

ARDCHATTAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting held in North Connel Hall 18th January 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Margaret Adams (Convenor), Tim McIntyre (Secretary), Anne Hilditch (Treasurer), Colin Morrison (CC), Breege Smyth (CC), Tony Dalgaty (CC), John Campbell (CC), Jill Bowis (CC), Lachie Strathern (CC), Robin Dodman (CC); Cllr Elaine Robertson; 4 members of the public; Cllrs Kieron Green & Andrew Vennard from 8.45pm

1. **Apologies:** Ashley Stones (CC); Ronnie Campbell (CC), Sian Griffiths (CC), PC Stuart Johnstone;

Margaret paid a brief tribute to Geoff Miller, CC vice-convenor, who sadly passed away just a few days previously after a short illness. Geoff has a long record of service to the community council and will be greatly missed by us all.

2. **Declarations of interest:** none
3. **Minutes of previous meeting:** held in Barcaldine Primary School on 16th November were approved.
4. **Police report:** PC Johnstone arrived at the meeting but unfortunately was called away before it started. He provided a report detailing current routine issues. In respect of the comment on the minutes of the previous meeting, on accident investigation equipment, it had been clarified that although some equipment **is** available in Argyll, additional resources, both of trained investigation personnel and other types of equipment, may need to be brought in from outside depending on the particular circumstances.
5. **Matters Arising: Ardchattan School:** Elaine: report going to Community Services committee in March mentioning the school, which needs to be formally closed before the building could be considered for release as an asset.
6. **Hydro Schemes on Loch Etive:** Some members of ACC attended a presentation at Taynuilt CC meeting on the development of 3 hydro schemes up Loch Etive. Bulk of construction traffic will use the Bonawe road, then either use the track or a barge from Bonawe Quarry and transport heavy items by sea. The road to Barrs will be upgraded to some degree. Some concerns about environmental damage to the walk route up the loch. There will be some community benefit funding available from the schemes once they are generating.
7. **Recycling Area & Viewpoint:** Lewis Morrison provided a report & photos. Suggestion that some signage may be appropriate. Breege will have a look at this and suggested painting some 'watching eyes'. Community Council thanks Lewis, again, for his on-going efforts with the recycling area. Discussion about benches at Viewpoint which need treating – Margaret will speak to John Gilchrist to enquire about benches being taken away for fettling by Community Payback who have indoor facilities in Oban.
8. **Roads:** A85 road through Connel will be resurfaced in February, entailing some overnight closures. Work also to start on A828 shortly at South Creagan with single-file traffic for around 10 weeks to widen & improve safety barriers. Electrical works on Connel Bridge – closures for 5 nights from 21st January. Tralee Road – work is ongoing on flood alleviation at the end of the straight, and a short extension to the footpath. There is currently no indication on when the surface will be repaired. Elaine said that the roads department is facing extreme budgetary pressure and large demand for road repairs from all the local areas. Lack of preventive maintenance, e.g. to drainage, is making problems worse. Elaine asked for plan/timetable of works if possible & will follow up. DJ Barr asked for follow up of speed-measuring equipment supposedly coming from Kilmelford.
9. **Community Plan:** Breege – applying for funding from the Council of around £3k to run Community Engagement events to get community's ideas. Money will pay for facilitators & survey etc. Key initial question will be: How do we see our area in 10 years' time? This can

then be turned into a Plan. The Community Councillors present voted unanimously in favour of committing £1,000 to this exercise. Proposed: Anne; Seconded: Colin

10. Formation of Community Trust: Margaret asked for volunteers to look into the details of setting up a Community Trust. Campbell suggested contacting Mull & Iona Community Trust for information/support.

11. Treasurer's report:-

Overall opening balance as at 16th November 2017 **2,140.98**

Opening bal. General Fund **2,140.98**

plus: £1,800.00 defibrillator grant

plus: £ 633.60 grant A & BC inc. discretionary

Overall closing balance as at 18th January 2018 **4,574.58**

12. Secretary's Report: correspondence since last meeting:-

02/12: Revised Scheme of Establishment of CCs to go out for 2nd consultation on 8th Dec.

04/12: ACHA – happy to accommodate defibrillator at Ford Spence Court

09/12: Request from Mr Barron to raise Tralee Road surface condition with Council

09/12: Green Highland Renewables pre-application info on Loch Etive hydro schemes

10/12: Mr Mattison – comments on the draft MIR regarding site at Culcharron

12/12: Overnight maintenance closures of Connel Bridge 5 nights from 21st January

13/12: Update on Forestry Commission plans for Barcaldine & felling at Barrs/Cadderlie

13/12: Marine Scotland – proposal for enlarged slipway at Dundonald

04/01: Next CPG meeting 14th February 2pm Corran Halls

16/01: Update from Lewis Morrison on Recycling Centre & Viewpoint

13. Health matters: Tony has met with ACHA and agreed a location for the defibrillator on the outside of Ford Spence Court building. ACHA will kindly install and connect the box on our behalf. The location for the next unit was discussed and Barcaldine Primary School suggested. However it was agreed to first ask Scottish Sea Farms if they may be willing to provide some funding towards this. It is also intended to provide a unit for North Connel.

14. Planning: no current issues

15. AOB: Lachie raised again the outstanding sum for materials at the Victory carpark – Lochnell PC were contacted following the last meeting, but had not replied. **Colin:** asked if there was any recent update from Sustrans – none that we have received. Elaine said that she was aware that negotiations are ongoing but has no details. **John** attended the Water Rescue day recently and reported that it had been a very interesting demonstration of all the equipment used by the emergency services. **DJ** is waiting on the parent council to get a response from Transport Scotland vis-à-vis the school crossing safety issues.

16. Next meeting: Victory Hall 1st March 2018

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:35pm

If you would like to contact the Community Council, please write, email or telephone:-

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ALL COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC