

**Minutes of the meeting of South Cowal Community Council on
Wednesday 14 January 2009 in Innellan Village Hall at 1930 hrs**

	Action
<p>Present</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forbes Pearson, Vice Chairman 2. Jennifer Bryson, Secretary 3. Richard McGilvray, Treasurer 4. Jim Bamber 5. Irene Pratt 6. Tony miles <p>Also present</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alistair MacAlister, Councillor, Argyll & Bute 2. Anne Gabriel, Dunoon Community Council 3. Eileen Brand 	
<p>1. Apologies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Margaret Little b. Chris Valentine c. Dick Walsh, Councillor, Argyll & Bute 	
<p>2. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 08</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Minutes agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Vice Chairman 	
<p>3. Matters arising</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. SEPA's and the Toward residents <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The letter from SCCC has been sent out; the responses will go to the Chairman. CV b. Remembrance Service at Innellan <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. No update yet. DW c. Forces' Boxes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Date not yet confirmed with Somerfield JB ii. Alistair McAlister suggested Council be contacted re borrowing a wheelie bin for the collection JB d. Christmas Tree <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Thanks to Martin Jones for arranging the tree and the lights e. Christmas Lights <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The three winning houses to be given a certificate JB ii. Schools to each to be given £20 vouchers. JB 	

<p>4. Community Council Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Anne Gabriel presented her view on the situation to date <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. It is reported that there is a lack of clarity on the roles of the Community Councils, the Local Authority and the Government. ii. There have been a number of meetings regarding the review in A & B but as the Councillors haven't yet met to discuss community councils there is still no clarity on what may be proposed iii. A questionnaire was going to be sent out to CCs but that has been postponed. b. It was suggested that perhaps the CCs should write expressing their concerns about the review c. Alister MacAlister said as there are 11 CCs in Cowal it was almost impossible for the local councillors to attend them all and thus it was felt that they were not reflecting the needs of the community d. Forbes Pearson expressed concern that SCCC should be grouped with <i>Dunoon Urban</i> as it covers a much more rural and sparsely populated area that stretches to the head of Loch Striven. e. There was concern that with A & B a lack of local knowledge would lead to anomalous set-ups. 	
<p>5. Police Report Dec 08</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nothing from the police even though Irene Pratt phoned them. 	
<p>6. Chairman's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. As the Chairman was not present there was no report. 	
<p>7. Planning Officer's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Planning application at Toward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. As requested Jim Bamber tabled the paper he had produced regarding potential grounds for opposition to the planning application. He concluded that although there are bluebells there are no protected fauna and the fact that woodland is self seeded and about 60 years makes the only grounds for opposition on the basis of the loss of a local amenity. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Scottish Water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. It is about to start work on Bullwood Quarry and blasting will take place. At that time there is likely to be traffic closures. c. Thornwood Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Eileen Brand reported that there had been a planning officer on-site and he talked of a house and a nature trail. 	
<p>8. Secretary's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Meeting with Pam Forsyth regarding the website will take place on 21 January 09. Eileen Brand and Chris Valentine will also attend. 	JB/CV
<p>9. Treasurer's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The bank balance is £3,466.00 b. There was discussion regarding a donation towards the use of Innellan Hall for these meetings. Agreed in principle. c. Concern was raised about the cost of conducting the next elections (each resident has to be sent a voting paper with return envelope). It was agreed that use will be made of the PO service which means you only pay for the ones received (Freepost type). 	
<p>10. Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Tony Miles brought to attention the Scottish Government's proposal to lease out over 75 years forest currently managed by the Forestry Commission. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. There is a consultation paper out but comments need to be made before 27th January. ii. As A & B has 30% of Scotland's forests there were worries that this would impact significantly locally both for Forestry Commission employees but also for local businesses and individuals who use the paths provided. iii. It was agreed that members should register their comments with the Government and that a letter would also be sent to Mike Russell, MSP and the Minister concerned, registering the concern of SCCC. 	JB

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Mental Health Consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Scottish Government has issued a consultation paper on mental health services in A & B. Responses are requested and there have been / will be meetings on the issues c. Windfarms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. SCCC questionnaire still on the website ii. Tony Miles said that the seem to be proliferating and although communities like Glendaruel are benefiting from the one above there the size and the visibility of the ones suggested for Cowal are on a different scale. iii. Anne Gabriel said that Infinity want to meet with all the CCs. d. Civic Pride <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The wood at the top of Ferry Road has been cleared, re-fenced and gated. The owner, Mr Judd is to be sent a letter congratulating him on improving the environs of Innellan. e. Jim Bamber <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Jim tendered his resignation from SCCC. He felt that he was unable to achieve his objectives through the CC and believes that CC's are powerless with the Council. He had enjoyed meeting everyone on the CC. ii. Forbes Pearson accepted his resignation saying that he was sorry that Jim feels unable to continue as a member and that he will be missed. iii. A letter from the Chairman will be sent. 	<p style="text-align: right;">JB</p> <p style="text-align: right;">JB</p>
<p>11. Date of next meeting Wednesday 11 February at 1930 hrs in Innellan Village Hall.</p>	