

INVERKIP AND WEMYSS BAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of the Business Meeting
Thursday 14th May 2015 at 7.00pm
Wemyss Bay Primary School

Present: Alison Clark, David Adams, Jean Anderson (Secretary) , Paul Cassidy, Robert McKenzie (Treasurer), Isobel Rennie, Eileen Virtue(Chair),

In attendance: Cllr. L. Rebecchi, Cllr G Dorrian, Cllr I Nelson, Ian Hanley (Safer & Inclusive Communities) & 10 members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for absence: Tracy Bunton (Minutes Secretary), Liz Mackenzie.

2.0 Welcome and Opening Remarks

Alison chaired the meeting, welcoming everyone to the meeting.

3.0 Police Matters

Police :Alistair Burns and Andy Stewart attended the meeting. Referred to the analyst's April 2015 report and summarised activity.

The new council website will include a synopsis of the monthly crime incident report that is shared with the Community Council.

Alistair and Andy clarified details of the new Community Policing structure – they will be our local Police officers, covering Grieve Road, Bow Farm, Inverkip & Wemyss Bay areas. The team will be on 2 shifts – 8-4pm and 2-10pm.

They are currently actioning their plans to attend all local area schools to introduce themselves to the pupils. Idea is to have more visibility in local areas and interaction with the community, including the young people. The Police plan to have regular patrols in the area, including foot and cycle.

Alistair and Andy have designated email addresses that any member of the public can contact them on directly, for non-emergency matters. They are in addition to the community policing team and the community wardens.

4.0 Inverkip Beach: Summer 2015 – Safer and Inclusive Communities – Ian Hanley

Ian gave a brief summary of his role and why he is reporting back tonight as promised at previous meeting. Safer & Inclusive Communities role is not to “demonise” all the people wanting to use the beach area - they will tackle unsociable behaviour. It is acknowledged that Inverkip Beach and Lunderston Bay are local,seasonal hotspots.

Ian explained that the team have taken on board concerns raised by residents and have engaged with other local organisations – including Coastguard, Police Scotland Marine Unit, Police Scotland, Fire & Rescue, Youth Services, British Transport Police, Network Rail.

They have identified main areas of local concern , including anti-social behaviour, underage drinking, littering, trespassing, dangerous actions entering the water at the Marina .

and plan to speak to young people before the “season” starts. They will be attending local secondary schools to speak to senior pupils about unacceptable behaviour, usage of public areas , safety concerns around the marina. They will highlight why people can be concerned and intimidated by large groups, etc. They will warn against anti-social behaviour and what actions will happen in the event of any inappropriate behaviour. Highlight to pupils the safety risks of water in the area...with hidden hazards , unsupervised water, boat traffic, no lifeguards, currents, etc.

Network Rail has also been engaged and request has been made for their staff on trains to report instances or large groups en route.

The groups have all agreed to improve communications between their various agencies to try to prevent and tackle before things become issues.

Ian asked that IWBCC, along with other community organisations, help to spread the word about who and how members of the public can report concerns or issues.

Community Wardens will be patrolling in the villages, in addition to Police patrols, especially on good weather days (when most commonly problems). Their van has CCTV and each warden has body cams, to record info which can be used as evidence. Police encouraged residents to talk to Community Wardens if they see them sitting in their van, tell them about any common problem areas, or times, etc.

Questions from audience:

Rubbish and dog “poo” : Problems of no bins along large stretch of the footpath and beach. Kip Marina resident had already raised the concern with MSP Duncan McNeil.

Surely now Coastal Path status this is being addressed?

Councillor Nelson confirmed that the council cleansing department were looking at the matter and were in discussion with Ardgowan Estates. Ardgowan intimated they were happy to put bins in place, if Inverclyde Council would commit to handle emptying them.

Councillors confirmed they hope to have a firm resolution soon.

Jumping into water at Marina basin : Problems of young people jumping into the water last summer – with couple of instances of them having to be rescued after got into difficulties.

Why Marina security not more pro-active in securing the area?

Marina owners have apparently confirmed that they are not “legally” obliged to provide life belts, etc.

Matter was discussed and suggestions taken that look into possibility of warning signage, or lifebelts etc. Ian confirmed that both the Police and Safer Communities teams will be stressing the dangers as part of their visits to secondary schools and be showing a proven –effective safety video.

