

INVERKIP AND WEMYSS BAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Business Meeting held on Thursday 7th October 2010 in Wemyss Bay Primary School

Present: Hugh Ritchie; Ron Potter; Liz Roders; David Adams; Telfer Ramage; Brian Blacklaw.

Apologies: Lynne Chambers and Brian McArthur

In attendance: Cllr Dorian ; Cllr Rebecchi; Cllr Nelson; N Cupples; C Lyon ; A McIntyre; M Allen ; PC Peebles; PC Simpson.

Chairman Hugh Ritchie expressed the sincere condolences of the Council to Brian McArthur whose father has passed away.

3. Planning Matters

As the police were not yet in attendance the Chairman took Planning Matters first. Mark Allen, a wind turbine expert, gave a full explanation of the application of Mr A McIntyre for a wind turbine at his farm. Mr Allen described the size and location of the single turbine. It would be smaller than the one at the new high school in Greenock but slightly larger than the one at the roundabout in Port Glasgow. Questions followed regarding the site in relation the nearby landing strip for light aircraft. Comment was also made regarding the “flicker” effect. The Council unanimously agreed to the application but agreed to write to the Planning Board expressing possible concern about the flicker effect.

4. Police Matters.

PC Peebles and PC Simpson joined the meeting. They gave the apologies for usual community officer, PC Billy Gray and said Inspector Paul has been transferred to help with the Tall Ships preparations. Inspector Boyle and Sgt Steven Anderson were now in charge. The figures for September were:

8 reported crimes including 1 assault, (someone has been charged)

2 thefts

2 vandalisms

1 breach of the peace

1 dangerous driving.

The PCs were asked to send the figures for the previous months.

Sgt Anderson had reported 40 motorists had been stopped regarding possible speeding on Spey Road - 3 were given strong warnings.

The Officers also agreed to pass on a complaint regarding parking at the top of Station Avenue on the bend just before the station.

5. Minutes of Meetings held on Thursday 2nd September 2010 and Thursday 9th September 2010. Matters arising:

Community Facility: Hugh Ritchie explained there had been two additional meetings since the Business Meeting of the 2nd of September – on the 5th and 9th September 2010. The first meeting dealt with one agenda item only – to consider and comment on a recommendation from the Inverkip Community Facilities group that it should apply for an Awards for All Scotland grant for £10,000 to fund a feasibility study for the proposed Inverkip community facility. The Community Council (CC) voted unanimously to support the application. There being further business to be considered another meeting was held on Thursday 9th September 2010. The Minutes for the Business Meeting of 2nd September and the Meeting on the 5th September were proposed and seconded at that Meeting.

Scottish Ferries Review: carried forward from the Business Meeting of the 2nd of September. Telfer Ramage undertook the onerous task of filling in the Scottish

Government's extensive consultation document and it was despatched on schedule
Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places: the secretary contacted Inverclyde Council to inquire if a response was required from the CC at this time. There are no changes in place yet - the letter was merely to alert the CC and further information will be received in course. The CC was asked if it had any current issues but the secretary confirmed none had been reported.

Planning Management Survey: the Scottish Government sought to understand the impact over the last year to changes made in Planning Management – the Association of Scottish Community Councils (ASCC) asked for feedback from its members. After discussion, several points were made and sent to the ASCC

Discrepancy in Amey's map of Bankfoot Roundabout: the secretary was asked to contact Transport Scotland to draw to its attention the recommendations made following the final meeting in June of the Review of Junctions at Inverkip on the A78 had not as yet been undertaken – road lining at the Main Street junction and lane demarcation at Bankfoot Roundabout. Ron Potter brought to the attention of the Meeting that Amey's map of the roundabout showed a smoother entry to the roundabout from both Inverkip and Greenock than in fact exists.

Waterhead Moor, Largs: the secretary had been alerted to an application by SSE Renewables to North Ayrshire Council for a windfarm at Waterhead Moor, Largs. Having ascertained the Moor lies within the boundaries of Clyde Muirshiel Park, the secretary contacted SSE Renewables and asked for updates and timetables on its application's progress to be sent to the CC. SSE Renewables has undertaken to do so. The secretary contacted the Save Your Regional Park group and it will also keep the CC informed

Overflowing recycling bins in Inverkip: Further to Hugh Ritchie's observation that recycling bins in Inverkip were constantly in need of emptying, Cllr Dorrian said he would pursue the issue. He emailed the secretary to say the Head of Environmental Services has already reported the issue. The bins were emptied shortly afterwards

Road markings, Manse Road, Inverkip: It was reported to the 2nd September Business Meeting that road markings at the bottom of Manse Road have been almost worn away at the junction with Main Street. The markings on the road from Sainsbury's joining with Main Street are also worn. Cllr Dorrian said he would follow

his up. He contacted the Roads department and the request will be passed to the roads network management section to be added to their white lining programme

Poor telecommunications in the local area: The secretary contacted British Telecom to try to discover why telecommunications are so poor in the area. She was told Openreach (a stand-alone company) was now the owner of telecom lines in Inverkip and Wemyss Bay. She contacted Openreach to be told broadband services are supplied to end-users by Communications Providers (CPs) and it is they who invest in exchange equipment for those services to be provided. Openreach is a supplier to CPs, do not supply broadband services and are legally restrained from dealing directly with CP customers. Any problems with existing services must be made directly to the broadband CP supplying the service to the end user.

