

Craignish Community Council
Minutes of Meeting held in Craignish Village Hall
Wednesday 6th September 2006
(DRAFT)

Present

Lix Armstrong (Chair)
Colin Smith (Treasurer)
George Bevan
Don Phillips

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mary Smyth, Sandy MacKilligin, Sandy Ritchie and Councillor Alison Hay

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th July were signed as a true record.

3. Matters arising

3.01 George Bevan reported that there had been a large collection of abandoned cars collected within the last month. Five or six had already been removed by an Oban firm. The firm had now disappeared. George has managed to enlist a chap from Fife to collect. Nine have now gone, three of which were from Lunga Estate. Two lorries will be running this week to clear the rest before this Saturday. Unfortunately this firm will not take tyres for free and this remains a disposal problem. Two cars remain parked in a passing place on Ardlarach Road. George had approached the owner of 1 vehicle and has requested it be removed.

3.02 The website has been crosslinked to the Village Hall.

3.03 Lix Armstrong has sent a letter to Kip Marina re the Notice Board at the shop at Craobh. A response is awaited. There are no figures yet for construction of the Notice Boards as he is waiting for Kip's response. Lix will now put a time limit on Kip to progress this issue as quickly as possible. By November's meeting we must have concrete costs, timescales and action plan. Lix will speak to Colin Clarke about timescale for flattening the ground at the Road End. The Secretary has not yet spoken to the planners re permission for boards at road end but will do so asap. The road end must be a priority and needs to be finalised.

3.04 Three members of the Community Council attended Lochgilphead Police Station during August with regard to road safety in Ardern. They spoke to Inspector Dearie who had similar concerns as the local councillors. The Inspector said that issues in Ardern were taking up too much of his officers time and resources. There is now a line of communication in place between the Community Council and Lochgilphead Police Station who will welcome any support in reducing safety issues in the area.

3.05 It is thought that Bob Goudie has been attending to Japanese Knotweed. Lix will check progress with him.

4. Planning

4.1 The planning application from Kip Marina has been withdrawn. They agreed with concerns that it was not in keeping with existing buildings and dwellings. They have agreed to keep the Community Council informed of their intentions. 1 new planning application has been submitted from Mr Edwards on land east of Craignish Lodge. This is actually land west of Craignish Lodge. Colin Smith did not have the plan to hand but having seen it had no personal concerns. There was only 1 comment from the floor re east not west.

4.2 The revised local plan has been issued. The Glebe has still not been zoned as one PDA and Council once again asked that this be done. Other modifications include an area at Barrichybeyan for up to 6 low cost cabin homes. Also the area on the shore side of the B8002 has been rezoned as not for development. This was a cartographic error. There will be an opportunity Feb/Mar next year to go into discussion with the local authority in greater detail between the planners and interested parties such as the CC.

4.3 Regarding the retrospective planning application at Craobh. The Community Council has sent a letter of concern but as yet has had no response.

5. Secretary's Report

5.01 A document outlining how councillors will be elected to Argyll and Bute Council in the next election in May 2007 has been received. There will be multi member wards using the Single Transferable Vote (STV). Maps of the Wards and more information can be found on the Argyll & Bute website. It is recommended that community councillors read the report.

5.02 A set of objectives for the Local Transport Strategy have now been developed and a copy is available if anyone wishes to read it.

5.03 The Community Council are to write to the Village Hall Committee to ask if documents such as the Local Transport Strategy etc. could be kept somewhere in the hall for local people to view.

6. Treasurer's Report

Balance stands at £1219.35. Community Council funds are £722.67 and Road End project funds are £496.68. Only movement since last meeting has been hall charges and a small amount of interest.

7. Chairman's Report

7.01 The Chairman reported that there is a road closure planned for this Friday 10-4 and again Sunday 10-4 for 2 weeks for repairs to the wall up from the Ford turn off. No funding is in place for re-structure of the road. Argyll & Bute Council are trying to obtain funds from the Scottish Executive. Colin Smith suggested that we make a representation of our concerns for this part of the road to be raised at the next Community Council Association meeting where we have already submitted a question re infrastructure in the Craignish area. This was agreed.

