

INVERKIP AND WEMYSS BAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Business Meeting held on Thursday 4th November 2010 at Inverkip Primary School at 7.30pm

Present: Hugh Ritchie; Ron Potter; David Adams; Brian Blacklaw; Telfer Ramage and Lynne Chambers

Apologies: Brian McArthur; Harold McPherson; Liz Roders and Cllr Gerry Dorrian

In attendance: Cllr Innes Nelson; Cllr Ciano Rebecchi; PC David Steven and N. Cupples

3. Police Matters:

PC David Steven was in attendance. He reported that in October there had been 98 incidents in Inverkip and Wemyss Bay reported to their call centre – ranging from 2 cases of eggs being thrown at Cullen Crescent in Inverkip, to trees down in the high winds, to assaults and road traffic accidents. He said there had been two break ins to vehicles in Wemyss Bay; a housebreaking in Inverkip; a theft with intent to steal and two assaults, one serious at the caravan park. However, he hadn't been given the break-down of crimes more usually presented by the community officers. Ron Potter said two officers had attended the October meeting and he had asked for a crime breakdown for previous months and had passed his telephone number to the officers. He had received no call.

David Adams said there had been a 'Peeping Tom' incident in Morar Road, Wemyss Bay in October. PC Steven confirmed he had a note of the incident.

The secretary was asked to contact Sgt Steven Anderson, the new community sergeant, asking for an email containing recent crime statistics. Hugh Ritchie thought attendance by officers familiar with the area was becoming a thing of the past. PC Steven has only recently become a community officer and the chairman was quick to assure the officer no blame attached to him for the unsatisfactory state of affairs. The officer was thanked for his attendance.

4. Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 7th of October 2010. Matters arising:

Reform of Community Council boundaries: Ron Potter said that a notice to be published in the newspaper re the reform of Community Council (CC) boundaries had been delayed by a week. He asked if the consultation period was to be extended by the same period. Cllr Rebecchi said the consultation period should be extended appropriately

Insurance for Community Councils: Cllr Rebecchi said he hadn't managed to discover the terms of the insurance Inverclyde Council (IC) uses as cover for CCs –

particularly important Ron Potter said in light of a case where a Community Councillor had sued his CC colleagues. Cllr Rebecchi will pursue **Planning application for the Old Police House, Inverkip:** the councillors confirmed the application had still to be considered
The Minutes were proposed as accurate by Ron Potter and seconded by David Adams

David Adams brought up the issue of delays to grants, questioning the structure of IC that meant only one person was able to sign for a grant to repair damage to a shower caused by carers. The delay held up the repair for five weeks. Cllr Rebecchi said David Adams should phone him.

5. Secretary's Report and Correspondence:

Letter from Inverclyde Council re Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan: Main Issues Report – Draft Housing Need and Demand Assessment. The Main Issues Report may be viewed on www.gcvsdpa.gov.uk/mir
Details on how to make comments and representations will be made known on 29th October 2010

From BBC News Scotland website – more than three quarters of Scots support the development of wind farms. The research was commissioned by the renewable energy industry.

From Inverclyde Council – agenda for Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee re Wind Farm Search Areas meeting on the 26th of October – referring to locations for wind farms through 'broad areas of search'. The 'broad areas' do not include Inverclyde, nor affect Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park. In this respect the recent SPG on Wind Farms undertaken as interim guidance for the Inverclyde Local Plan is unaffected and it is recommended that this Council welcomes the approach taken for the new SDP.

From Inverclyde Council – agenda for the Regeneration Committee meeting on the 28th of October – Community Facilities Fund

From Inverclyde Council a draft document – Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On-Street) Schedule indicating a parking place at 9 Glebe Road, Inverkip

Invitation to NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Annual Review event to be held on Monday 1st November in the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall

From the Association of Scottish Community Councils, papers for the Annual National Ballot 2010 – closing date for receipt of the vote is the 19th of November 2010. Papers include a statement of accounts and National Officers' reports and the Director's Report and financial statements of the Association of Scottish Community Councils Ltd. The result of the Ballot will be announced at the Annual National Conference on the 20th of November 2010 in the Sir Charles Wilson Building at the University of Glasgow

Notice of the ASCC Annual National Conference

From the ASCC Board – a response to an appeal from Cllr Norman Bonney to vote 'No' for one candidate. Cllr Bonney has advised the position of National President should be left vacant - the secretary was asked to contact the ASCC for a copy of its constitution

Press release from Stuart McMillan MSP saying he has been contacted by concerned Inverkip residents about the change of priority at the village junction with the A78 without any warning signage

Email from Stuart McMillan with a response from Transport Scotland

An acknowledgement from Transport Scotland of the CC's response to the Scottish Ferries Review consultation paper

