

ARDCHATTAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in Ardchattan Centre, Bonawe on 12th May 2022

Present: DJ Barr (CC Acting Convenor), Caroline Campbell (CC Treasurer), Gerry Boyle (CC), Ali Martin (CC), Elaine Munro (CC), Diane MacLean (CC); Cllrs Kieron Green, Julie McKenzie & Luna Martin; and 14 members of the community.

1. **Apologies:** Breege Smyth (CC), Robin Dodman (CC), Tim McIntyre (CC), Cllr Andrew Vennard, Paul Nicol (The Estates Office)
2. **Declarations of Interest:** none
3. **Minutes of previous online meeting, 10th March 2022, previously circulated:** were approved.
4. **Council Election Results:** Council election results for Ward 5 were noted. Congratulations were passed to the three councillors present at the meeting and also to Andrew Vennard, on their election / re-election.
5. **Matters Arising:** none
6. **Bonawe Deer Management:**
 - DJ read out a letter received by the CC via The Estates Office, from Charlie Boyd, stalker for the estate.
 - Concerns re: discharge of firearms so close to the village/houses was expressed strongly.
 - The assertion that the dead deer was malnourished was questioned.
 - There was a request for the estate's deer management plan to be made available
 - Comments were made re: shots being heard by resident(s) over several nights
 - A question was raised as to whether Nature Scot should be involved as one of the reasons there were so many deer was the effect of management of a local SSSI
 - It was noted that the promised attendance at the meeting of Police Scotland had not happened.
 - Cllr Julie McKenzie indicated her willingness to continue investigating this incident
7. **School Crossing Update, Lochnell PS:** DJ provided an update on the civil works ongoing to improve the crossing, and that approaches had been made to have a speed survey done on the A828 at the location, now that the traffic calming measures are in place. There was general discussion regarding speed/warning signage around all the schools north of Connel Bridge. Kieron offered to check up on the reported 'non-working' warning light system at Barcaldine PS.
8. **Culcharron Quarry Liaison:** DJ had attended a good meeting in May, the first of the new liaison arrangement with Culcharron. The operators had offered to provide resources for local community projects, and a floodlight within the quarry was to be re-positioned to reduce its visibility.
9. **Breedons Ex-sandpit at Airport:** Complaints had been received regarding unauthorised extraction at the former sandpit. It was confirmed that person(s) unknown had taken material from the quarry. This had interfered with the Sand Martin nesting grounds. Breedon have agreed to reinstate to the position where they had left it, after the breeding season ends.
10. **Benderloch Cycle Shelter:** There was a proposal to site a cycle shelter at the Victory Hall car park. This would be used by OHS pupils who were being encouraged to cycle to the bus stop but had nowhere to leave their bikes.
 - Query as to whether A & B Council as landowner would allow the use of the land for this purpose.
 - Discussion as to whether this would require Planning or other consents
 - A local parent was investigating funding options.
11. **Hydro Funding Income:** It was confirmed that Ardchattan CC would receive £10k per annum from Barrs Hydro scheme. DJ advised that the CC would meet in committee to agree

recommended parameters for spending of these monies. These recommendations would be brought to a future CC meeting for approval.

12. **Treasurer's Report:** current balance at bank is £13,462.06 which includes the first Hydro funding income received in late April
13. **Secretary's Report:** no report available
14. **Planning:** no relevant items
15. **AOB:** A request was made for a **hearing loop** or equivalent/portable option to be provided for CC meetings; **War Memorial** was discussed re: funding, siting, materials; **Turning Circle:** a continuing area of interest/concern. Discussion centred around use of tar planings to fill pot-holes, and also the possibility of acquiring ownership as previously discussed some years ago. Cllr Julie McKenzie indicated she would be willing to help take this forward and requested copies of past correspondence; **Area Ranger:** there was discussion re: ability of CC to employ anyone; **Roadside Scrub:** Clarification that if it is not interfering with sight lines or causing other danger, then it is regarded as 'habitat'. **CC elections:** Notice of election for new CC will be posted from August 2022
16. **Next Meeting & AGM:** 23rd June, venue to be decided nearer the time.