

ARROCHAR, TARBET & ARDLUI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Ronald Ross – Chairman	01301 702286	Tim Kinvig - School	01301 702232
Ronnie MacDonald - Vice Chair	01301 702441	Bill Lowe – Environment	01301 702481
Mary Haggarty - Secretary	01301 702553	Iain Hunter – A82 / Ardlui	07712 677002
Ellen Greenwood - Treasurer	01301 702818	Vacant	
Jean Mustarde - Minute Sec	01301 702445	Dawn Gourlay – Co-opted	07901 753610
Ian Kay - Planning	01301 702543	Jim Proctor – Co-opted	01301 702650

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 15 September 2016 **Three Villages Hall**

Present:

Ronald Ross	Chairman	Ian Kay	Planning
Ronnie MacDonald	Vice Chair	Iain Hunter	A82/Ardlui
Mary Haggarty	Secretary	Bill Lowe	Environment
Jean Mustarde	Minute Sec	Charlotte Wallace	National Park

Item 1 - Apologies

Apologies were received from Ellen Greenwood, Dawn Gourlay, Iain Wilkinson - Luss Estates, David Robertson - Forestry Commission, Keith Murray - TS, Calum Smith, Gregor Cameron – Dunbritton and David McKenzie – National Park.

Item 2 – Declaration of Interest

None declared.

Item 3 - Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes were then agreed by the Community Council (CC). Proposed by Bill Lowe and seconded by Ian Kay.

Item 4 – Treasurers Report

The current balance stands at £2,853.82 which includes the War Memorial Grant. The CC recently paid £150 to the National Park for advertising the Neighbour's notification for the War Memorial project in the local paper.

Item 5 – Police Update

Inspector Coleen Wylie sent the following update:

Incidents/Offences:

- **13 Aug** – Road accident caused by careless driving on A82 at Inveranan. Officers following a positive line of enquiry;

- **24 Aug** - Road accident caused by careless driving on A82 at Ardlui. Officers following a positive line of enquiry;
- **6 Sep** – Male charged with careless driving on the A83 at Arrochar;
- **6 Sep** – Male charged with speeding on the A83 at Ballyhennan Crescent.

Bogus Callers – residents are reminded to be wary of bogus callers/workmen particularly at this time of year, seeing out casual work by offering to carry out home repairs/gardening maintenance etc. The individuals involved can be very convincing and often carry out sub-standard work at inflated prices, preying on the vulnerable and elderly. Should you be suspicious of any persons in the area, or are concerned that a neighbour or relative is being targeted, please call 10 a where possible note details of description of persons/vehicles involved.

Road Safety – Local police continue to carry out speed checks in our more rural areas where possible. The Rural Road Safety Actin Plan ran from 15 August – 11 September, whereby a number of motorists were issued Conditional Offer Tickets or warned regarding road safety crimes/concerns. Road Safety patrols will continue supported by the Divisional Road Policing Unit.

Further to concerns raised last month regarding speeding motorcyclists at Ardgartan, the Road Policing Unit has been made aware and they will continue to monitor/carry out speed checks where possible.

The CC raised one issue to be followed up which was the Cold Calling Zone initiative which it was agreed would be trialled within Arrochar but the initiative stalled when PC Crawford left Police Scotland.

Item 6 – National Park

David McKenzie sent the following update:

Scottish Water Plans – a response has been sent regarding Scottish Water's plan for Kilmun/Strone only sewage treatment plans by requesting that they included Blairmore/Loch Long properties in the planned work. We have not had a response yet from Scottish Water, but I have not heard that Argyll and Bute Council (Roads Department) have taken a position that they will not support the SW plans to place large septic tanks beneath the road surface in Kilmun and Strone. Apparently, they are concerned about drainage and settlement round the proposed tanks. They want SW to place the tanks under the shore. As I understand the current position, SW believes this would be a major increase in costs and is considering not proceeding with the project at all. This would mean a continuation of raw sewage into the Holy Loch and Loch Long. I am awaiting confirmation of this before deciding where we go next.

Planning Applications – the following planning application was reviewed:

- The application for the War Memorial Extension has been submitted.

Charlotte Wallace updated the CC on Your Park developments re the introduction of the Camping Management Byelaws. Gordon Watson sent his apologies for not attending this meeting. The Your Park initiative aims to improve areas around the loch shores. In May

the NPA made a proposal to Scottish Government, to approve a new set of Camping Management Byelaws (which will replace the existing byelaws that operate on East Loch Lomond) Approval was given by Scottish Government on 26 January to the new camping byelaws, with additional requirements for the NPA to report on progress annually and formally after three years. This reporting which will contain both good and bad issues highlighted by the Park and all agencies involved in maintaining the Park. The Park has committed to an extra 300 camping places to be implemented when the Byelaw is implemented in March 2017. When the byelaw comes into force it will run from 1 March to 30 September each year. The new Byelaw applies in zones across the National Park (Trossachs North, Trossachs West, East Loch Lomond and West Loch Lomond). Within these zones camping activity will be managed. Within these new zones the 300 extra camping places will be identified as locations for people to come and camp. They will be provided as a mix of camping pitches on managed sites, and through issue of camping permits within permit areas. They will be enforced with signage and information to the public outlining the use of these new sites. The information will point those wanting to camp to the right experience be it loch, woodland or sea camping areas. The NPA will have the ability to ensure that the numbers of permits will be flexible across the areas, to allow for managing environmental damage and responding to demand.

The CC suggested that the permits will only be good for those campers who will carefully abide by the new rules but there will still be those that flout the law and camp wherever they choose. The unruly campers will be targeted by the Rangers and Operation Ironworks. It will also be useful for local knowledge to highlight were any problems occur. Ranger operation will be focussed on covering the introduction of the byelaw and the NPA are looking at the use of volunteers and communities to assist with the gathering of information across the areas covered.

The cost of staying on a campsite (pitch) is yet to be formally approved. The NPA will be looking at all opportunities to make camping pitches (on sites) and camping permits available on-line or through a small number of local outlets. The system is still under construction on how to do this but more details will be forthcoming as the project progresses.

The byelaw will be able to assist with the eviction of long term caravans from non-maintained laybys. The byelaw will assist with dealing with these problems in Lochside laybys that do not fall under the responsibility of the roads authorities. In addition Rangers now have new powers to issue for illegal fly tipping and littering. Litter collection remains the responsibility of the Local Authority. The Head of Long Loch litter problem is a different kind of problem to address.

The CC asked if the BAR site could be patrolled by the Ranger Service, which it will be when the byelaw comes into force as it falls within the Camping Management Zone. The Park are looking at ways to address the problem of the BAR site and the byelaw will help with illegal littering, fly tipping, camping etc.

Work is on-going on where the sites will be positioned along with camping provision, current site improvements – car parking, accessibility – booking system, new ways of Rangers working, signage and communication. The CC requested if within the signage there could be some form of outline to highlight local businesses. The plans for site and permit area development will be made public in October. Feedback on the proposals and the information available is welcomed. The review of the byelaws will need to consider any areas which may see impacts from displacement.

The CC suggested the placement of the Rangers should be addressed to a mid-way point within the local area rather than centralised at Balloch. The centralisation of the Rangers at Balloch has been agreed and they can also assist and assess any situations on route from Balloch to the area to be patrolled. The cc agreed to keep an active interest into the results published in the annual review and submit any reports of incidents via their minutes. The Park website has an option to submit incidents for the Rangers to investigate.

Motor homes and campervans will also be included in the byelaw and can be fined if found in breach if camping in an illegal area. Educating drivers of campervans will be included in the information and signage.

The CC questioned if lorry drivers who have stopped for a designated rest break in a layby covered by the byelaw will be exempt. The byelaws would apply in this instance however, their staff will take a pragmatic approach to these issues and will wherever possible direct people to better resting places which fall within the roads authority control. The NP resources available will be used to target those who are acting irresponsibly.

Further information and updates will follow which will aim to include local flyers, newsletters and further visits to CC meetings.

Item 7 – Projects

War Memorial – planning application submitted and advertised. A new contractor has been approached for an estimate to carry out the work that was to be done by Landmarc.

Pontoon – the background to the project is complete, including the plans being on view to the local community. The planning application for the project has now been sent to the National Park and an application has been submitted to Coastal Communities for funding.

Jim Proctor has stood down from the CC as he will be moving away from the area. The CC took this opportunity to thank Jim for his work and support with the above projects.

Item 8 – Regeneration Forum

The BAR site has been served an Amenity Notice to improve and tidy the area. The CC will also request that work should be done to restrict access to the site including gates across the access road.

Head of Loch Long. – work is being progressed by A&BC's Community Regeneration Officer to find funding to carry out a feasibility study into how head of the Loch can be permanently addressed.

Development Junction A814 / A83. This has been looked at by Cllr MacIntyre and the CC are awaiting word on what the next steps will be and where funding will come from. The land in question is owned by A&BC.

These issues will be address fully at the next Forum meeting on the 10th October 2016.

Item 9 – Luss Estates

Iain Wilkinson sent his apologies for not attending but sent the following update:

- **Tarbet Toilets** – no update.
- **Belmont Plot** ('Chapel' car park) – site clearance being scheduled for week commencing 26 September.
- **Knotweed** – ongoing.
- **Glen Douglas / Tullich Planting** – ground preparation and fencing are underway.

Item 10 – Forestry Commission

No update received.

Item 11 – Argyll and Bute Council

A number of outstanding issues were discussed:

- **Overhanging Trees** – this issue on MacKenzie Avenue remains outstanding.
- **Bye-Election Notices** – received by the CC and will be placed in the Post Office for the forthcoming CC bye-elections.

No update from the Council was received, nor were any councillors in attendance at the meeting. Response from the council to small issues has become more difficult and something needs to be done to improve lines of communications.

Payback Team – the team recently carried out a litter pick on the Back Road and will commence work on the footpath into Succoth in the next week or so. The CC is very grateful for this help within our Community.

Item 12 – Transport Scotland

The CC asked the following questions of TS and received the following update to their letter:

Question: Junction of A82/A83 – the CC welcome the resurfacing work scheduled to be carried out at the above junction. However it is still the firm opinion of the CC and all residents of the area that there should be a roundabout at this point. There is absolutely no doubt that the traffic on the A82/A83 is increasing and the vehicles using it are wider and longer, of which the Tarbet junction takes the strain. This will not go away it will only get worse. We know the road infrastructure was not built to support this volume or size of vehicles but somehow an upgrade to the junction itself has to be considered in the very near future.

Reply: *Transport Scotland has undertaken to review this proposal can be considered within the Tarbet to Inveranan scheme. Bear Scotland have been asked to review the capacity and road safety statistics at A82/A83 junction as part of an operational review.*

Question: On the same issue although there is an on-going discussion on the restructuring of the A82 Tarbet to Inveranan and plans for more work on the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful but the CC think there should be attention shown to the five pinch points on the

A83 from the Tarbet junction to leaving the village of Arrochar as this stretch of the A83 supports all the traffic travelling to the Cowal and Kintyre peninsula. They are Tarbet Post Office Corner, Railway Bridge, Ashfield corner, Glen Loin corner and the Shire Bridge. At these points vehicles repeatedly mount the pavement when passing other road users.

Reply: *Transport Scotland have noted the CCs concerns with regard to the width of the A83 at these locations. A review of road safety in this area will be conducted as road safety is of paramount importance to Transport Scotland and we assess the safety performance of the trunk road network on an annual basis. We do this by screening all locations where*

three or more personal injury accidents have occurred in the preceding three year period. Further investigations are carried out and where appropriate, mitigation measures are prioritised and delivered. This analysis ensures that the limited funding available can be prioritised to those locations that provide the greatest potential accident casualty savings.

Question: Drainage A83 Arrochar to Tarbet – It is visible that BEAR Scotland was carrying out work on the roadside gullies on the A83 between the villages, but, they are still not working properly in periods of high rainfall. Is there a check list or inspection as to exactly what work the contractor has carried out?

Answer: *Bear Scotland has carried out extensive drainage works in the Tarbet/Arrochar area. They will be asked to monitor the route to identify problem areas. All works carried out by BEAR Scotland are recorded in Transport Scotland's Integrated Roads Information System (IRIS).*

Question: Crumbling Walls A82 Tarbet to Ardlui – The CC has had a report that at some points where the boundary walls are crumbling there are stones from the dykes landing on the carriageway. Can this be checked?

Answer: *This has not been reported to BEAR Scotland.*

Question: Village of Arrochar, Loose manhole covers – Loose manhole covers on the carriageway of the A83 at Lochside Guest House and Prospect Bank (The Chip Shop), both of which are tourist accommodation establishments, are being played by the clicking noise both day and night coming from vehicles passing over the offending manholes. This has been reported to BEAR on several occasions.

Answer: *BEAR Scotland has been asked to inspect these manholes to identify which public utility they belong to. Once this is known we will inform the relevant organisation of the problem and update the CC accordingly.*

Details of Resurfacing to Tarbet Junction – BEAR Scotland, acting on behalf of Transport Scotland, are proposing to carry out essential resurfacing works on the A82 Trunk Road. The site is located at the junction of the A82 and A83 I Tarbet. The project has been designed to take place overnight between the hours of 7pm and 7am with no works taking place on Friday or Saturday nights to minimise disruption to weekend and tourist traffic. Traffic management for the improvements will be removed out with working hours however; temporary 30mph speed restriction will remain in place as traffic will be running on a temporary surface. The overnight works are programmed for construction between Wednesday 28 September and Thursday 29 September. The works will be carried out under – way temporary traffic lights and a convoy traffic management system, with a 10mph speed restriction in place throughout. If, due to adverse weather conditions, the work cannot be carried out, the road will remain open as normal to trunk road traffic.

BEAR Scotland and Transport Scotland wish to thank the local community in advance for their patience during these essential works.

- **A83 Taskforce notes from meeting.**

- **Rest and Be Thankful net phase of Mitigation Measures** – Minister committed to review the outcomes of the tender evaluation to ensure value for money whilst considering long term/permanent solutions (including potential for a sump area at the Phase 3 net area if proposed by tenderers).
- **Old Military Road Operation** – Review underway. Works to widen the OMR to 2 way traffic from the southern end for distance of 1km have started.
- **Bus Turning Circle at the top of the Rest and Be Thankful** – Minister to write to bus operators, as the chair of the Taskforce, to stress the desire for bus operators to use the current bus stops.
- **National Transport Strategy/Strategic Transport Projects Review Refresh** - All members of the Taskforce invited to engage in the NTS/STPR process as opportunities arise.
- **Destination Signing/Gateway** – TS/A&B remain content to review proposals from communities or businesses for other potential signage in accordance with regulations and other guidance, eg planning policies, Tourist Signing Guidance).

Item 13 – Dunbritton Housing

The following update was sent by email:

“We have now reviewed the tender returned by the preferred Contractor and have held a meeting with them to discuss the next steps, this went well. The contractor has agreed to provide a draft programme of works showing the works in relation to the trunk road, the access road, and the housing development itself. We have reminded them that the progression of these works must be in line with the planning conditions. We expect to receive the programme from the Contractor next week and will then review it ourselves before reporting back to the CC on the proposals. This timeline will include suggested dates for a community consultation event.”

Residents in Succoth are concerned on the escalating costs of this project being of the opinion that this development has far outweighed its worth when considered against other development sites which are more accessible to existing facilities that this project has to have put into place. Hopefully the local consultancy event may shed more light on the subject.

Item 14 – Development Trust

No update.

Item 15 – Any Other Council Business

Post Office – the CC responded to the consultancy survey with its concerns on the move of this facility from Braeside Stores to the Pitstop. They are content that the Pitstop Trading

Company Ltd will be the new operators of the Post Office facility and the lease will be signed by directors of the company.

Ardlui

- Litter remains outstanding and needs attention;
- Will check if any planning applications have been raised or proposed regarding the bridge pillars at MacGregor's Landing next to Ardlui Hotel as they were being inspected during the week;
- A health charity near Stirling has been approached regarding some funding towards the DFIB machine;
- MacMillan Coffee morning to be held the Holiday Park on Sunday 25 September;

Outstanding issues list – The list will be reviewed from July onwards at the next meeting.

Succoth Fun Day – This event has been in abeyance for 2 years and it has been suggested that it be revitalised with a letter via the School distribution list allowing the request to reach younger parents. If there is no interest shown in this event, a decision will be taken to wind up the fund and use the existing funds for local children's initiatives in the villages.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Community Council Meeting will take place on
20 October 2016 at 1900 in the Village Hall.

Summary of outstanding issues from August 2016 to date

Date of Meeting	Action Point	Actionee
18 Aug 16	CC to attach minutes of the Arrochar Forum to the CC minutes	CC Complete
	Cllr Corry to check on the BAR Site Amenity Order and flag the continuing presence of asbestos on the site	A&BC
	CC to write to the National Park to support the removal of the Tarbet Toilets	CC Complete
	Street Lights on Church Road – 5-6 lights are now inoperative between the doctors surgery towards the Village Inn including one on the main road at the junction;	A&BC
	Water on McKenzie Avenue remains outstanding	A&BC
	Play Park spraying of weed killer in the younger children area whilst toddlers were playing in the area to stop	A&BC Resident of Kirkfield Place received a reply from A&BC on this subject which they were happy with.
	Weeds outside of the play park wall in Church Road	A&BC On going
	Overhanging Trees this issue on MacKenzie Avenue remains outstanding	A&BC On going
	Litter – Both on the pathway between Church Road and Cobbler View, the edges of Church Road and the adjacent field	A&BC On going
	Litter along the path from the hotel to the station in Ardlui	A&BC/TS?
	CC will seek confirmation of what type of checks are performed by Transport Scotland post road works in the area	CC Complete
CC will check if the installation of Broadband in the area is extended to Ardlui	CC	
15 Sep 16	CC to seek follow up on proposed Police Scotland Cold Calling Zone	CC
	CC to review reports and information on the introduction of the National Park Byelaw	CC On going
	CC request A&BC review access to the BAR site	A&BC
	CC to produce newsletter seeking ideas and interest to continue the Succoth Fun Day programme	CC Draft complete.