From Inverclyde Council – Agenda for the Audit Committee meeting to be held on the 19th October 2010

From Inverclyde Council – request for a public procession in Inverkip to the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday by the Scouts

Annual renewal of Data Protection registration - approved

Objection sent by the CC to the application for 29 turbines at Waterhead Moor, Largs, by SSE Renewables. Cllr Nelson informed the meeting Inverclyde Council has lodged an objection against the application

Newsletter from Stuart McMillan MSP

From Inverclyde Council (Inverclyde Leisure) – conditions applicable to the school bookings system. There was a discussion about what is seen as the unsatisfactory take-over of lets and the change of conditions for the let of the Town Halls in Greenock and Port Glasgow and the Gamble Halls in Gourock. Since Inverclyde Leisure has taken over this function substantial additional costs and what appear to be restrictive practices have been introduced. It does not seem that the take-over has improved the service.

From Inverclyde Council – an addition to the agenda for the Safe, Sustainable Communities Committee to be held on Tuesday 26th October 2010 re the Multi-Fuel Power Station, Hunterston. Recommendations – that Committee:

- (a) notes the issues identified as being of relevance to Inverclyde associated with the proposal to build a multi-fuel power station at Hunterston
- (b) agrees that the significance of these issues is not so great as to require the submission of a formal objection to North Ayrshire Council on the proposals; but
- (c) make this report available to North Ayrshire Council as this Council's response

The councillors explained as IC hadn't objected at this stage it would preclude it from appearing at a Public Local Inquiry should one be called. Cllr Nelson said he had spoken to MSP Kenneth Gibson and 15,000 objections had been received on issues ranging from an increase in traffic on the A78; the environmental impact and visual viewpoints. Members of the Community Council are rather concerned about Inverclyde Council's rather relaxed attitude to the proposal and agreed to lodge an objection.

To the website – an email from Alison Masterson re the Jacob's Ladder Right of Way in Inverkip – passed to Ron Potter for reply. Ron Potter said he had written to Stewart Milne on this matter and awaited a reply. Cllr Nelson told the meeting Jacob's Ladder was no longer a core path or a right of way. When building is completed the path will be reinstated and re-opened. The secretary said she would write to Ms Masterson to inform her of the situation

To the website – from the curator of the Internal Fire Museum of Power in Wales looking for a contact at Scottish Power as he believes the Power Station still has a telephone exchange installed. The secretary replied with a contact name and number A letter to Colin Broadwood at Transport Scotland inquiring whether the CC's letter of 16th September 2010 has been received by him

Email to Colin Broadwood at Transport Scotland asking if he'd received the CC's letter of 16th September re work not undertaken at the Inverkip/A78 junction.
Email from Colin Broadwood saying he'd replied to the letter on the 4th of October – a letter not then in the secretary's possession. From a copy of that letter the secretary said Colin Broadwood reported the operating company Amey does not intend to re-profile the Bankfoot Roundabout. Measures to manage driver perception and behaviour on the approach and on the roundabout have been proposed and submitted to the Road Safety Auditor for comment. The roundabout markings recently installed, he said, complement this proposed work. He also said MSP Stuart McMillan had brought another matter to his attention to which he'll reply in course
Online Bulletin from the Association of Scottish Community Councils
From the Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society – notice of its annual meeting on the 20th of November 2010 and its Annual Report

6. Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Ron Potter reported that he'd received a phone call from Inverclyde Council's Head of Safer and Inclusive Communities John Arthur to say he had approved the CC's submission for its proposed spend until April 2011 and had authorised £540 to be released to the CC as the per capita element of the payment, still based on 2002 population figures. Ron Potter said that according to SIMD figures there were 5340 eligible people. This issue has exasperated the CC for some time. Many new houses have been built in the CC area and it is felt the population has increased considerably. Despite repeated requests for a re-evaluation of the situation, the per capita amount still remains based on 2002 population figures. It was agreed if anyone was in a position accurately to know the current population of Inverkip and Wemyss Bay it would be the local authority. The secretary has been asked to write to the Chief Executive of Inverclyde Council to request an answer as to why no increase in population figures has been made. John Arthur in his conversation with Ron Potter that the payments are intended for CC expenditure and not handed out as grants. But if it is discovered a local group needs help payment may be made, but not to exceed £250. There is currently £1020.33 in the CC's bank account and when the £540 is received the total will be £1560.33. There are many legitimate items of expenditure and it was agreed a separate meeting should be held to consider them. Ron Potter added that John Arthur told him that the top-ups received by CCs – cash made available from non-operating CCs – would not be paid this year. Ron Potter asked Cllr Rebecchi to investigate why that is as the money should not go into Inverclyde Council's revenue account – it has been paid by the Scottish Government to local authorities to fund CCs.

