

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 24 April 2014 at 7.30pm in Appin Village Hall

Present: Alison MacCorquodale, David Craig, Linda MacLeod, Jane Parkin, Paul Zvegintzor, Councillor Elaine Robertson, Elaine Venters and 5 members of the public.

**1. Apologies:** Councillor Louise Glen-Lee

**2. Minutes of the last meeting** (30/1/14) were approved and signed.

### **3. Matters Arising**

#### 3.1 A828 Trunk Road

Re-surfacing work on A828/A85 at Bealach an Rìgh is scheduled for the nights of 11 -13 May 2014 between the Corran Halls roundabout and the King Knoll Hotel, Oban. There will be a convoy system in operation on the nights of 11 & 12 May (8pm to 6am) and the road will be closed overnight on 13 May.

Roadworks are also scheduled on Dunollie Road between 8pm and 6am on Wednesday 14 May, Thursday 15 May and Sunday 19 May. Road will be closed with diversion in place. Information updates on Traffic Scotland website at [www.trafficscotland.org](http://www.trafficscotland.org)

It was reported that there is a sizeable pothole at the white line of the junction at Gunns Garage onto the A828

#### 3.2 School Transport/Public Transport

Nothing to report

#### 3.3 Port Appin and other Council roads

>It was reported that there is on-going flooding of the road in front of Fairfield, near the Surgery in Port Appin. A Roads Department inspection over two months ago has yet to result in action to rectify. Concern was expressed that the flooding problem could be exacerbated by the planned construction of the new Scottish Water septic tank site lay-by directly opposite. Letter to go to the Roads Department.

>The road surface up Glen Creran (before Invercreran House) is breaking up possibly due to the number of forestry lorries using the road causing the road surface to deteriorate and potholes are emerging. Letter to go to Roads Department.

>Parking at Creagan Bridge roundabout – further to issue raised at last meeting, ownership of the land in question needs to be established – Chair to follow up with Cnoc Lodge. Cllr Robertson confirmed that it is unlikely that any A&B Roads Dept funding would be available to carry out the work but Breedon Aggregates could possibly be approached for scalping/hardcore.

#### 3.4 Port Appin Water

Cllr Robertson reported that revised plans for the Port Appin septic tank and outfall are with the A&B Planning Dept and the planners are much happier with Scottish Water's (SW) revised proposal as are the community. Cllr Robertson congratulated the local community on their efforts to bring about a re-routing of the outfall pipe and welcomed SW's co-operation and willingness to listen to the concerns of the community. Roger Evans subsequently asked SW if other private outfall pipes along the shoreline can be connected to the new outfall pipe but SW has said this is not possible as the quality of the outfall from these private pipes cannot be guaranteed. Roger also asked SW about installing a perch on the headwall to alert craft on the water to the headwall's presence.

Water leaks on main road and Inverfolla to North Shian road – work on-going to locate.

### 3.5 Broadband

Bob Cornish gave an update on the Broadband Project. The report on Appin/Lismore's broadband was completed and submitted to Community Broadband Scotland (CBS) and Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE). Bob has also spoken to Jerry Wilson, A&B IT Dept regarding broadband and mobile phone coverage.

Further to a meeting with Stuart Robertson at HIE where the Broadband Project report was reviewed, HIE confirmed it would re-visit the BT fibre optic broadband plan with BT. HIE and CBS have subsequently confirmed that BT will include Appin in the Plan by extending the planned fibre optic cabling north from Barcaldine and south from Duror. However not all Appin households will be included – postcodes included in the BT Plan will be confirmed by the end of 2014 once BT has carried out a technical survey.

CBS has set up an Argyll & Island project group to address the issues of the postcodes not included in the BT Plan. Bob Cornish is on this committee. The project has three phases:

>Phase 1 is Mull & Colonsay – the contract is currently out to tender.

>Phase 2 is Luing, Lismore, Jura, Craignish and Islay – a scoping report is currently being undertaken (Lismore already completed in Bob's original report)

>Phase 3 is the Appin households not included in the BT Plan - postcodes in this phase will be known by the end of 2014. Bob confirmed that CBS have already approved this Phase 3 and funding is in place.

### **4. Correspondence**

Jane Parkin has volunteered to look after Community Council correspondence and has therefore been working her way through the correspondence received in the last few months. A full report will be available at the next meeting.

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer reported that the Community Council account balance is £3096. Recent payment has been made for the hosting and maintenance of the Community Council's website.

It was noted that the War Memorial wreath will be ordered in August and the on-going management and development of the website will be discussed at meeting of the Committee – date to be confirmed. Mary Gregory's offer of assistance re: website was noted.

### **6. Any Other Competent Business**

6.1 Clach Thoul – nothing further to report – remove from agenda.

6.2 Dangerous Tree at Portnacroish (on-going)

Cllr Robertson reported that further to the Roads Dept writing to the land owner Mr Wallace and receiving no response, the matter is in the hands of A&B Legal Dept who are writing to Mr Wallace to explain his responsibility to remove the tree and his liability regarding the dangerous tree causing potential damage to nearby properties should the tree fall.

6.3 Emergency Plan (on-going)

Paul has produced a first draft plan which will be reviewed by the Committee at a meeting in the near future. It was stated that time was of the essence to submit the plan in the hope of securing 2 emergency kit bags (numbers available are limited). It was agreed that an outline plan is submitted to the Community Resilience Project as soon as practicable, with a view to finalising the report by end of May 2014.

6.4 Debris on shore near Creagan Inn (on-going)

A further email will be sent to Crown Estates to request removal of the debris.

6.5 Safer Routes to School

£22,000 funding has just been awarded to upgrade the path between Kirkton and the school under the Safer Routes to School initiative. Cllr Robertson is to confirm the next stage and when the work will start.

## 6.6 Recycling Scheme

Cllr Robertson advised that the Recycling Scheme will now start in autumn 2014.

## **7. Public Questions**

### 7.1 Jubilee Bridge

It was noted that the off-set barriers have now been installed on the cycle track on the section from Jubilee Bridge where the track meets the Port Appin road. A question was raised as to why some of the wooden upright posts (with metal caps) on the Jubilee Bridge have not been replaced as the wood underneath the metal caps is completely rotten. Chair to raise with Mike Rayworth.

### 7.2 Queen's Baton in Appin

A question was asked as to whether there were any events planned for when the Queen's Baton passes through Appin. It was confirmed that a Fun Day and Breakfast in the school is being organised with Active Schools funding on Sunday 13 July – two local people are involved in carrying the baton. A local meeting of the Parent Council and staff is planned to discuss final arrangements.

### 7.3 Information from Cllr Robertson.

Cllr Robertson reported that parking fees come back into force in Oban on 12 May 2014.

A new model of care in the community called 'Re-shaping Care for Older People' is being developed by the Scottish Government. Presentations and Q&A sessions are being offered to communities throughout Argyll & Bute. The Committee is to confirm if it would like a presentation to be made to the Community – perhaps to coincide with the next meeting.

There is an event in Oban on Saturday 20 September to commemorate World War I – the event will include a parade and a Royal Navy ship in the bay.

A report has been prepared for COSLA which looks at strengthening the role/powers of the community.

Help with petrol costs – no update available.

Litter dropping – fines increased to £80 if a person is seen dropping litter.

Appin House Lay-by bins - The issue of litter, overflowing bins and unsecured bins at Appin House lay-by was raised. Paul to email Cllr Robertson with previous correspondence on the issue.

## **8. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting and AGM is on 5 June 2014 at 7.30pm in Appin Village Hall.