The Minutes were approved - proposed by Ron Potter and seconded by Liz Roders.

6. Secretary's Report and Correspondence:

In the absence of the secretary Ron Potter gave the details of the correspondence.

Letter from Inverclyde Council (IC) with leaflets and posters for an Alliance Community Event in the Paton Street Community Centre on the 25th September

From IC – results from the Fifth Citizens' Panel Survey

From IC – notice of Inverclyde People's Day – Drugs, Alcohol and You – to be held on Thursday 7th October at the Town Hall, Greenock

Letter from Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority detailing its Strategic Development Plan – Main Issues Report and Strategic Environmental Assessment - setting out an overall vision for the long-term future of the Glasgow and Clyde Valley city-region to 2035. The Main Issues Report will be available to view at all constituent local authorities' planning offices and all local libraries. The formal consultation period commenced on the 30th of September 2010 and runs for an eight week period until Friday 29th November 2010.

Newsletter from Inverclyde Community Health Partnership

Letter from IC detailing Proposed Traffic regulation Order – Disabled Persons' Parking Places (On Street) Order 1 2010 – having consulted with colleagues the secretary reported the CC had no objections, representations or comments to make
Email from Gail Baxter, the contact for residents interested in the Hill Farm footpath in Inverkip. She said there was nothing to report at this stage

Email from Cllr Dorrian, forwarding information from the Local Authority Liaison Police Officer that from 9th October Inverclyde will have Street Pastors patrolling Greenock Town Centre on Friday or Saturday nights or both. The Pastors will be uniformed and will be working in groups of 3 or 4. Initially they will be on duty between 2200-0300

Email from MSP Duncan McNeil acknowledging receipt of a copy of the CC's letter to Transport Scotland re the A78 junction review

Email from MSP Stuart McMillan as above

Email from Cllr Dorrian forwarding information from DigitalUK re digital TV Switchover Drop In Clinics.

Scottish Ferries Review. Telfer Ramage reported that the CC had proposed the basic arrangement should be maintained as present.

7. Treasurer's Report: CC Proposed Spend for 2010-11 - Ron Potter has sent an email to Inverclyde Council but received no reply as the officers are on holiday. The balance as of 7th October is £1055.51.

8. Planning

Ron Potter took the meeting through the remaining applications.

Inverkip – Old Police House, Main Street - further to the Business Meeting held on the 2nd of September when it was agreed the CC would object to the change of use of the Police House to a restaurant, the secretary lodged an objection to the application
Wemyss Bay – Kellybank Inn – Kelly Bank Caravan Park, Kelly Road - alterations and extensions to the Kellybank Inn

122 Harbourside – enlarged window to accommodate new sliding doors with Juliet balcony

Greenock – Spango, Inverkip Road – demolition of existing redundant buildings

Wemyss Bay – west side of Greenock Road – installation of electricity sub-station housing – withdrawn

Inverkip – Hill Farm (areas 8 and 9) – substitution of house types on 25 plots and creation of 2 additional plots by Stewart Milne
Inverkip – 10 Cromarty Grove – construction of dwellinghouse (amendment to planning permission IC/00/139) – Manor Kingdom

Inverkip – Binnie Place, 62 Main Street – repainting of dwellinghouse (in retrospect)

Wemyss Bay -Wemyss Bay Station, Shore Road – alterations to platforms, including trimming and treatment of platform edge, raising level of platforms and installation of new lighting and CCTV – granted

Inverkip – 14 Lapwing Grove – erection of balcony to rear of property

The secretary reported she had checked IC's Local Review Body Agenda for October and there appeared to be no matters relating to Ward 6

The Chairman said he had objection forms available regarding the Waterhead Moor Wind farm application.

9. Green Grants: Cllr Dorrian forwarded details of a funding opportunity for Community Groups seeking to improve their environment – Wee Green Grants – Inverclyde Council is offering grants of up to £500. The closing date for applications is the 1st of December 2010

10. Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 4th November 2010 at Inverkip Primary School at 7.30pm

11. Any other business:

Ron Potter raised concerns regarding the insurance cover for CC members in view of the reported situation where, in another CC, members were being sued by another member. Cllr Rebecchi said he would find out what the cover is.

Liz Roders brought up the situation regarding lack of a grant for cavity wall insulation in certain types of house build.

*Regarding the £10,000 grant mentioned in the Minutes above, a tender went out to 3 parties on October 15th. Following a presentation by all 3 on November 11th, one will be appointed to undertake the survey.

Ron Potter reported that Inverclyde Council has adopted a new Scheme for CCs including new boundaries. There will now be 11 CCs. A Public notice will be issued on October 11th allowing an eight week consultation. The final draft should be ready for 11th April with elections in June 2011.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30pm