Ron Potter also reported he'd received an email from Ian Dyer at Inverclyde Council saying the contractor who'd repaired the CC's noticeboard in Inverkip hadn't been paid and did Ron Potter know why. He said a bill had not been received and additional work on the noticeboard had been required. It was hoped IC would pay the bill

7. Planning

Letter from Inverclyde Council giving date of November 2010's Local Review Body meeting – 3rd of November 2010. Checking the Agenda an application for review is the erection of a single storey extension at 46 Lomond Road, Wemyss Bay IBM, Spango Valley – alterations to industrial buildings – granted subject to conditions

Inverkip – 1 Kip Park, Main Street – application by Sainsbury – installation of external roller shutter

Wemyss Bay – 48 Leapmoor Drive – formation of garden decking and stair (partly retrospective) – withdrawn

Wemyss Bay – 48 Leapmoor Drive – erection of decking (in retrospect)

Inverkip – 10 Cromarty Grove – construction of dwellinghouse (amendment to planning permission) by Manor Kingdom – granted subject to conditions

Inverkip – Bridgedaff Cottage, Main Street – construction of rear extension and extension to existing dormer

Inverkip – 8 Station Avenue – installation of flue for wood burning stove

Wemyss Bay – 27 Leapmoor Drive – rear extension to dwellinghouse and alterations to garage – granted subject to conditions

Inverkip – 3 Sandend Place – alterations and extension to dwelling house

8. Road markings on A78/Inverkip Main Street junction - and a proposed A78 40mph speed limit from Bankfoot roundabout:

Concern has been expressed in Inverkip about the revised layout at the Inverkip junction on the A78. MSP Stuart McMillan has been active on this issue, contacting Transport Scotland to report local residents are unhappy about the renewal of line markings on the road. There has been a change of priorities that has caused problems and no signs have been erected warning drivers of the change. It was generally agreed the changed priority was not helpful, and as drivers leaving the A78 are uncertain because of the change, traffic builds up at the junction further reducing visibility for drivers wishing to turn out onto the A78. Stuart McMillan reported Transport Scotland had responded by saying temporary signage will be put in place on the A78 to familiarise drivers with the revised layout. However he is of the opinion temporary signage will not assist new home owners or tenants and the possibility of new building at Inverkip Power Station makes it imperative that motorists are aware of the revised layout. He will write again to Transport Scotland to express these views. The CC supports this view and asked the secretary to relay its position to Transport Scotland. Members of the CC who attended a meeting with Transport Scotland, Amey, MSPs and councillors in June reported no mention of a revised layout at the junction was made at the meeting.

In a reply to the secretary of the Ardgowan View Residents' Association on another matter, the factor's representative at Ardgowan Estate wrote that there was a proposed speed limit of 40mph from Bankfoot Roundabout to Wemyss Bay. No-one attending the meeting had heard of such a proposal and the secretary was asked to pursue the matter with the Estate factor

9. Local information sessions re Community Council reform: because of changes to CC boundaries and constitution the CC thought it advisable to organise an information event for local residents. The date of Thursday 18th November was

suggested and the secretary will book Inverkip primary school and notify local people of the event.

10. Community Council Boundary changes: Ron Potter had put up maps of the proposed boundary changes on the wall. He pointed out anomalies and asked the councillors to investigate

11. Annual General Meeting: it was agreed the CC's AGM will be held prior to the monthly Business Meeting on Thursday 2nd December 2010 at 7pm in Wemyss Bay Primary School

12. Right of Way, Leapmoor: the CC learned belatedly of an Order by Inverclyde Council to divert a public path on Leapmoor, Inverkip. The path had been raised as an issue in August 2006 with the CC when a walker had been challenged on the pathway and the CC had written to Inverclyde Council's then Head of Planning expressing its contention the route could be deemed a vehicular right of way. The CC declared itself still of the same mind and the secretary was asked to lodge an objection the following day – the closing date for objections

13. Remembrance Sunday: the Treasurer will purchase wreaths and David Adams will represent the CC at Inverkip church and Lynne Chambers will attend the service and wreath laying in Wemyss Bay

14. Christmas entertainer: the CC has been approached by Inverkip Community Enterprise to discover if the CC is providing and paying for an entertainer for the Christmas lights switch-on on the 3rd of December. It is felt Inverkip is rather short-changed for time as the entertainer has to leave to travel to Wemyss Bay. Members asked the secretary to investigate whether the entertainer could extend his time in Inverkip and was ICE intending to contribute to the extension. It was agreed Davro the Clown (Darren Spiers) had been such a success in 2009 he should be approached again this year

15. Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 2nd December 2010 at Wemyss Bay primary school at 7.30pm

16. Any other business

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.40pm