

**INVERKIP AND WEMYSS BAY COMMUNITY
COUNCIL**
Minutes of the Business
**Meeting held on Thursday 6th of September 2012 at
Inverkip Primary School at 7pm**

Present: Hugh Ritchie; Ron Potter; David Adams; Jean Anderson, Gordon Rodgers; Eileen Virtue, Telfer Ramage and Tracy Buntun

2. Apologies for absence: Cllr Gerry Dorrian, Cllr Ciano Rebecchi

In attendance: Cllr Innes Nelson; PC Gary Notman & PC Steven Rankin Community Police; Mark Higginbotham, Team Leader Consultancy, Environmental and Commercial Services
Inverclyde Council; and two members of the public

3. Police Matters

PC Notman & PC Rankin offered apologies for coming to the meeting at short notice without the normal summary of reported crime. They were however able to provide a verbal report:

- Vehicular congestion at Inverkip Primary 'spill' is being monitored. PC Notman is meeting the head teacher to discuss this matter.
- Thefts – Main Street, Inverkip and the surrounding area – a suspect is being monitored
- PC Notman agreed to report the damaged gate leading to the railway line at the bottom of Spey Road to the Transport Police.

Hugh informed receipt of correspondence from Chief Inspector Area Commander Shepherd informing opening hours Port Glasgow & Gourock Offices being restricted to 9:00 – 17:00. It was noted that these changes are in place and that the offices close between 12:00 and 13:00. It was agreed that this will have no detrimental impact on the community.

ACTION: Community Police to forward crime stats to Tracy.

ACTION: Tracy to attach crime stats to minutes and note that they were not discussed.

ACTION: Tracy to respond to Community Police with a list Community Councillor email addresses & dates of forthcoming meetings.

4. Minutes and Agendas

4.1 All agreed that it is not necessary for minutes of meetings to list planning applications that are not subject to discussion or consideration and instead will contain a link to Inverclyde Council's website,

4.2 Jean agreed to take responsibility for printing and posting agendas in the Inverkip notice board.

ACTION: A copy of the key to the Inverkip notice board is to be cut for Tracy to back-up Jean.

4.3 Wemyss Bay

ACTION: David to explore options to display Agenda in Wemyss Bay – to check with Spar and the chemist.

ACTION: Cllr Nelson to explore availability of council provision of a notice board for Wemyss Bay.

ACTION: Jean to organise a contact list to display on notice board(s) after Tracy collates phone numbers from all members.

ACTION: Gordon to contact Stephen Renton to meet to set up a Community Council email address – linking to members' personal email addresses; Jean and Eileen to attend the meeting.

5. Traffic and Roads

5.1 Proposed TRO – Station Road etc. Inverkip

Hugh received a letter from Inverclyde Council informing proposed TRO has been set aside. Mark Higginbotham Team Leader Consultancy, Environmental and Commercial Services was able to confirm that the option may be considered again in the future after a further monitoring period. Mark confirmed that the yellow 'zig zags' are enforceable and that plans are in place to reveal signage outside schools across Inverclyde.

5.2 Wemyss Bay

Speed of traffic through Castle Road and over a mini-roundabout was raised as a concern by 2 residents. Perception of speed and a variety of traffic calming measures was discussed. Mark agreed to consider options open to the council including consultation with the police about a speed assessment. Mark hopes to respond by the date of the next business meeting, 4.10.12.

ACTION: Mark Higginbotham, IC, to report back to IWBCB with outcome of review of traffic conditions at Castle Road, Wemyss Bay.

5.3 Road Markings

ACTION: Mark to report back to IWBCB with status of Spey Road resurfacing and road marking plans. Mark will report IWBCB request to repaint road markings off the north bound trunk road to Ardgowan Road to AMEY.

5.4 Pot hole – Sainsbury Car Park

Mark confirmed following investigation after the meeting that the location of the pot hole was on private land. It was also confirmed that the pot hole had been repaired.

5.5 Sinking Roads

Concerns were raised about the apparent sinking of parts of Spey Road and Cullen Crescent

5.6 Adoption of Harbourside

Mark informed that Inverclyde Council has not been approached by the developers Manor Kingdom to adopt the roads.

ACTION: Hugh will write to Manor Kingdom asking when road signs can be expected and if plans are in place to pass roads to Inverclyde Council.

5.7 Litter - A78

Resident Mrs Wallace commented on the unsightly appearance of the A78 approach to Greenock and the effect on tourism. Mrs Wallace also commented on the inability to promote cycling routes because of overgrown verges on cycle routes. Cllr Nelson informed that AMEY schedule checks and uplift and also commented that grass cutting helps to some extent.

ACTION: Gordon to write to Transport Scotland with a copy to AMEY about the condition of the A78.

ACTION: Cllr Nelson to progress clearing of verges on Cloch Road

5.8 A78 – Speed and Bus Stops

ACTION: Gordon to contact Amey, Transport Scotland and our MSP's inviting them to attend a meeting on 5th October @10.00am in the Chartroom.

ACTION: Hugh to book the Chartroom – this has been done since the date of the meeting.

6. Minutes of Business Meeting held on Thursday 2nd August 2012

6.1 Corrections

1. Item 7 amend Roder to Roders
2. Correct item numbering
3. Item 11 amend Leitchfield to Leitchland

6.2 Matters arising

1. The balance of the IWBCB grant from IC is yet to be received.
2. Wind turbine at Leitchland Farm was approved by officers – the application was not presented to the Planning Committee because there were not sufficient objections.
3. Mrs Chambers has been removed as a signatory for the IWBCB bank account and is replaced by Gordon.

