

## INVERKIP AND WEMYSS BAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of Business Meeting held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2007 in the Inverkip Hotel at 7.30pm

**Present:** Innes Nelson; Hugh Ritchie; Harold McPherson; Brian McArthur; Liz Roders and Lynne Chambers

**Apologies:** Ron Potter

**In Attendance:** Cllr Gerry Dorrian; Cllr Ken Ferguson (part of the meeting); Inspector Charlie Paul; PC Jane Perratt; PC Billy Gray; Isabel Hunter; Allan Marsh; D. Cram; Telfer Ramage; N. Cupples; B. Blacklaw; Andy Lynch; J. Stewart and Cliff Lyons

**3. Police Matters:** the latest crime statistics from 4<sup>th</sup> September-4<sup>th</sup> October 2007:

<b>Crimes/Offences</b>	<b>Committed</b>	<b>Detected</b>
Assault	2	2
Theft from car	3	0
Fireraising	1	0
Breach of Peace	7	7
Vandalism	7	2
Resist arrest	1	1
Drugs offences	2	2
Theft	1	0
RTA offences	1	1 plus 5 tickets re zigzags on Main Street, Inverkip
<b>Totals</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>15 (60% detection rate)</b>
<b>Wemyss Bay</b>	<b>21 (84%)</b>	
<b>Inverkip</b>	<b>4 (16%)</b>	

#### **Incidents of note**

111 calls to the area over the month

#### **Hotspots**

Wemyss Bay/Bourne Leisure Holiday Park	16 calls
Kelly Bank	4 calls
Main Street, Inverkip	5 calls
Wemyss Bay Station	3 calls

Inspector Paul said they were conducting a survey on Youth Diversionary Tactics and wondered if there were opportunities in the area.

Lynne Chambers said she would like to report excessive speeding on the stretch of Finnockbog Road, up the hill from the Brueacre Junction to the housing developments. Despite 30 mph signs under the bridge at the bottom of the hill many motorists continue to ignore the signs, travelling at speeds that constrain the work of two farms on the stretch of road. Another resident of Ardgowan View supported her.

Insp Paul said PC Perratt was trained in the use of a speed gun and would concentrate on the area. The secretary said she would write to the Greenock Telegraph to let them know there would be police activity on the road and that may remind motorists of the speed limit. Various traffic calming measures were discussed and Insp Paul said it was sometimes helpful if residents positioned themselves along the road with clipboards and wearing high visibility jackets – a measure that might make motorists think about the speed they were doing. He was prepared to lend jackets to residents. Lynne Chambers wondered if 30mph signs could be erected at the top of the hill where Finnockbog Road becomes Spey Road. Liz Roders complained of similar problems in the Lomond Road/Ardgowan Road area of Wemyss Bay. Mrs Hunter said motorists were still travelling at what she thought were excessive speeds on the Loch Thom Road into the back of Inverkip. Brian McArthur said five new houses had been built there and the speed limit should be looked at again, and speed limit signs should be moved further out. He will investigate further. Cllr Dorrian said he would speak to the Roads Department.

#### **4. Minutes of Business Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2007:**

**Hill Farm development:** Lynne Chambers wondered if there had been formal confirmation the Stewart Milne group had sold off fields 6 and 7 at the Hill Farm development to builders Redrow. It was agreed that was what was believed in Inverkip. The secretary read headlines from an Inverclyde Council Policy and Resources Committee Agenda she had received. The purpose of the report was to update the Committee on the current position in respect of the planning permission and legal agreements relating to the development at Hill Farm. It observed two issues remain to be resolved – transfer of the land to the Council and the Tri-Partite Bridge Agreement. Discussions are ongoing.

