

INVERKIP AND WEMYSS BAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Business Meeting held on Thursday 1st March 2007 at the Inverkip Hotel 7:30pm

Present: Innes Nelson; Ron Potter; Brian McArthur; Hugh Ritchie; Harold McPherson.

Apologies: Lynne Chambers

In attendance: Cllr Eric Forbes; PC Mark Galvin, PC Steven Hill, Fran McIntosh; Jim McIntosh; N Cupples; Cliff Lyons, June Bell, Rhona Wallace, Isobel Hunter, Ken Ferguson, Graham Scott.

3. Police Matters: PCs Galvin and Hill were in attendance representing Strathclyde Police.

Mrs. Hunter raised the problems caused by off road motor/quad bikers on Millhouse Road on Sunday morning. Also mini bikes, which are not road legal, were on Millhouse Road at the same time. Police advised Mrs. Hunter to call them at the next occurrence and they would investigate.

4. Minutes of Business Meeting held on the 1st of February 2007. Matters arising

Mast Application Recreation Park. This was again discussed, re new mast application at footpath to Inverkip Recreation Park. Problems associated with the application were discussed including the fact the application was inappropriate within a conservation area; the mast had no protection and could easily be easily climbed by children; the close proximity to pavilions and halls which are used by children. Innes Nelson said the Community Council objection also stated that Inverclyde Council had a duty of care to not only children but all residents.

Dog Fouling. Cllr Forbes advised that wardens have been in attendance, but the problem has not decreased. A discussion followed over various occurrences.

5. Secretary's Report and Correspondence presented by Ron Potter

Review of Community Councils.

Stuart Milne Application

Report from Planning and Traffic Management

Committee 06 Dec 2006

Ron stated that Inverclyde Council's minutes were not accurate. Councillor Forbes said it would be better if he was given prior notice of matters such as this being brought to his attention at Community Council meetings. He did however point out they were a summary of the meetings and not a word for word account.

Travel Plan. Can the Community Council gain access to this document? Councillor Forbes advised that it would be made available when published. The Community Council would request a copy.

Jim McIntosh believed the Hill Farm development was now a fait accompli as regards the change of use of green belt land.

Willie Wilson of Inverclyde Council approved the purchase of a printer and projector for Community Council use.

Provision of health care in Inverkip. No progress due to doctors being unable to take the project further at this time.

ICC Forum item over plans to charge for parking at Inverclyde Royal Hospital. All agreed that that it was not good, and it was agreed the Community Council should write a letter of complaint on behalf of the residents of Inverkip and Wemyss Bay.

Turley Associates' letter to the Community Council regarding future of power Station site. They propose two future public open days to present proposed plans in Inverkip School and Wemyss Bay community Hall

Scottish National Heritage. Ron read extracts of the 'Moorland Management Scheme' to all attendees.

'Adopt a Station'. Innes planned to attend a meeting on 06 March at 1240; this is an opportunity for local input to say what they would like for Wemyss Bay station.

6. Treasurer's report. Expenditure to date £2,353.50. Balance £562.10

7. Planning matters

Ron Presented...Mrs. Bell at Brueacre Kennels advised of a plan for 1½ storey high development at Roman Bridge and her opinion was this would spoil the environment. William McIntyre at Langhill Farm has also objected to the proposal. The Community Council agreed that this proposal within the Greenbelt was contrary to all planning guidelines and that the objection submitted by the Community Council to Inverclyde Council Planning had the unanimous support of Community Council members.

Discussion also took place on the Ramada Jarvis plans, and in particular the lack of any local clout in any objections to planning proposals, as once again the Scottish Executive had overturned a local planning decision, ignoring the wishes of the public.

9. Filling of Community Council positions

This item was deferred until the next meeting when more members will be in attendance.

10. Stewart Milne Greenbelt Application - Rail Footbridge at Station.

Jim McIntosh wished to advise the Community Council of his latest findings. Dispensation was discussed. Bridge ownership was still not decided. First Scotrail is in discussion with Stewart Milne's Solicitors.

Fraser Williamson has advised Jim McIntosh by letter indicating ownership would be decided after the bridge was built.

Fran McIntosh asked Cllr Forbes about child safety en route to Inverkip Primary School via this bridge. Cllr Forbes advised that Inverclyde Council would produce this report as part of the Travel Plan (Stewart Milne report, approved by the Road Safety officials of Inverclyde Council). Fran was still concerned over safety.

11. Date and Time of next meeting (Thursday 5th of April 2007)

12 Any other business

Parking spaces at Forresters Guest House. Rhona Wallace voiced her concern over traffic parking at the front of their premises. Rhona was of the opinion that it is bad for tourism as she can sense guests' unhappiness with the lack of parking. Particularly bad time was at school dropping off and pickup time. She asked Councillor Forbes to provide a dedicated Hotel drop off / parking space at the guest house. Councillor Forbes said that he had already looked into residents' parking at other locations and was of the opinion that it was not possible to provide it.

Harold highlighted the bad road surface at Gourock road end. Cllr Forbes will take this up with the roads department.

Cliff Lyons presented photographs showing water coming out of a drain cover at great pressure outside Inverkip Hotel, a clear indication the drains cannot cope at present and with future planned development will only get worse.

It was reported to Councillor Forbes that Brueacre junction lighting had failed.

Question was asked when the remedial work was expected to commence at the roundabout.

It was also reported to Councillor Forbes that the A78 slip road breaking up at the Greenock end of Inverkip.