

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

Present:
Dr C Valentine (Chair)
Dr S F Pearson (Vice Chair)
Mrs P Forsyth (Secretary)
Mr R McGilvray (Treasurer)
Mrs I Pratt
Mrs M Little
Mr M Jones

Attending:
Mr M MacAulay
Ms E Troup
Mrs C Gilles
Ms J Clark
Mr W Jardine

1. The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm. Apologies were noted from Councillor Dick Walsh and Mrs Suzi Gamage.

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 11 October 2006

2.1. The minutes were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.

2.2. Matters Arising

2.2.1. Ref Item 4: Public Partnership Forum in the Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership

It was confirmed that the registration form for the Highland HealthVOICES Network had been posted to the Community Council's Website.

2.2.2. Ref Item 9: Matheson Lane

Dr Valentine reported that there was no further update on this subject until such time as Councillor Walsh could provide a briefing.

2.2.3. Ref Item: 13.2: Toward Lighthouse

It was **agreed** that, as the lighthouse was privately owned, it was inappropriate for the Community Council to pursue improvements in its upkeep.

2.2.4. Ref Item 13.3: Water Quality

Dr Valentine had prepared a letter in relation to water quality measurements, however, this had not been issued in view of the recent Council decision to refuse planning permission for the proposed Bullwood Quarry sewerage facility. Mrs Forsyth drew the meeting's attention to documentation that she had received concerning the new body for handling Scottish Water complaints, "Waterwatch".

2.2.5. Ref Item 5: Wind Farms

Dr Valentine circulated information on domestic wind turbines, although Mr Jardine commented that the fund for grants for such had run out.

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

3. Matheson Garden

It was noted that Rev Anderson would be leaving the community on 22 January 2007. It was understood that plans for the Garden were well developed and that a response was awaited from the Lotteries Fund.

4. Ardyne Point Presentation – Turley Associates

Turley Associates, engaged by Sir Robert McAlpine, were represented by Mr MacAulay and Ms Troup. They explained that their company was involved in the planning and urban design aspect of the proposed development and that WSP Group PLC were presently conducting an environmental assessment. They presented information on the proposal, a copy of which would be posted to the Community Council Website.

Turley Associates invited suggestions as to who should be consulted in relation to the proposal in addition to those already listed and they were advised by the attendees to include the Crown Estates, Toward Sailing Club and Castle Toward.

Mrs Gilles raised the issue of the possibility that Argyll Wind Farms Ltd would seek to use Ardyne Point to ship in components for their proposed wind farm development. In addition, Mrs Pratt noted that the road leading to Toward Primary School, which was without a pavement, would need to be improved to support increased traffic levels.

With regard to the potential for a ferry service operating from Ardyne Point to Bute, Ms Clark noted that consideration should be given to the possible effect that this would have on the people of the Colintraive area.

It was anticipated that an outline planning application would be ready by February 2007 and Turley Associates proposed to return to meet with the Community Council around that time. Meantime, feedback was sought from the community in response to the questionnaire included with the presentation. Dr Valentine **advised** that he would produce a separate online survey and requested ideas for questions to be submitted to him.

5. Armistice Day

Dr Valentine stated that he had ordered a wreath for the ceremony on 12 November 2006. Dr Valentine and Mrs Little agreed to supply baking and Mrs Forsyth agreed to supply tea. These 3 Community Council members would also attend the ceremony.

6. Wind Farms - Black Craig Planning Application

Mrs Forsyth reported that no reply had been received from the Argyll and Bute Council Planning Department regarding the Community Council's request for an extension on the date specified for a response to the Black Craig application.

Dr Valentine presented a briefing document entitled "The Moral High Ground" and invited comment via email. It was **agreed** that this, and the proposed response to the Black Craig application, would be discussed at the January meeting of the Community Council.

7. Matheson Lane

A letter to residents of Matheson Lane was on hold until such time as an update could be obtained from Councillor Walsh.

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

8. Housing Development/Conservation in South Cowal

Mr Jones proposed to invite the appropriate conservation officer in Argyll and Bute Council Planning Department to visit South Cowal in order to review the apparent gap in the protection of the local area in the Local Plan. It was **agreed** that he would do so and report back to the Community Council.

In addition, Mr Jones **agreed** to contact Fyne Homes in relation to affordable housing in the area.

9. Community Council Policy

Dr Valentine presented the meeting with a briefing document on "How SCCC forms policy". This would be used to help others understand the principles and values that the Community Council wished to pursue and would be developed further.

9.1. Environmental Policy

The proposed environmental policy was **approved** subject to the following amendments:

"Council welcomes the removal of preferred area of search status (for Windfarms) and the replacement by a constrained area from some of the land for which the council is responsible because each proposed installation will have to be fully justified, which can only be a good thing."

to read:

"Council welcomes the removal of preferred area of search status (for Windfarms) and the replacement by a constrained area from some of the land for which the council is responsible which removes the assumption that the area would be acceptable."

The following sentence should be removed:

"There is little benefit in Cowal becoming a net exporter of power."

The last sentence:

"Matters to which the council will give particular attention are visual impact of generators and transmission lines, disruption and nuisance during construction phase and direct financial benefit to the community of South Cowal."

should read:

"Matters to which the council will give particular attention are visual impact of generators and transmission lines, disruption and nuisance during construction phase, impact on wildlife, and direct financial benefit to South Cowal."

It was **agreed** that this policy statement would be posted on the Website and comments would be invited.

10. Chairman/Secretary's Report

Dr Valentine had recently met with Alan Reid MP and proposed that he be invited to a future Community Council Meeting. This was **agreed** for the meeting of 14 February 2007.

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

It was advised that Dr Valentine and Mr McGilvray would be attending the Argyll and Bute Community Forum to be held on 8 December. In addition, Dr Valentine had spoken with Ms Ann Gabriel of Dunoon Community Council who had passed on information concerning a biomass project near the present landfill in Dunoon. No notification of this had been received by South Cowal Community Council.

Mrs Forsyth drew the meeting's attention to an invitation she had received from Greater Glasgow Health Board which was looking for volunteers for their Ethics Panel.

11. Future Meeting Invitees

In addition to the local MP, it was suggested that a future invitee to the Community Council's meeting could be an NHS Locality Manager.

12. Any Other Business

12.1. Mrs Pratt advised of a scam operating in the local area wherein residents were notified of an attempted parcel delivery and requested to phone a 0906 number. This number resulted in premium rate charges of £15 per minute.

12.2. Innellan Pier Sub Committee

Dr Pearson reported that the first meeting of the sub committee had been held and that research activity was continuing apace. Mr Adams had produced a drawing of the proposed pier development.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm

Signed **Chairman**

Date