

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 4 June 2015 at 7.45pm in Appin Village Hall

Present: Alison MacCorquodale, David Craig, Paul Zvegintzov, Linda MacLeod, Lorraine Drysdale, Charles Steuart Fotheringham, Elaine Venters, Jane Parkin, PC Stuart Johnston, Councillor Elaine Robertson and 7 members of the public.

1. Apologies: Cllr. Duncan MacIntyre, Penny Cousins

2. Minutes of the last meeting (9 April 2015) were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 A828 Trunk Road

>Letter written to Trunk Roads re: poor road surface at Creagan Roundabout (coming off bridge, direction north).

>Water flowing on to A828 from hillside beside Appin Village Hall: Further discussion took place as to source of water and best remedy; awaiting local contractor to work on it.

>Non-existence of white lines at 'Give Way' at Gunn's Garage where Port Appin road joins A828. Cllr Robertson confirmed there are on-going email exchanges between A&B and BEAR.

>Discussion took place about sections of the road that BEAR have/should be working on. Paul Z to produce list of the sections that need attention and liaise with Cllr Robertson.

3.2 School Transport/Public Transport

Enhanced summer timetable and Sunday service on bus route now operational.

Report of broken glass left lying from shattered panel in bus stop to be looked at by Cllr Robertson.

3.3 Port Appin and other Council roads

>Subsidence on the road above Laich House, Tyneribbie: Further to correspondence received from the community expressing concerns about the proposed solution, Cllr Robertson reported that A&B Engineering Dept are happy to meet the community to discuss the work – contact to be made with relevant parties to arrange a day. It was pointed out, however, that the work which conforms to current standards is only to deal with the retaining wall in question. Any expansion of the work would be unlikely to be achieved due to budget constraints.

>Possible car parking at Creagan Bridge roundabout: Area in constant use and is muddy/unsightly. Cllr Robertson to talk to A&B Roads Dept.

>The road surface in the area around Port Appin Surgery and two residential houses: Cllr Robertson confirmed that the job is 'on the list' to be done and a response to a resident's recent letter will be chased up.

>Deep potholes in passing place on road to Port Appin nr Ardtur corner – no update.

3.4 Broadband

Bob Cornish provided an update: All Appin postcodes are being considered for the BT Fibre project. It is not yet known which of the remoter properties will be included in the final BT Fibre plan which will be confirmed later this year. Some remoter properties are more likely to be candidates for the GigaPlus Argyll wireless system (which is what is being proposed for Lismore).

3.5 Safer Routes to School

Work on the path is progressing with positive feedback on the improved surface; remaining sections will not be completed until new house building project is completed. A site meeting has taken place between the landowner, Safer Routes to School and Cllr Robertson.

3.6 Recycling

A new four wheel bin is in situ at Appin House layby. A discussion took place regarding the volume of litter and how best to deal with it, the bin collection frequency and reports of builder's debris filling the bins – van's registration number supplied to A&B.

3.7 Planning Applications

Recent planning applications are forwarded by A&B to Appin Community Council for comment. These were: proposed changes at Fish Farm, Shuna (no objections/comment), proposed building works at house on Shuna (no objections/comment).

4. Correspondence

April: Minutes Oban Lorn and Isles Area Committee, Paths for all training, Agenda Oban Lorn and Isles Area Committee, Communication for community councils, Funding alert, Oban Lorn and Isles Economic Development Action plan

May: Community council administration and discretionary grant, Info on consultations grants and creative writing, Hospital closures and moves, Festival of the sea program, Oban Lorn and Isles Economic Development Action plan workshop, Minutes Oban Lorn and Isles Area Committee, Living it up info, Oban Lorn and Isles community Planning group, Dementia

advisory vacancy Oban, Oban Lorn and Isles community Planning group, Save the day, Funding alert questionnaire, Health and social care integration, Oban Lorn and Isles health and wellbeing, Finding funding, Heads of service appointment, Argyll and Bute local development plan, Planning applications, Finding funding workshop, Oban Lorn and Isles community Planning group, Advert Argyll and Bute integration joint board, Third sector and communities meeting, Consultation model of support people living with dementia, Planning applications

June: Patient/carer board member appeal, Funding alert, Community shares Scotland, Community resilience update, Argyll and Bute integration newsletter, Agenda Oban Lorn and Isles Area Committee, Councils public liability insurance for community councils

5. Treasurer's Report

Community Council funds stand at £3200.

6. Any Other Competent Business

6.1 Dangerous Tree at Portnacroish (on-going)

No progress to report.

6.2 Emergency Plan (on-going)

A sub-committee has met with representatives from the community council, medical profession and Fire Brigade. Team leaders in different parts of the area are being identified and an application for SSE funding is being prepared. Ideas for Medical First Responder training and further defibrillator training are being investigated. Aim is to update the plan for community consultation by late autumn.

6.3 Clach Thoul Path (on-going)

Improvement work is continuing with further supplies of gravel being used and more ditching being put in. Noted that the path condition is a vast improvement and is being appreciated by all users.

6.4 Community Empowerment Opportunity

Penny Cousins submitted a report: a project brief is being prepared for discussion at a steering group which is to be formed in the next few months.

6.5 Police Report

PC Johnston reported that in the period since the last meeting, there have been 9 recorded incidents, most being routine in nature. (5 of which were road traffic incidents). Speed checks including unmarked police cars have been operating in the area. No identified crime trends within the area. Summer drink drive campaign has commenced in all Police Scotland areas. Residents are urged to be vigilant and check the security of outlying buildings and property and report any vehicles acting in a suspicious manner by dialling 101.

6.6 Appin Area Flower Displays.

A date is to be arranged for tubs to be refurbished/replanted.

6.7 Community Noticeboards

A new board for Glen Creran is to be sourced. Volunteers to carry out maintenance work on existing timber noticeboards to be sought in coming months.

7. Public Questions

7.1 Control of Invasive Species – Rhododendron Ponticum

Rhododendron Ponticum is classified as an undesirable invasive species which destroys natural woodland. There is a co-ordinated work programme to clear Ponticum from the Glen. Bob Cornish reported that, with community support, Forestry Commission personnel will now identify and map the extent of infestation in the rest of the Appin area. The resulting map will form the basis of any funding application the community makes to facilitate a clearing programme.

7.2 Community Hydro Scheme

Bob Cornish provided an update: three options for a community hydro scheme are being considered with feedback in October from a feasibility study which is currently going to tender.

7.3 Oban Parking

It was noted that parking policy in Oban is on the Agenda for the Area Committee Meeting on 10 June. Concerns were expressed that proposed changes would be problematic for local residents who commute to Oban by car for work and require all day parking. Cllr Robertson would take the point raised to the ACM.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next Community Council meeting is on 10 September 2015 at 7.30pm in **Port Appin** Village Hall.