Cllrs Dorrian and Rebecchi asked if Network Rail could be asked to use their CC TV infrastructure to notify police teams of large groups travelling down to Inverkip via train, and why BT Police not joining trains if larger groups detected:

Ian confirmed that Network Rail had said that their CCTV and BT Police resources are stretched and they have to concentrate on areas with higher crimes against their property.

As part of schools campaign, the teams and youth workers are highlighting other youth activities and facilities on offer in their local areas. Port Glasgow and Greenock already have youth hubs opened and Gourrock is in progress (venue identified and being prepared).

No plans for Inverkip & Wemyss Bay just now, as no premises available.

Fare dodging : several villagers have told community council of observing that often ticket collectors are not challenging larger groups for their fares. Understandable that may not want to challenge large groups, but still unfair if everyone else has to pay! Ian offered to put this question back to BT Police and Network Rail. Ian and Police officers stressed importance of getting any crimes or antisocial behaviour reported when happening. There is a text number that can be used to report incidents or concerns while on the train. (IWBCC will ensure it is added to the lists of useful numbers on the website.)

Signage to Beach : resident raised concern that some people are unaware of where the path to the beach is to be found, and have been seen climbing through gardens to get to the Beach area.

Discussed and suggested try to put up some signs to point the correct way to access the beach.

Bett Homes still own the roads, so may have to be temporary signs in short term.

IWBCC will contact Bett Homes and enquire about possible signs etc.

(Harbourside Residents agreed to confirm the contact info they have for Bett Homes.)

We then thanked Ian for attending and giving us his presentation.

5.0 Minutes of Business Meeting held on Thursday 2 April 2015 - Matters Arising

Progress on actions from previous minutes is summarised and updated in Appendix 1.

Minutes proposed as accurate by Jean Anderson and seconded by Alison Clark

6.0 Secretary's report and planning matters

Jean summarised a range of Inverclyde Council Committee reports that had been received since the date of the last meeting however there were no matters arising from these.

Info included:

Traffic Regulation Orders passed for Yellow Lines on top Station Road, Inverkip.

Also for installation of Electric Vehicle Charging unit at Wemyss Bay Railway Station carpark

Email received by all Community Councillors from Save Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park Group alerting us to wind turbine planning application from Blackshaw Farm, and asking us to review.

This was also on this weeks planning view email from IC. Community councillors asked to consider their views for discussion on response to planning application at our next meeting.

Individual community councillors are also free to submit personal comments and /or objections to any the planning applications on their own behalf.

Email from resident requesting information about erecting a memorial on ground at Wemyss Bay, Jean had confirmed the correct IC dept and responded to the email on our behalf.

Inverkip School MUGA (multi use games area) will finally start construction this month.

Environment & Regeneration Meeting discussed:

Big City Deal – plans this will include Inverkip roundabout at Sainsbury junction.

Strathclyde Passenger Transport have intimated they will offer to help with bus stops

on A78 as part of the construction. There is some hope that this may also include a reduction in speed limit to allow for bus stopping.

Inverkip Community Facility: tenders have been requested. Inverclyde Council waiting replies.

7.0 Planning Matters.

Applications currently under consideration are limited to domestic planning requests

8.0 Roads, Pavements and Lighting

Cllr Rebecchi had reply from Scottish Power regarding the overhead cabling being removed from the substation on Spey Road, Inverkip. They confirmed pylons still live and no plans to remove them completely.

David confirmed that repairs had been actioned very quickly to Wemyss Bay pavement/road near school. Thanks go to the repair teams.

Cllr Nelson confirmed that new drain has been installed on land at bottom of Langhouse Road, (where Pavilion building stood), which should resolve the water issue there.

Brueacre Road , WB – new drain has been put in by IC.

Residents from Kip Marina attending meeting commented on various issues still being experienced with lighting, roads in the Marina Estate. Difficulties in getting responses on when repairs will be actioned from Bett Homes, who still own as roads etc not been “adopted” yet.

Councillors confirmed that they had checked with IC Roads dept and there has been no request yet from Bett Homes for the council to adopt the roads yet.

IWBCC offered to try to co-ordinate the main concerns of residents for Inverclyde Council and Bett Homes. Paper was circulated at the meeting to get contact names and details, with a view to trying to get various parties to come along to a meeting to discuss further.

9.0 Treasurers Report

Robert reported that the balance is unchanged from last month £2836.37 (inclusive of 2014/15 grant). Once we get the invoices for the new notice boards this will reduce the balance. Robert confirmed that the 2014/15 annual accounts have been completed and approved ready for the AGM next month.

10.0 IWBCB: Training

Various community councillors were able to attend the second training session arranged for Monday 27 April 2015, at Inverkip Primary School . Everyone felt it was a good session and provided some very useful information. We came away with some ideas for enhancing IWBCB processes.

11.0 IWBCB AGM

Inverkip Primary is venue for AGM - Thursday 4th June 2015 at 7:00pm.
We will hold a regular IWBCB meeting after the AGM business is concluded.

12.0 AOCB

IWBCC received email from MSP Offices asking for Mr McMillan to be included in distribution of future IWBCB Minutes and ensure that he receives the schedule for future meeting dates. We have replied and confirmed the dates of known meetings , and confirmed he is most welcome to drop in anytime, if he is available.

Email received from Inverclyde Radio, alerting everyone to special Listen Again sessions as part of Wemyss Bay Railway Station 150th Anniversary.

More information available about the celebrations from Nancy Cameron of Friends of Wemyss Bay Station via Inverclyde Radio Listen Again at <http://www.inverclyderadio.scot/listen/>
And <http://www.inverclyderadio.scot/Topics/fofwbs.html>

Suggestion from residents at Marina to have notices posted at Chartroom. IWBCB to check with Chartroom if we can have notice board space. Agreed great idea.
Also try to get up-to-date contact details and status for Kip Residents Association.

Paul has purchased external harddrives to allow secure backup of IWBCB archive information.

13.0 Date and time of next meetings:

Thursday 4th June 2015 in Inverkip Primary School following the AGM which will start at 7:00pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20:30pm.

APPENDIX 1

IWBCC ACTIONS SUMMARY – 14 May 2015

ITEM	NEW ACTIONS FROM MINUTES 14.5.15	RESPONSIBLE	UPDATE	STATUS at 14.5.15
	Confirm up-to-date contact details and status for Kip Residents Association.	EV/JA		new
	ACTIONS - FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES	RESPONSIBLE	UPDATE	STATUS
4.2	Organise a meeting with Duncan McNeil regarding bus services	PC	Mr McNeil has offered to help coordinate with IWBC a survey of residents on bus services.	Ongoing
12.2	Invite Street Life representative to the May meeting	TB	No response to email	Ongoing
	Meeting with Duncan McNeil MSP to be organised re Bus services	PC		Ongoing
	Write to Bett Homes expressing residents concerns regarding Roads & Lighting.	EV	Received contact info at meeting tonight. Try to get them to come to a meeting.	Ongoing
	Eileen to email Green Gym requesting availability after Easter 2015	EV	Waiting for confirmation of budget /availability of Green Gym initiative coordinator. Item for after summer now.	Ongoing
	Notice-boards: construction. (David will construct metal frames)	JA/ Cllr Rebecchi/ Cllr Dorrian	Plans are agreed and in production at The Trust . Posts installed this week...boards will be attached once legs are "set!"	Ongoing
	Find out Dr Campbell's availability to speak at public meeting in September. Contact Scottish Renewables& Save Clyde Muirsheill Park	EV	Moved to future action for next sessions, after summer.	Ongoing
	Station Avenue at post box – request progress report from RCH	Cllr Rebecchi/ JA	Hedges have been trimmed, trees to be felled by RCH. Jean and Cllr Rebecchi asked for update...RCH no record of felling request...awaiting update from RCH.	Ongoing
	Bachan Burn Wind Farm (PNE) - Eileen to notify concerns to MSPs McMillan, McNeil, Goldie and Derek McKay	EV	See item (4.2)	Actions completed.
	A78 flooding at Power Station – update to be requested from resident	TB	Transerv engineer has escalated to	In progress

	progressing this matter with Transerve		management team. Cllr Rebecchi	
	Obtain permission to locate a notice board at Sainsburys	AC	Permission received, notice board to be purchased.	Ongoing
				Complete
	Contact Discover Inverclyde (Chris Jewell) re visual impact (PNE proposal)	EV		Ongoing
	Consult Stuart McMillan MSP regarding A78 speed limit	EV	See item (4.4) Likely to be part of plans for Big City Deal Roundabout plans.	Ongoing
	Approach local bus firms outlining interest in a service to Hill Farm – invite to meeting	EV	See item (4.4) Bus firm holding consultation stall in Oak Mall this month – advert in Greenock Telegraph.	Ongoing