

ARDCHATTAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Notes of informal online meeting 22nd October 2020

Present: DJ Barr (CC Convenor), Tim McIntyre (CC Acting Secretary), Caroline Campbell (CC Treasurer), Margaret Adams (CC), Breege Smyth (CC), Colin Morrison (CC), Robin Dodman (CC), Tony Dalgaty (CC), John Campbell (CC); Eilidh Orr (Community Support Co-ordinator); Cllrs Elaine Robertson and Kieron Green

Apologies: David Kearns (CC)

Welcome: DJ welcomed CC members & councillors to the online meeting, and on behalf of the Community Council thanked Margaret Adams for her 9 years of service as a member of Ardchattan CC, including eight years as Convenor. Margaret & her husband have recently moved away from the area and so she has stood down from the CC.

- 1. Breedons:** a recent meeting of the liaison committee went well, but there is disappointment at the continuing unplanned night works and associated late vehicle movements on the Bonawe Road. Councillors to check into current status of planning conditions & any applications for extended night works.
- 2. Gilly's Path:** Colin indicated that there were volunteers willing to help with works to clear the path and the CC has agreed in the past to make a contribution to the costs of e.g. equipment hire for this. Elaine has also spoken to Community Payback but due to current Covid restrictions relating to transport they are not able to assist at present.
- 3. Covid Community Support Project:** Eilidh gave an update on the project, which concluded at the end of September, detailing all the work done, equipment provided to groups & organisations throughout the community, and support given to individual members of the community. In addition to the funding secured from HIE, a donation was gratefully received from the Masonic Lodge which was used to fund the provision of 24 fish suppers to vulnerable members of the community in late September. DJ thanked Eilidh & Caroline on behalf of the CC for the very substantial amount of work involved in setting up & administering the project. Further funding is still available if required for support later, and may be used with HIE's agreement for a recovery fund in due course.
- 4. Post Box at Bonawe:** David Kearns advised that the post box at Bonawe had been removed after suffering damage in an accident, and had not been replaced. Tim to contact Royal Mail for an update. It was noted that post boxes cannot be permanently removed without community consultation
- 5. Community Defibrillators:** Tony advised that the newly installed defibrillator in Barcaldine has been commissioned, meaning that all four CC defibrillators are now operational, with thanks to Forest & Land Scotland for agreeing to have the Barcaldine unit located on their building. There will be an ongoing minor maintenance requirement as batteries & pads need renewing from time to time. The Bonawe defibrillator was recently used in an emergency situation and is understood to have contributed greatly to saving the patient's life. Training sessions can take place once Covid restrictions are lifted, and in the mean time a DVD is available for loan, and there are also online resources on the British Heart Foundation website which is linked to by the CC Facebook page. The community council thanks Tony for all his hard work in securing funding and organising installation of the four units throughout the CC area.
- 6. Community Council By-Election:** In the recent CC by-election, co-opted members DJ Barr, Caroline Campbell and John Campbell have been elected unopposed as full members. Margaret Adams has resigned, and Willie Barnett has stood down as a co-opted member.
- 7. Going forward – what are other CCs doing?:** Councillors advised that Oban CC has been having a more formal online meeting system since June. However, the smaller community

councils are mostly meeting informally and there is no current provision of any specific guidance from the Council on formal CC meeting procedures pending the resumption of in-person meetings when possible.

8. **AOB: Colin** asked about the planning status of an ‘unofficial’ breakers yard which has appeared next to Connel Airfield. Kieron advised that the Council was dealing with this. **Elaine** advised that the Boundary Commission will be issuing new proposals for consultation shortly. The proposal is to divide Oban, Lorn & the Isles into three new wards, as opposed to two at present. The overall number of councillors (8) will not change. This will also be discussed at the Community Planning online meeting on 11th November. **Caroline** advised that the CC General Fund currently stands at £3,964.88. All the funding for the Community Support project was utilised except £63 which was returned at the end of September. **Robin** reminded the CC that the new noticeboard which the CC purchased for North Connel still needs to be installed. DJ will look into options for this. **DJ** gave an update on the school crossing works which will be done in 2 stages; road painting & pavement improvements. There may be a request to the CC in due course for assistance with purchase of Hi-Viz vests for pupils.

It was agreed to hold a further online meeting on Thursday 3rd December 2020 at 6.30pm. Invite and code to be sent out nearer the time.