

Minutes of Meeting of South Cowal Community Council Held in Innellan Village Hall on 8 March 2006

Present:
Councillor J R Walsh
Dr C Valentine
Mrs I Pratt
Mrs M Little
Mr R McGilvray
Mr S F Pearson
Mrs P Forsyth

Attending:
Rev D Anderson
Mrs S Anderson
Ms J Kelly
Mr W Dalziel
Mr Y Laho
Mr J Gillespie

The meeting commenced at 7pm.

1. Councillor Walsh welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was noted that apologies for absence had been received from Mr G McKenzie of the Area Corporate Services Office of Argyll and Bute Council.

2. Election of Office Bearers

- a. It was **agreed** to appoint Dr C Valentine as Chairperson of the South Cowal Community Council, and he thereupon assumed the Chair.
- b. It was **agreed** to appoint Mr R McGilvray as Treasurer.
- c. It was **agreed** to appoint Mrs P Forsyth as Secretary pro tem.
- d. It was **agreed** to appoint Mr S F Pearson as Vice Chairperson.
- e. It was **agreed** to appoint Mrs I Pratt to the combined role of Planning and Licensing Liaison.

3. Innellan Church Sensory Garden Project

Following on from agreement at the meeting of 13 February 2006, and the Outline Proposal document previously circulated to Community Council members, Rev D Anderson of Innellan Church provided details of the proposed Innellan Church sensory garden project and associated funding needs. The proposal was supported by the members and it was **agreed** that a small group be established consisting of 3 members of the Community Council and appropriate representatives of the Church. It was agreed that the Community Council would be represented in this group by Dr Valentine, Mrs Pratt and Mr McGilvray. The first meeting of the group would be held on Wednesday 15 March 2006 at 7 pm in the Church Hall, and Ms J Kelly, Landscape Architect, would also attend.

Ms Kelly took the opportunity to highlight to the meeting the types of consideration required for funding requests, namely:

- What is the project?
- Who is it for?

Minutes of Meeting of South Cowal Community Council Held in Innellan Village Hall on 8 March 2006

- Who will benefit?

She stated that she could assist in the preparation of a brief for such purposes and it was agreed that this would be the main business of the first meeting of the small group, in conjunction with the drafting of a constitution for the group. She also referred attendees to the Website: <http://www.ghh.info> for an example of work that she had done previously with the Glasgow Homeopathic Hospital.

It was **agreed** that the small group would be named the "Matheson Garden Project Group".

4. Model Constitution and Model Standing Orders

The Community Council went on to review and discuss the Model Constitution and Model Standing Orders, as previously circulated to members. They also considered previous practice of the Council.

Discussion ensued on the prohibitive cost of advertising meetings in the local newspaper. It was noted that local awareness and notification could be achieved via newspaper articles in addition to the usual posting of notices, particularly when a subject of major significance is being addressed. In such cases, it was also suggested that meeting advertisements in the newspaper could perhaps be funded by any business interests involved who may be keen to solicit community opinion. Councillor Walsh advised that letters could also be sent to individual households on matters of importance.

Mr Pearson **agreed** to provide the local newspaper with regular updates on the Community Council's activities.

It was **agreed** that a Website should be established to facilitate notification of meetings and the posting of minutes and other communications. Mrs Forsyth agreed to implement this subsequent to agreement from members of the associated hosting costs, to be notified.

It was **agreed** that the first item of business for the next meeting of the Community Council would be the establishment of dates and times for the remaining year. Mr Pearson agreed to find out details of the availability of the Village Hall.

The Model Constitution and Model Standing Orders were **adopted** subject to the following amendments being incorporated:

- a. Notices calling meetings of the Community Council must be displayed at least 7 clear days before the meeting.
- b. Summons to members to a meeting of the Community Council must be issued 7 clear days before the meeting.
- c. Motions for consideration at a meeting must be submitted to the Secretary at least 14 clear days before the meeting.
- d. The Community Council will meet on a maximum of 10 occasions, including the Annual General Meeting, each year.

Mr McKenzie would be requested to supply a copy of the Model Constitution and Model Standing Orders in electronic format for amendment.

Minutes of Meeting of South Cowal Community Council Held in Innellan Village Hall on 8 March 2006

5. Code of Conduct

A copy of the Code of Conduct was circulated and **noted**.

6. Any Other Relevant Business

a. Cheque Signatories

Mr McGilvray produced a form to document cheque signatories for the Community Council. This was signed by the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

b. Grants

Mr Gillespie pointed out that it was invariably a pre-requisite that a Community Council should have some funds already available before grants would be awarded for projects. Members were informed of the Council's present bank balance.

c. Additional Members

Mrs Pratt informed the meeting that she was aware of at least 2 to 3 other individuals who were presently interested in becoming members of the Community Council. It was **agreed** that these individuals would be given the opportunity to become co-opted members.

d. Future Meeting Topics

Dr Valentine encouraged the attendees to think about agenda items for future meetings, particularly in relation to the following areas:

- Wind farms
- Funding
- Access grants
- Local Health Board
- Area improvements.

7. Any Other Relevant Business

It was **agreed** that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 5 April 2006 at 7 pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:45 pm