Two items were of particular interest – payment of the planning contributions (planning gain) shall comprise two equal instalments of £300k, one to be paid on completion of 100 houses and the second on completion of 200 houses. Also, having secured all the necessary further approvals the developer will be required to construct the bridge within 12 months of the last of these approvals being obtained or if later the completion of 135 houses. Cllr Dorrian said he had learned the proposed lift would be maintained by First Scotrail. Cllr Dorrian also said that at a recent meeting of the Inverkip Primary School Council it had been indicated the Council would like a say in the spending of the money. Innes Nelson observed the whole village should have a say in the spending of the money and at consultative meetings villagers had indicated how they wished the money to be spent. The secretary said she would write to Inverclyde Council's Head of Planning Services seeking clarification of some of the issues relevant to the sale of fields 6 and 7 to Redrow. It was thought an invitation to Redrow to attend a business meeting could be considered in the near future.

**Bankfoot roundabout:** Cllr Dorrian said Inverclyde Council had not adopted the roundabout but he would write to Amey about its neglected appearance

**Flooding:** The secretary had been in touch with Scottish Water to request a representative to attend a CC Business Meeting to answer questions about flooding and sewage in Main Street, Inverkip. She had left on holiday without a response. Cllr Dorrian had come across a contact for Scottish Water and would invite her to attend November's meeting. Lynne Chambers referred to an article in the Greenock Telegraph of the 24<sup>th</sup> of September in which Scottish Water's regional manager said if

residents contacted Scottish Water when there are problems they will investigate it immediately. Cllr Dorrian said Inverclyde Council's Environmental Health department should be involved

The Minutes were approved by Innes Nelson and seconded by Brian McArthur.

**5. Secretary's Report and Correspondence:**

An invitation from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS to attend the release of their annual review. No one was available to attend

A letter from Inverclyde Council re their review of Polling Districts and Polling Places. No complaints were expressed

Letter from Jim Kininmonth, a Community Worker with Inverclyde Council, who has written to say he has been re-allocated to work with Inverclyde Forum of Community Councils and our CC should not hesitate to contact him if he can be of assistance  
Inverclyde Council's Corporate Performance Report – passed to Hugh Ritchie  
Inverclyde Elderly Forum newsletter

Invitation from Inverclyde Council to attend presentation of prizes for Best Kept Garden and Floralfest 2007. Held same evening as Business Meeting so unable to attend - sent regrets

Via the website an email from Allan Walker, Waste Strategy Co-ordinator for Inverclyde Council. He asked the Community Council, as there are proposals for further development at Kip Park and the recycling point may have to be relocated, for suggestions as to possible sites for any relocation. It was agreed to recommend to Allan Walker an area of land south-east of the Sainsbury Local store, on the inshot on the other side of the road from the existing site. It was also suggested either planting or fencing should shield the site from the A78

Email from Eila Roberts of Wemyss Bay Village News indicating she's giving up editing the newsletter. The secretary asked members if they thought it appropriate she should write to Eila Roberts to thank her for the great contribution she's made to the Wemyss Bay community. The suggestion was unanimously approved.

From Cllr Dorrian a note that Inverclyde Council's Invernet Bus will be in Wemyss Bay on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October. Information passed to Harold McPherson for posting on the website.

Several communications from Inverkip Community Enterprise –

The first from secretary Alison Nugent asking about the Community Council's plans for Christmas as Inverkip Community Enterprise would like to arrange something in the Pavilion. The secretary had spoken to Willie Wilson at Inverclyde Council who confirmed the date for the Christmas Event this year is Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November and Inverclyde Council, as usual, would pick up the cost of the let at the Pavilion. Cllr Dorrian was advised it was usual for a local councillor to assist Santa at the event and also to liaise with the school about what carols they'll be singing under the tree. Cllr Dorrian has agreed to undertake that role in Inverkip. It was also confirmed Inverclyde Council would provide hot and soft drinks, mince pies etc in the Pavilion after the lights have been switched on. The Community Council would be approaching an entertainer as usual and Ron Potter, on his return from holiday, will be asked to make contact again with last year's entertainer if he thinks it appropriate. The usual arrangements will also be undertaken by Inverclyde Council for the Wemyss Bay event.