7.02 Lix had received a letter about the Lunga housing situation. Residents have met with Argyll Housing Association to discuss options on low cost/affordable housing. A few options were already discussed such as self build projects, private funding sources and formation of a housing association. Stumbling blocks are appropriate land and support from local authorities. Chrissie Sugden wishes to get residents of Lunga to form a self build group. Don will ask them to keep us informed of any developments that may or may not happen.

7.03 The Association of Argyll & Bute Council's and Rural Development are a voluntary organisation looking at a greater understanding of Scotland's Rural Communities. They are looking for people to join in their discussions. It was agreed that we should inform the Community Company about this. Don took this on board.

8. Environmental Issues

8.1 Sandy MacKilligin had met with the Environmental Protection Officer and another from SEPA on 22nd August to inspect Mill Burn. Raw sewerage had been observed at the head of the lagoon on an earlier visit and they would look at conditions there again and test the water both there and at the head of Loch Craignish. A report is awaited.

8.2 There has been an increase in Fly Posting in the area. It was stressed that they must be removed post the event.

8.3 Litter remains a problem. Perhaps the Primary School could be a start on re-education, bin your litter.

8.4 Dog fouling in local gardens is offensive. Loose dogs roaming the village does not help

8.5 Fernhill Stone had mounted an advertising board at the road end. This is subject to Planning Permission. Colin Smith will ring Fernhill Stone and ask for its removal.

8.6 On the track half way down Craobh Road the gate has been damaged and removed. Lix Armstrong will inform Iain MacLean.

9. Road End

This has been covered under matters arising.

10. Planning Sub-Committee

At present when plans are submitted the Community Council only has a 7 days notification period and 14 days within which to respond. Currently Community Council cannot lodge concerns or otherwise without holding a public meeting. This requires 12 days notice. A sub-committee could meet on an ad-hoc, when required basis to review planning applications and submit draft comments to all local councillors. Although the Chairman raised concerns re openness it was agreed to form a sub-committee and post comments to the current e-mail list. However, should an individual wish to comment on a planning issue they must follow the normal procedure and write direct to the Council.

11. Mid Argyll Partnership Meeting

Mary Smyth and Colin Smith attended the above meeting on 22nd August. Some road repairs have been done. There is no money for 20 plenty signs. Colin Smith raised concern that as the community was growing rapidly it was imperative that something was done to slow the movement of traffic through the village particularly past the Primary School.

12. Any Other Business

Sandy attended the Mid Argyll Public Partnership Forum on 14th August. The NHS staff failed to convince him or the others present that the PPF was likely to be a truly consultative body in the light of the evidence presented, and certainly not a representative one judging by the attendance. The meeting was short and ended with the understanding that the NHS would over the winter months endeavour to make presentations to the Mid Argyll Community Councils and other interested bodies in order to convince us that the PPF would be truly consultative and seek our co-operation. It was agreed to leave this Forum in Sandy's safe hands.

Footpath from Hall to School

The funding for a footpath needs to be pursued.

Scottish Water

A detailed plan on investment for Argyll is due within 1 month. We hope Craignish is included in this plan.

Graffiti

Offensive remarks were left on the side wall of the Galley of Lorne last week. We need to try and influence individuals that this type of behaviour is unacceptable and certainly not smart.

Paper Collection

Julia Randall has asked us to complain about the paper collection service which is very erratic.

13. Date of Next Meeting

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

There being no further Council business the meeting closed.

Public Discussion Rosemary Dagleish asked what the likelihood of an increase was in the public water supply. Scottish Water has already reported that there is no more water at present. Hopefully when the review which is planned for Argyll comes out Ardfern will be a target area. Watch this space. The Minister attended a Rural Housing Conference which intends to make ½ million connections in 2 years. Mairi Thornhill stated it would be unfair to burden the new head teacher in a new position in a new school term with litter problems. Perhaps we should target the High School Children first. One main area of concern is between the School House and the Fire Station. George Bevan saw no reason why a litter bin could not be placed at the entrance to the fire station and would seek to obtain a 'Posh' bin in the near future. Emptying the bin is not an issue.

THESE MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING