

**Craignish Community Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting held in Craignish Village Hall**  
**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2007**

**Present**

George Bevan (Chair)  
Don Phillips (Vice Chair)  
Colin Smith (Treasurer)  
Mary Smyth (Secretary)  
Simon Bevan  
Sandy MacKilligin  
Sandy Ritchie (part)

Also in attendance were Councillors Alison Hay, Dougie Philand, Donnie MacMillan and 15 members of the community.

1. **Apologies for absence**  
There were apologies for absence from Jenny England, Chair of the Community Company.
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2007 were signed as a true record.
3. **Matters Arising**
  - 3.01 The planning application for houses behind the Galley of Lorne was discussed at the A and B Council Area Committee today, with a recommendation from the Planning department for refusal. Owing to the number of representations there will be a local hearing on the 16<sup>th</sup> January, probably in the Village Hall. Members of the community will be able to speak at this hearing if they register a wish to speak at the beginning of the hearing. Because of the numbers not everyone who made a representation will be able to speak and it is advised that those with similar views elect a spokesperson. Having made representation a Community Councillor will present the Community Council's view. The meeting will be chaired by Councillor Donnie MacMillan and a decision will be made on the day.
  - 3.02 Councillor Hay has followed up the Mill Burn issue with SEPA but has had no response. She will continue to pursue.
  - 3.03 In response to the Community Council's representation about over-crowding at the school, a letter has been received from A and B Community Services saying that they are reviewing the entire school estate. Colin Smith will draft a reply, outlining the possible availability of an alternative site for the school and asking that it be taken into consideration.
  - 3.04 Simon Bevan is waiting for wood for the seat by the Crafty Kitchen
  - 3.05 There is an appeal against the enforcement order for the removal of the caravans at Corranbeag Steading.
  - 3.06 The planning application for the widening of the mouth of the Corranbeag track has been approved. The points raised by the Community Council re drainage and preservation of the dyke are conditions of the approval.
  - 3.07 George Bevan has still to liaise with Sandy Ritchie over the moving of the ladder sign at the south side of the Road-end.
  - 3.08 George Bevan has spoken to David Wilkie about the wintering of large yachts in the new parking area. The Marina is still working out the best usage of the new space, and is also having to utilise the space while repairs are made to the pontoons. George will monitor and continue dialogue with the Marina.
  - 3.09 It was reported at the recent MAP meeting that Scottish Water was holding a meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> November at which Ardfern would be on the agenda. Mary Smyth will contact Scottish Water to see what was decided.

- 3.10 Colin Smith thanked Mary Smyth for organising and other councillors who attended the road-end tidy up. All agreed it is looking much improved.
- 3.11 No further information on the hand.
- 3.12 The Crafty Kitchen has agreed to tidy the Millennium Garden when it is tidying its own garden.

#### 4. **Planning**

- 4.01 The Planning Subcommittee met or consulted on six planning applications since the last meeting:
  - A non-material amendment to an existing permission at the Lord of the Isles.
  - An application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for a dwelling at Buidhe View, Craobh Haven
  - An application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for a dwelling at Musgan, Lunga Estate
  - An application for outline planning permission for a house on land west of the Crafty Kitchen
  - A renewal of an existing permission at Triagnuanie
  - A non material amendment to planning permission at Caber Ri Creig, Craobh Haven
 The Community Council agreed to make no representation on any of these applications.
- 4.02 The Community Council received correspondence from Colin Lindsay-MacDougall about its submission to the Local Plan and other issues. Having considered the email and consulted with Planning Officers a response has been sent.

#### 5. **Secretary's Report**

- 5.01 Laura Neville has passed on an invoice in connection with the domain name craignishcommunitycouncil.org. Colin Smith will establish exactly what this is for and reimburse Laura.
- 5.02 A letter of thanks and a bottle of whisky were given to Liz MacInally in recognition of her years of work on the website and acknowledgment and thanks received.
- 5.03 A copy of Argyll and Bute Transport strategy 2007-2010 has been received and will be available for reference in the Hall. It has been pointed out by a member of the community that it is not possible to go from Ardfern to Glasgow for the day by public transport. A and B Councillors will look into this.
- 5.04 Argyll and Bute Council is holding a Development Management Forum for Community Councils on 14<sup>th</sup> February to discuss planning process and changes in legislation. Community Councillors will attend.

#### 6. **Treasurer's Report**

- 6.01 Road-end fund stands at nil. General Fund account stands at £684.48. Movements since last time are
 

Website transfer of domain name	£11.75
Gift for Liz MacInally	£28.95
Hall hire	£11.20
Interest received	£1.13

The invoice for the hire of hall for the Joint Housing meeting of £14.84 has been received.

#### 7. **Chairman's Report**

- 7.01 George has organised the removal of several scrap cars. There are still more to go, and 2 more have appeared at Craobh.
- 7.02 George has been asked if the Community Council would apply for licences for an event in the Hall, but it was agreed that the Community Council would not apply for a licence for an event that it had no control over.

## **8. Roads and Road-end**

- 8.01** A and B Council has done a pot-hole run on the road but some potholes are back already, the puddles at the side of the road are very bad, and dangerous for cyclists or pedestrians. Mary Smyth will have another conversation with the Roads Department.

## **9. Website**

All Councillors have seen Laura's design for the website and are enthusiastic about it. We will now start getting the words together. It was agreed that the website would carry links to local businesses.

Laura has agreed to carry out the on-going maintenance of the site. Although she has offered to do it gratis it was agreed that she should be paid an honorarium, which will be decided once the site is live.

## **10. Housing**

### **10.01** Joint Housing Meeting

A meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> November with the Community Council, the Community Company and the Kirk Session to discuss progress on various projects to deliver affordable housing. The Kirk Session reported that the Fyne Homes project has been delayed by Fyne Homes having to respond to EU regulations, and this was frustrating for everyone.

The Community Company have developed 4 models for affordable housing and this is outlined in their new newsletter. They are holding a public meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> January for everyone in need of housing, at which they will explain the 4 models and gauge support.

Jim Mather MSP has agreed to attend a meeting in Ardfern on 15<sup>th</sup> February, at which the current housing situation will be explained and the progress on finding solutions outlined. He will be asked to help with some specific issues for example water, sewage and a Local Letting Initiative. It was agreed that the meeting would be at 4pm. Mr Mather has suggested that local councillors, Scottish Water, SEPA, the Forestry Commission and any other bodies that may help are also invited. Further discussion of this was held over to the open session of the meeting.

- 10.02** The Community Council is preparing a housing policy statement, which will be ready for the Jim Mather meeting.

- 10.03** Colin Smith drew the meeting's attention to Communities Self-Build Scotland report on the housing situation in Craignish which can be found on their website, [www.selfbuild-scotland.org.uk/Projects](http://www.selfbuild-scotland.org.uk/Projects)

## **11. AOB**

- 11.01** Colin Smith reported that the Scottish Parliament has made funds available for the Campbeltown to Ballycastle ferry which may resume next year.

- 11.02** Colin Smith confirmed that any assets owned by the Community Council and used for Community Council business are covered by A and B Council's Public Liability Insurance, so the notice-boards are covered.

- 11.03** Colin Smith confirmed that because the Community Council is a not-for-profit organisation and as long as it operates within its constitution it does not need to register under the Data Protection Act. Also confirmed that list cannot be used for other than council business without a positive request from recipient.

## **12. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2008 in the Village Hall.

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

## Public Discussion

Val Smith asked if the meeting about the houses behind the Galley of Lone will be a public meeting. It was confirmed that it would be.

There was a lengthy discussion about the proposed meeting with Jim Mather. The feeling from the floor was that it must be open to the community to attend. It was agreed that there should be an opportunity for members of the community to put questions to Mr Mather at the end of the meeting.

Several members of the community expressed the view that Fyne Homes is not the right solution to the housing problem in Craignish, as most of the houses would go to people from out-with the community. It was pointed out that Mr Mather would be asked to help achieve a Local Letting Initiative for the Fyne Homes houses. It was agreed that the Jim Mather visit was a major opportunity and it behoves the Community Council to make the most of it. The Council agreed that it would have its Housing Policy statement ready in time to have input by the community and approved at its next meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> February.

Iain Saunders pointed out that if the affordable housing is to rehouse people already here this will not add to any infrastructure problems, however if for example the Fyne Homes houses bring in people from outside the area then the already burdened infrastructure situation would be exacerbated.

Jan Brown will put in the winter bedding in the tubs in the Millennium Garden.

Richard Allen drew attention to the often overflowing recycling bins at the hall and the fact that they detract from the amenity of the hall. Councillor Hay will ask the Council to empty them more frequently.

There was further discussion about the hand. Andrew Stanton reported that there were many visitors who said that they would not have turned down to Ardfern if it was not for the hand and it was a boon to business. It was agreed that the community was divided. There is no word from the sculptor about removing it.