Then a message from Inverkip Community Enterprise asking if the Community Council would consider using the Pavilion – at a reduced hourly rate – for their Business Meetings. It was agreed - as currently the Rogues Room at the Inverkip Hotel is made available at no cost - that meetings would continue to be held there. The secretary had received an invitation to attend the Pavilion Open Day, which she passed to all members

Next came an email request from Mrs Nugent asking that a poster (an attached document) promoting the Pavilion Open Day be posted on the Community Council notice board. The secretary said in her reply she would consult with fellow Community Councillors re use of the notice board by organisations other than the Community Council.

A letter was received from Andy Lynch, chairman of Inverkip Community Enterprise. He was in attendance at the Business Meeting and had a copy of his letter which he read out. The letter referred to a ‘refusal’ by the Community Council to post the notice of the Pavilion Open Day. The letter went on to say there had been no warning of any change of conditions. Secretary Lynne Chambers referred him to the Minutes of the December 2006 Business Meeting which noted changes. However it was agreed a reply would be sent to Mr Lynch before the next Business Meeting.

## **6. Treasurer’s Report**

As treasurer Ron Potter was on holiday, no report was submitted

## **7. Planning Matters**

Inverkip – Kip Park – alterations to shopfront including ATM installation by Sainsbury’s Supermarkets Ltd

Inverkip – 8 Langhouse Place – erection of upper-floor extension

Inverkip – 19 Cullen Crescent – extensions of dwellinghouse and construction of decking

Inverkip – ‘Chesapeake’, Main Street – extension to form accommodation for disabled person

Inverkip – Kip Park – display of internally illuminated signage and vinyl graphics by Sainsbury’s Supermarkets

Inverkip – garden ground at Millhouse Cottage, Millhouse Road - following Inverclyde Council’s refusal of permission for the erection of a house, an appeal has been lodged with the Scottish Ministers

## **8. Windfarm matters**

The chairman updated Cllr Dorrian on Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council’s policy on windfarms

Innes Nelson continued to say Community Windfarm Ltd’s application for a windfarm on the Leapmoor in Inverkip was on hold, and it was believed there was an intention to reduce the number of turbines. The company had an application for 16 turbines in the Lammermuir Hills it had not expected to be approved. However the application was passed so that development may keep them busy for a long time before they turn their attentions once again to Inverkip. The Community Council had received a request from the Save Your Regional Park Campaign for supporters to

place their objections on an E-petition to the Scottish Parliament. It was agreed the email address should be posted on the CC website.

#### **10. Any other business**

**Strengthening the Community Voice:** Allan Marsh, chair of Ardgowan View Residents' Association, said he had attended an Inverclyde Council event on Strengthening the Community Voice. Issues debated included Community Council boundaries including the issue of farms falling into Larkfield/Braeside/Branchton Community Council's boundary that perhaps might more naturally fall within Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community's Council area. Allan Marsh said there were no hard feelings and L/B/B CC representatives said they would go along with whatever Inverkip and Wemyss Bay Community Council wanted to do. Innes Nelson assured Allan Marsh discussions had taken place with L/B/B CC and the matter was in hand.

Allan Marsh continued to say Community Councils felt their voices were not heard by Inverclyde Council and it might be considered that Community Councils should have a seat and a vote on Inverclyde Council committees

**Damaged drains:** He also reported residents in Cullen Crescent, adjoining roadwork being undertaken by the Stewart Milne Group on their Ardgowan Rise development, claimed their drains had been damaged by the work. On writing to Inverclyde Council they had been told it was a civil matter between householders and the SMG.

**Ardgowan View management:** Allan Marsh said Ardgowan View residents had terminated the contract of factors Ross Liddell.

**Wemyss Bay football pitches:** The situation re the football pitches in Wemyss Bay was brought up, but Cllr Dorrian said the matter was continuing.

**Everton Road, Inverkip:** It was reported the surface on Everton Road – being used while a section of Finnockbog Road is closed for building works – is still not satisfactory. Cllr Ferguson said he would pursue the issue.

**Dog fouling:** Liz Roders asked if 'No Dog Fouling' notices could be erected on private land. She explained she maintained an area of private ground in Wemyss Bay and dogs constantly fouled the area. Cllrs Dorrian and Ferguson said Inverclyde Council could provide two signs if she would put them up herself.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.