ACTION: Cllr Nelson to check the position with the IWBCB grant with Cllr Rebeci

ACTION: Gordon to forward email objecting to Wind turbine at Leitchland Farm sent to IC to Cllr Nelson to investigate reason why it was not taken into consideration in the planning application process.

Minutes proposed as accurate by Ron Potter and seconded by Telfer Ramage.

7. Idzholm Woodland

Tracy provided a report from the meeting organised by IWBCB on Thursday 23 August 2012 at Inverkip Church hall:

- More than 40 residents, IC councillors and IWBCB in attendance. Apologies from Hugh Ritchie and Cllr G. Dorrian.
- Hugh Clayden, Forestry Commission and Geoff Brown, Bellingham Land Agents - Ardgowan Estates
- An infection of phytophthora ramorum of approximately 12 hectares of larch, woodland on the hill above Bankfoot and down the side of the Kip to Bridgend.
- Fast spreading infection.
- Larch planted in 1928/29 due to be fell within the next 8 years
- Ardgowan Estate reported suspicion of the disease which was confirmed by the Forestry Commission in July 2012 (15-20% of stock affected).
- Devastating disease spreading through the west coast of UK. It is the same infection that caused Ireland's potato famine of the 1840s.
- Expect a notice to be served instructing felling by 28 February 2013.
- Preferred extraction method is to fell, drag or lift
- The same contractor used to remove planting from the site already cleared above Bridgend will be used and is therefore familiar with the topography and land conditions.
- Public access will remain unaffected although responsible activity is key – publicity is to follow.
- The estate has a liability to restock with native species including oak & rowan. Visual improvement is expected within 6-7 years of planting.

8. Inverkip Notice board

It was clarified that the notice displayed on the Inverkip notice board informing plans for Millhouse Road was a mock-up for consideration by Environmental Services for a number of traffic issues in the area. The notice has since been removed.

9. Secretary's Report

- Notice board - Removal of mock-up of Millhouse Road stopping order
- Email – re notice of meeting time from community police inspector
- Meeting agendas
 - Taxi fares – 8.8.12
 - Policy & Resources committee – 14.8.12
 - Audit Committee – 21.8.12
 - IC CHCP committee – 28.8.12
 - Environment & Regeneration Committee – 30.8.12
 - Education & Communities Committee – 4.9.12
 - Planning Board – 5.9.12
- Planning: <http://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/planning-and-the-environment/planning/planning-applications/application-registers-weekly-list>
- AGM – Your Voice
- TRO – Cloch Road – extends 30mph zone to 'Cabervans', increasing from there to 50mph restriction.
- CVS - Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill invitation to consultation meetings (11th – 13th September 2012 at Notre Dame High School 6pm - 9pm)

10. Treasurer's Report and Expenses discussion

Ron Potter gave the following report:

- The CC's bank account balance is £388.83 at 6.9.12 – no expenses outstanding.

Ron raised the issue of CC expense payment once again. The purchase of mobile phones for CC office bearers was discussed. While it is possible for receipts for consumables to be submitted with expense claims Tracy reminded the advice received at a previous meeting about itemising other more ambiguous expenses. It was suggested that consideration could be given to IWBCB agreeing amounts for phone calls over agreed expense claim periods.

11. Daff Glen Project

Eileen provided the following report:

- A bid to the People's Health Lottery is being considered – *applications will only be accepted from constituted bodies*. The project is still to be constituted.
- Eileen is to respond to Charlie Cairns at IC's funding questions
- Eileen will convene a meeting of those previously involved and will be joined by David & Jean

12. CVS - Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill

CVS - Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill invitation to consultation meetings (11th – 13th September 2012 at Notre Dame High School 6pm - 9pm)

Gordon plans to attend CVS event and may be joined by Eileen.

ACTION: All to read Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill and send comments to Gordon

13. AOCB

13.1 Inverkip Library – No one was able to answer Eileen's query about the progress of the library due to open on 26 September 2012. Questions could be directed to IC corporate director of Environment, Regeneration & Resources, Aubrey Fawcett.

13.2 Spey road – Access to Finnockbog Road

Holes have appeared in fencing off the roundabout through to Finnockbog Road. To be discussed in more detail at the next meeting. Consideration could be given to accessing £227k community grants budget.

14. Date and time of next meeting – Thursday 4 October 2012 at 7pm in Inverkip Primary School.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9:30pm

Appendix

Police Report

The following was obtained by email from PC Steven Rankin after the meeting and was therefore not discussed:

Period covered: 02/08/2012 – 05/09/2012

Beats covered: KC51

Crime/Incident statistics provided

Incidents: 122

Incidents of note -

- Assist member of the public: 23
- Complaints: 21
- Disturbances: 4
- Road Accident: 2

No. of Crimes: 24 with 8 detections. Further police enquires are currently ongoing

Instances of Notes – These crimes consisted of

- 1x Common Assault – Detected.
- 3 x vandalism – No detections - enquires ongoing
- 1 x Environmental Protection Act (littering) – Detected
- 5 x offences under the Road Traffic Act 1988 (Inc 3x drink drivers) – All detected.
- 8 x theft - no detections - enquires ongoing
- 1 x theft by housebreaking - enquires ongoing
- 2 x Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act – 1 detected, enquires ongoing.
- Wilful Fire raising – Cloch Caravans. Enquires ongoing