendment to pp for land SW of Collieveneach. Erection of dwelling house on land SW of Lurignish Farm. Retrospective pp for re-siting of shed at Rhugarbh Croft. Retrospective pp for formation of path and steps at Holy Cross Church.

>ACC received notification of a proposed planning application for sand and gravel extraction at Glasdrum in Glen Creran. As part of pre-planning consultation with the local community, a member of ACC and a Glen resident aim to meet with the applicant's representative to hear/see what is being proposed and assess the implications. The applicant is planning to attend the ACC June meeting to present their plans. Neighbouring Ardchattan Community Council has also been advised.

>ACC was advised by Iain McNicol that Appin Co-op has spoken to A&BC to query why local planning application notifications are displayed in Connel Post Office instead of Port Appin Post Office. The Council said it was because Connel's opening hours were longer than Port Appin's, which is not in fact the case. There are many requests by local residents to see plans which is time consuming for Port Appin Co-op staff and a source of frustration for residents when they are advised to go to Connel. As A&BC would not accept the point being made, the matter has been raised with Cllr Robertson to pursue.

3.9 Invasive Species

Rhododendron Project – FC at second stage HFL funding application. Project is now part of a transnational partnership between Scotland, N Ireland & Ireland.

4. Correspondence

A&B CPP Bulletin, OLIA Committee meeting, Digital Argyll & Bute update, Network Rail consultation, Local Planning Groups – health and social care, local housing strategy, modern apprentice in youth work, Funding alerts, update on Community Empowerment.

5. Treasurer's Report

ACC funds stand at £3560. Annual accounts are to be prepared during April/May for presentation at June's AGM.

6. Any Other Competent Business

6.1 Proposed Plans for Homecare Provision.

Caroline Henderson, Acting Locality Manager, Oban Lorn & Islands gave a brief outline of proposed plans for future home care provision for residents within the Port Appin Surgery area. The proposal is to create a social enterprise model involving Highland Home Carers Ltd employing local carers to deliver care to local people in their homes. Caroline has offered to come to the next meeting in June to provide more information and an update on the proposals.

6.2 Emergency Response Plan (on-going)

No update available.

6.3 Community Action Plan

Potential avenues for securing funding for the project have been explored without success. The project will not continue at present as two previously identified community priorities are now in hand through different avenues – The Trust is looking at community transport and there is the Homecare Provision project described above.

6.4 Hydro Scheme

The project is now on hold due to the change in government incentives. The contract with consultant has been closed off, Forestry Commission are aware of continued interest in the site should the situation change in future

6.5 Police Report

No issues/incidents to report other than 9 incidents which were routine in nature. Static road speed checks will continue in the area.

A question was raised to ask how Police Scotland planned to enforce the new 50mph speed limit on the A828 when it is implemented. PC Johnston to advise at next meeting.

6.6 Appin Area Flower Displays.

No update. Enquiries to be made to find resource (digger or equivalent) to lift and empty the large pot-bound planters to allow re-planting/refurbishment to take place in spring.

6.7 Community Noticeboards

No update. Maintenance work to be scheduled for spring. Volunteers invited to assist by contacting convenor@appincommunitycouncil.co.uk.

>It was noted that a sign has been damaged in the carpark (opposite Appin Village Hall). The Trust has been notified (Bob Cornish).

6.8 AGM and Office Bearers

It was confirmed at the meeting that the Convenor and the Secretary will stand down from the respective offices at the AGM in June. Expressions of interest/suggestions for new Convenor and new Secretary are welcomed as the work of the Community Council is dependant on volunteers from the community. Contact Alison at convenor@appincommunitycouncil.co.uk.

7. Public Questions

Litter – a discussion took place about the amount of litter on the side of the A828 in particular – especially in the Stalker Brae, Creagan Bridge and Achnacone layby areas. Volunteer litter picks to be planned for spring.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next Community Council meeting and AGM is on Thursday 16 June. **The AGM will start at 7.30pm and the normal ACC meeting will start at 7.45pm in Appin Village Hall.**

Further 2016 meeting dates are: 22 September, 17 November.