

Craignish Community Council
Minutes of Meeting held in Craignish Village Hall
Wednesday 11th January 2006

(Draft)

Present

Lix Armstrong (Vice Chair)

Colin Smith (Treasurer)

Mary Smyth (Secretary)

George Bevan

Don Phillips

Sandy Ritchie

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from the Chairman Sandy MacKilligin. In the absence of the Chairman the meeting was chaired by the Vice Chairman Lix Armstrong

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2005 were signed as a true record.

3. Matters arising

3.01 There are still no results from SEPA from the testing of the Mill Burn. The secretary will continue to chase for a report and action plan.

3.02 A & B Council is unable to help with the cost of removing abandoned cars. George Bevan is investigating someone from Glasgow who will remove cars for £30. Once Sandy MacKilligin has prepared the list of all abandoned cars, any owners known can be contacted and asked to remove them, however it is probable that in most cases the owner is unknown.

3.03 It is understood that the planning application for 5 houses on the Soroba Road has been refused. The Secretary has again requested that her name be added to the weekly e-mail list of planning applications. Because of the need to respond to planning applications within 14 days and because Community Council meetings are only held every 2 months, Colin Smith suggested that a planning sub-committee was formed which would meet weekly or fortnightly. However it was felt that before the Community Council responded to a planning application the whole council should be consulted for their views, and it was agreed that this could happen by telephone.

3.04 The Road-end has been sprayed for butterbur, but it will be March before we know if this has been effective. The area will be levelled in April/Mar and reseeded. It was pointed out that the grass will need cutting every 2 weeks in the summer and a volunteer will be needed to do this. A and B Council has completed work on the lay-by. The timber for the notice-board is almost ready to be used, and the project should be complete by mid 2006. The cost is expected to be £700 plus the cost of the notice-boards. Mr Bevan Snr is working on a map for the notice-boards, which is a visual representation of the peninsula rather than a proper map. A draft is almost complete, and it is hoped that this can be viewed at the next meeting. Lix will check with Lorna Elliot of WHELK that the grant for the Road-end is still valid.

3.05 There has been no progress on the Glebe Housing Project. The Secretary wrote to George Lyon and Jamie McGrigor and has had acknowledgement from both. Alison Hay was following up the prospect of a meeting between Scottish Water and George Lyon but was not present to detail any progress. The Secretary will contact her before next meeting.

3.06 It was noted that following the Health Board re-organisation the Craignish area will become part of NHS Highland from 1st April 2006.

3.07 There is still no formal approval of the pre-school in the village hall, so lobbying for a footpath between the school and the hall is on hold.

3.08 The hole between Two trees and Otters has been filled in, however there is a new large hole by Traighmhor. Secretary will write to Roads Dept.

3.09 Colin Smith will pursue the possibility of the Community Council going on a commercial Community Councils' website. This is free if we allow any advertising on our site and £83 if we sell advertising space to local businesses.

4. Planning

There are no planning applications to report.

5. Secretary's Report

5.01 The Secretary attended a meeting of the Mid-Argyll Partnership, which is a meeting of representatives from Community Councils in Mid-Argyll, local councillors and representatives from Scottish Water, Forestry Commission, Roads Department and other bodies. Scottish Water reported that by January/February of 2006 they will have drawn up their list of priorities and be able to report on their plans for mid Argyll for the next 8 years. The Roads Department reported that there was no budget to provide 20's Plenty signs for outside Craignish School. Alison Hay agreed to follow this up with the Roads Dept. They also reported that there was no budget for the lay-by at the school, however this has now been completed.

5.02 A questionnaire has been received from Strathclyde Police as part of their annual public consultation process. This questionnaire is designed to be filled in by individuals rather than an organisation. The Secretary will ask for an email copy of the questionnaire and send it to the Council's distribution list so that anyone who wants can fill it in. 5.03. Argyll and Bute Council has sent out a Transport Survey to help formulate its Local Transport Strategy. This survey requires a response from the Community Council by February. The Secretary will email details of the survey to everyone on the email list and ask for input which will be edited into the Council's response.

5.04 There is a 'Meet the Funders' Roadshow coming to Lochgilphead Community Centre on 3rd March. There will be representatives from the Big Lottery Fund, Argyll and The Isles Enterprise, Argyll and Bute Council and others. The Secretary will ensure that Craignish Community Company has details of this event.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that there was £847.22 in the Council's account of which £463.68 was for the road-end and £383.54 is the Council's funds.

7. Chairman's Report

In the absence of the Chairman there was no Chairman's Report

8. What can we do to help Community Councils fulfil their role

A discussion paper from the Scottish Executive 'What can we do to help Community Councils fulfil their role' has been received. Input is requested from the Community Council to a range of questions such as the need for Councils to have insurance, training for councillors and other issues. The document has been sent to Community Councils and also to local authorities and many of the questions are aimed at local authorities to find out how Community Councils are operating in their area. The Secretary will draft a response of behalf of the Council.

9. Any Other Business

9.01 9.01 Residents in Craobh Haven were told several months ago that their water is not fit for human consumption and should be boiled before drinking. It is a private supply, however the Secretary will write to find out when the situation will be rectified.

9.02 9.02 The dates of meetings for the rest of the year were agreed so that the hall could be booked in advance. These are 1st March, 3rd May, 5th July, 6th September and 1st November.

10 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 1st March 2006 at 8pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further Council business the meeting closed and was opened for public discussion.

Public Discussion

Val Smith mentioned a water leak outside Alastair Milton's house, which in icy weather will become very dangerous. The Secretary will write to Scottish Water.

An abandoned car on the road to Ardlarach chalets was mentioned as a particular environmental hazard. Phil Springthorpe has spoken to the council and written to MSPs about it but so far with no success. It was repeated that because it is on private land it is the landowner's responsibility to move it if the owner cannot be traced. This car will be included on the list that is being compiled and hopefully dealt with when a solution is found to the overall problem.

THESE MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING