

## **Minutes of Meeting of South Cowal Community Council Held in Innellan Village Hall on 11 October 2006**

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

**Attending:**  
Mr J Bamber  
Mr J Law  
Mr I Gamage  
Mr R Creelman  
Mr W Jardine  
Mr K Thomson

1. The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm with a presentation to Mr Ken Thomson who had recently retired from ownership of the Lido shop and newsagent in Innellan. Dr Valentine presented him with a gift on behalf of the Community Council in recognition of his many years of service to the local community.
2. Apologies were noted from Mrs M Little and Councillor Dick Walsh.
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The minutes were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.

### **3.1 Matters Arising**

Mr Bamber referred to item 4. which read:

“Dr Pearson reminded the meeting that any funds proposed as a result of a development going ahead represented a refund to the community, which had essentially funded the government subsidies enjoyed by the developer.”

He stated that no subsidies were being given to the developer.

### **4. Public Partnership Forum in the Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership**

Mr Robin Creelman, Interim Chair of the Argyll and Bute Community Health Partnership (CHP), presented details of the CHP and the Public Partnership Forum (PPF) to the meeting. He explained that Argyll and Bute was progressing its own model of locality PPF in Cowal and that this was attached to the Cowal Community Care Forum. He emphasized that this represented an opportunity for public involvement in how health care is delivered. He encouraged people to participate in the Highland HealthVOICES Network (the PPF for NHS Highland) and issued registration forms for that purpose, which would be posted to the Community Council's Website.

### **5. Wind Farms – Black Craig Planning Application**

The Community Council had received a copy of the Black Craig planning application which had since been posted to the Website. The Secretary had submitted a letter to Argyll and Bute's Planning Department requesting an extension to the deadline for comments of 12 October 2006. Mrs Gamage advised that various concerns with the documentation had been raised with

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the planner who would be requesting more information from Land Use Consultants in the weeks ahead. It was **agreed** that Dr Pearson and Mrs Gamage would present a proposed response to the application.

Mrs Gamage advised that West Coast Energy had now commenced scoping work for their proposed Corlarach Hill wind farm. Currently, they were seeking to erect 16 V90 turbines and would be performing sound monitoring at Cluniter Cottage. Mrs Forsyth commented that they were seeking venues to present details to the public both in Cowal and Inverkip.

Mr Gamage cautioned that giving consent to one application did not necessarily preclude further installations being approved.

### **6. Matheson Garden Project**

There were no further updates on this project.

### **7. Planning**

It was noted that, due to the short notice provided, no-one had been available from the Community Council to attend the meeting that day concerning Scottish Water's application to install sewage works at Bullwood Quarry.

### **8. Community Council Website**

It was noted that, although the wind farm survey had now finished and the results were available on the Community Council's Website, as this was a matter of ongoing concern it would be appropriate to extend the exercise to allow others to express their views. Dr Valentine informed the Council that such surveys could be conducted online, which would allow the Council to canvass community opinion on both this and other matters. It was **agreed** that the wind farm survey should be made available online at southcowal.org at a cost to the Community Council of \$19.

### **9. Matheson Lane**

A meeting would be held on 13 October 2006 on this subject between Councillor Walsh, the Head of Legal Services from Argyll and Bute Council and Dr Valentine, representing the Community Council. It was **agreed** that Dr Valentine would write a letter to the residents of Matheson Lane to update them on the status.

### **10. Housing Development/Conservation in South Cowal**

Mr Jones presented information on land use and housing growth in the South Cowal area. He focused in particular on the removal from the latest Local Plan of a presumption in favour of housing development on Wyndham Road, but noted that the land in question was still owned by Persimmon Homes. He reported a concern over the lack of affordable housing in Innellan that had emerged during the campaign to remove the Housing Allocation on Wyndham Road. He also pointed out that the built environment in South Cowal was not well protected, there being no listed buildings in Innellan, and questioned why a section of the Shore Road remained the only "Special Built Environment" in the Local Plan. Discussion on this subject would continue at the next meeting.

### **11. Executive Procedures**

It was **agreed** that the procedures that had been employed of late in relation to decisions taken outside of meetings were acceptable as standard.

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## 12. Environmental Policy

Dr Pearson presented a draft environmental policy to the meeting for comment. It was **agreed** that a formal motion should be proposed at the next meeting.

## 13. Any Other Business

### 3.3.1 Star Garage

Mrs Gamage noted that the Star Garage, which was owned by Argyll and Bute Council, appeared to be falling into a state of dilapidation. This would be raised with Councillor Walsh.

### 3.3.2 Toward Lighthouse

Mr Bamber indicated that it was apparent that Toward Lighthouse needed painting. It was agreed that ownership of the lighthouse would be investigated with a view to raising this concern.

### 3.3.3 Water Quality

Mr Jones referred to an advertisement that had been placed in the local paper by Scottish Water referring to improved water quality subsequent to their treatment works installation. He suggested that it would be useful to ask them to take samples of the water quality now so that an accurate comparison could be made later.

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm**

**Signed** ..... **Chairman**

**Date** .....