

INVERKIP AND WEMYSS BAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Business Meeting held on Thursday 4th May 2006 in the Inverkip Hotel

Present: Innes Nelson (chairman); Ron Potter (vice chairman); Cliff Lyons (treasurer); Paul Maloney; Harold McPherson and Lynne Chambers (secretary)

Apologies: Hugh Ritchie and Cllr Eric Forbes

In attendance: Jim McIntosh; Fran McIntosh; N. Cupples; W. Macfarlane and Graham Scott

3. Police Matters: as there was no officer in attendance it was agreed Lynne Chambers should contact Sgt Norrie Barnes to say it was usual for the community officer to attend every business meeting and would this happen in future
Graham Scott reported that he had been contacted by British Transport Police Sgt Calum Weir based in Paisley, re anti-social behaviour at Wemyss Bay Station. The sergeant did not arrive to attend a pre-arranged meeting at Mr Scott's house. Mr Scott phoned twice more, but received neither return phone call nor visit

4. Presentation by Mark Ritch of Inverclyde Council's Community Support Services – on the Council's Community Engagement Strategy. Mark Ritch presented Community Councillors and members of the public attending with a folder from Communities Scotland of their National Standards for Community Engagement and Inverclyde Council's own strategy document. Mark Ritch answered several questions and is following up on two more. He was thanked for attending

5. Minutes of Business Meeting held on the 6th of April 2006 – Matters arising – Police matters:

Cllr Forbes emailed to say that following concerns expressed at the April business meeting about the increase in youth crime and anti-social behaviour in Inverkip he had written to Supt Stewart, Sub-Divisional Commander at Greenock, informing him of the situation. Cllr Forbes has requested a meeting with Supt Stewart when he returns from annual leave. Further to that message Cllr Forbes said Supt Stewart had indicated that he would be in contact with the Community Council re policing, or a meeting. As yet nothing has been heard from Supt Stewart

Residents' parking on A78 at Wemyss Bay:

Lynne Chambers said she'd received an email from Cllr Forbes saying he'd forwarded the secretary's details to the Roads Department as the contact point re the feasibility study on car parking at Wemyss Bay pierhead. Lynne Chambers had received a letter

from Graham Scott quoting details from a letter he'd received from Eddie McCarron, head of transportation and roads in Inverclyde Council. The secretary had received a copy of the same letter forwarded by MSP Duncan McNeil who had followed up on the resident parking problem. It does appear there will be public consultation as part of the feasibility study looking at extended parking facilities in Wemyss Bay

Community Facilities:

Cllr Forbes had been asked at April's business meeting whether Inverclyde Council had any funds that might be used to buy land from Ardgowan Estates to accommodate a proposed new community centre for Inverkip. Cllr Forbes emailed to explain that a project would have to be put forward, part of it entailing land purchase, to be considered as part of the capital programme.

Secretary's Report and Correspondence:

A letter had been received from Inverclyde Council's Head of Performance Management and Policy Development Brian Purdie saying that without the assurances requested by the Council it could not agree to the proposal that any part of the Community Council's grant be used for donations to the Inverkip and Wemyss Bay newsletters. Further to this letter Ron Potter said that Brian Purdie had inquired whether the Community Council had received requests from the newsletters for funds. Cliff Lyons said it had not, but the proposed grants would enhance the appearance of the newsletters. After discussion it was agreed Robert Polland and Lorraine Marshall, the administration team of inverkip.com, should be invited to June's business meeting

The Secretary, following last month's meeting, presented again the letter from the Scottish Executive seeking a response to their consultation on the strategy for a Scotland with an ageing population. Paul Maloney will look at the consultation document
The Minutes of the Business Meeting held on the 6th of April were approved

6. Secretary's Report and Correspondence:

A letter has been received from Inverclyde Council re Glasgow and Clyde Valley Joint Structure Plan 2000 – Third Alteration 2006. Objections to the changes should be lodged before Friday 9th June 2006. Innes Nelson will follow this up

A letter from Inverclyde Council containing an invitation to two members of the Community Council to attend Gourock Highland Games. Unfortunately no member of the Council is available to attend.

Letter from MSP Duncan McNeil attaching a letter from Inverclyde Council's Eddie McCarron, head of transportation and roads, re Wemyss Bay residents' parking – see Minutes of Business Meeting held on 6th April 2006 above

Correspondence about Core Paths – Innes Nelson will organise a meeting

7. Treasurer's Report:

Cliff Lyons reported that the balance of the Community Council's account is £1634.85, with around £200 of outstanding expenses to be paid

8. Planning Matters:

Inverkip Primary School – extension to school to provide two classrooms and gymhall
85 Lomond Road, Wemyss Bay – extension to dwellinghouse

4 Hazel Walk, Wemyss Bay – certificate of lawfulness in respect of the erection of timber decking

3 Cullen Crescent, Inverkip – extension to dwelling house

Plots 152, 153 & 154, Harbourside, Inverkip – amendment to house types

Former Inverkip House site, Station Avenue, Inverkip – Amendment to boundaries

1 Fran Terrace, Inverkip – form new area of hardstanding and formation of new patio

5 Langhouse Place, Inverkip – formation of upper floor extension

South Lodge, Main Street, Inverkip – erection of conservatory

The secretary reported to the meeting the words of the Reporter who upheld on appeal an application for the erection of 28 houses at Bridgend, Inverkip (to which the Community Council objected) – *He accepted that the proposal, encroaching into the green belt, was in conflict with both structure and local plan policy; he was satisfied that the development would not only preserve, but enhance, the Conservation Area and is sympathetic to the character of the listed building*

An objection was lodged by the Community Council against a proposed windfarm at Largie estate, Tayinloan, Argyll. Innes Nelson was praised for the quality of the objection

It was noted that the Stewart Milne Inverkip application is being continued

10. Any other business:

Innes Nelson reported that he had been contacted by Cllr Eric Forbes about the possibility of a five-a-side kick-about pitch for Ward 20. As Rico Giovanacci could not be contacted for family reasons, no quick decision – as was required – could be made about an Inverkip site. However, Cllr Forbes and Innes Nelson agreed that a site near the Community Centre in Wemyss Bay should be pursued

Ron Potter asked whether a donation should be made by the Community Council to Inverclyde Council on Disability for their submission to the Council re the proposed bridge at Inverkip Station. It was agreed a donation of £50 should be made

Ron Potter reported from the Inverclyde Community Council Forum that Brian Purdie feels that each participating Community Council should contribute financially to the Forum. Ron Potter explained the Forum needed money to organise training sessions for community councillors. Paul Maloney asked who had set up the Forum. Ron Potter replied that Inverclyde Council had established the Forum. Cliff Lyons said he felt the Forum was another layer. Ron Potter said the idea of the Forum was to bring together the somewhat fractured community councils that used to exist where personal antagonism between members got in the way of co-operation. He said the new chairman was doing a lot of work to integrate the community councils. Ron Potter said that eight working community councils were represented on the Forum – the remaining four were not really operative. Innes Nelson asked why the monies set aside for the four non participating community councils couldn't be paid to the Forum. Ron Potter explained the Forum isn't a statutory body. After discussion, the members unanimously voted against contributing funds to the Forum.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 10.15pm.