

INVERKIP & WEMYSS BAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Business Meeting Held on Thursday 4th March 2004 In the Inverkip Hotel

Present: Ron Potter (vice chair), Lynne Chambers, Cliff Lyons (treasurer), Innes Nelson (chair) & Lorraine Marshall (secretary).

Apologies: Paul Maloney

In Attendance: Mr Gromstad, Mr Scott & Cllr Forbes

Innes Nelson welcomed all present. At 7.30pm the meeting was opened.

Police matters: No report as there was no representative or figures again.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous Business Meeting held on 5th February 2004 were approved.

Matters Arising: Wemyss Bay Station – Cllr Forbes awaits a reply from Network Rail Corporate Affairs dept. regarding paint works.

Felled Trees – Cllr Forbes awaiting a response and also advised that there were no tree preservation orders on these trees.

Lighting Spey Road – Cllr Forbes advised that several are still not working and new standards will be required to replace some of the current ones.

Secretary's Report: Lorraine Marshall advised that this had been a very busy month for correspondences.

F Williamson Planning has advised that a time/date line scheduling events for the Local Plan PLI - This was received from Cllr Forbes at this meeting.

Lorraine Marshall to contacted 2 members of the European Parliament regarding Green belt Release but no reply will write rather than email.

Scottish Executive documentation regarding No U Turns on A78 opposite IBM. Cllr Forbes advised he would take this issue up with Scottish Executive and Amey Highways.

Request for Financial support to Brian Purdie was not given required proper consultation within Inverclyde Council.

Cllr Forbes has requested that we have a meeting with himself, B Purdie, Alan Blair to discuss the issues which seem to raise confrontation. This is to be arranged and a date advised. He advised that this Community Council are the most questioning, demanding and vociferous of all 10 Community Councils. We do, however, have the largest issue within the Local Plan currently (Hill Farm).

Treasurer's Report: Balance £400.

No cheque book yet received from Bank of Scotland , resulting in payments sill being outstanding to members.

Cliff Lyons advised that he had met with David Cairns MP regarding the proposed footbridge link over the railway from the Stewart Milne Park and Ride. To enable disabled access and cyclist access this bridge would need to be of similar size and standing to that over the A78 to the Marina Development.

As these specification requirements are stringent these kinds of bridges are rarely built due to cost factors.

Mr Gromstad requested that Cllr Forbes advise where exactly the bridge would go to and from. Cllr Forbes advised that he did not have answers for this and referred us back to Fraser Williamson (Planning Professional)

Innes Nelson had also contacted BR Engineer to seek further views on this matter again assurance was given that this would be very similar to the current bridge over the A78.

It was felt that residents living adjacent to this would find the consequences of such a bridge horrendous visually and increased traffic, pedestrian/cyclist to the village.

Cllr Forbes impressed again that the issue of planning gain was of greater value than having a misshapen community spreading up hill towards Leapmoor. This is still the best option in his opinion for the community of Inverkip

Innes Nelson advised that the Community Council are being objective in representing the 183 objectors to the greenbelt release compared to the 6 who are in favour of the green belt release.

Cliff Lyons advised that for the community to be fully joined from/to the village Old/New/Hill Farm this is only possible with direct road access links.

Mr Gromstad asked Cllr Forbes if "Money Talked" – was this already a done deal with the developer. This was denied by Cllr Forbes.

Cllr Forbes advised that the Reporters recommendations will submitted to the Economic & regeneration Committee, and may be totally ignored, although it is unusual to go against the recommendations of the Reporter.

Mr Scott asked Cllr Forbes what would be the benefits to Cllr Forbes and the residents of Inverkip if the greenbelt is released thus putting housing on the horizon? Cllr Forbes replied that the joining of the community and stopping the spread of the village would be the benefit. The Community Council members reiterated that it is the visual impact which has the greatest effect and is causing the controversy. The joining will not be any more that a pedestrian link and will not unite the village.

Documentation regarding the PLI Core Documents although this has been available within the Library in Inverkip for 2 weeks there is no way of coping these there. Cllr Forbes advised Ron Potter that Fergus McLeod had sent him an email regarding this issue. Ron Potter will make contact with F McLeod regarding this.

Newsletter/website/press matters: The next newsletter is printed and will be with the Guides on Monday 8th March for distribution.

The website is being updated and when it is fully operational will be more like the Wemyssbay.net.

Lynne Chambers is to find out if articles within the Greenock Telegraph are subject to Copyright if they are to be reproduced at the PLI.

Planning Matters: Holiday Park Wemyss Bay – Shed
Signage for Inverkip Hotel at Bowling Club
Mill House Farm Inverkip – Dwelling Houses
Beechwood main Street Inverkip – Extension
Swallow Brae Inverkip – Conservatory
Brayton Cottage Inverkip
Linne Road Wemyss Bay – Garage
Burns Drive Wemyss Bay – Detached Villa
53 Leapmoor Drive Wemyss Bay – Conservatory

Constitution: Ron Potter had issued all the members with a draft constitution by email. The boundary area must be conterminous with the ward boundaries and this excludes former residents of Inverkip who still have Inverkip addresses. Innes Nelson is to see if these can be changed. He will take it up with Duncan McNeil MSP and make a representation to the Boundaries Commission.

Why does the Constitution have to be approved by Inverclyde Council? Cllr Forbes to reply. Agreed to leave this in abeyance until these issues are cleared up.

Date & Time of Next Meeting: 1st April 2004 at 7.30pm in the Inverkip Hotel.

Other Business: Inverkip Primary School be extended by 2 further class rooms. Wemyss Bay Primary be remodelled and refurbished including a preschool provision. Cllr Forbes advised that Inverkip Primary will be extended outwards giving a further reduction in playground area.

Toilets at Point Inverkip – Lengthy email/discussions had taken place between Mrs Whyte and Cllr Forbes regarding this as they had been closed temporarily and not signed. This is now rectified.

Inverkip Library has been extracted from the cuts as it is the only library to have 100% increase in last 5 years. The hours are still to be negotiated. Should these be reduced Cllr Forbes will again fight any reductions.

Cllr Forbes had maps of the Grass verges within Inverkip & Wemyss Bay, which are maintained by Inverclyde Council.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.35pm.