

ARROCHAR, TARBET & ARDLUI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 16th March 2017 Three Villages Hall

Present:

Ronald Ross	Chairman	Tim Kinvig	School Issues
Ronnie MacDonald	Vice Chair	Iain Hunter	Ardlui
Dawn Gourlay	Projects	Cllr George Freeman	A&BC
Ellen Greenwood	Treasurer	Cllr Robert McIntyre	A&BC
Mary Haggarty	Secretary	Cllr Maurice Corry MSP	A&BC
Ian Kay	Planning	David McKenzie	National Park
Bill Lowe	Environment	Fiona Baker	Election Candidate

Item 1 - Apologies

Apologies were received from Jean Mustard, David Robertson, Iain Wilkinson,

Item 2 – Declaration of Interest

None declared.

Item 3 - Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes were agreed by the Community Council (CC). Proposed by Ronnie MacDonald and seconded by Ellen Greenwood.

Item 4 – Treasurers Report

The current balance stands at £3,630.93 which includes the War memorial grant of £1,860 from the National Park, £1,000 from the Friends of Loch Lomond towards War Memorial Project and the DFIB machine for Ardlui.

At this point the Convenor introduced Fiona Baker to the meeting. Fiona stated that she is standing as an Independent candidate for Lomond North in the forthcoming A&BC. elections. The meeting then continued as per the agenda.

Item 5 – Police Update

No police present or update received.

The CC has however received an e-mail from the Community Inspect Coleen Wylie based at East King Street, Helensburgh. G84 7QP.

*“You will be aware that Police Scotland has launched their consultation phase for the above strategy, which is a draft version of how the Police Services could evolve over the next 10 years and beyond. We’re keen to hear views form local communities and key stakeholders, and you can contribute your opinion by clicking on the **Policing 2026 section of the Police***

Scotland website. *Can I ask you to circulate as widely as possible to residents across Helensburgh and Lomond area? Hard copies are also available if you get back to me”.*

Item 6 – Luss Estates - See item 8.

Item 7 – National Park

Planning Applications – none.

National Park Local Development Plan.

The new Local Development Plan is now in force.

Please find a link here <http://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/planning/planning-guidance/local-development-plan/>

In addition Scottish Government is considering changing the way planning is run in the future. One of the proposals is to look at planning from the bottom up, being built from Communities interests. A consultation is underway entitled Places, People and Planning and can be found here.

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/01/3486>

A new addition to the local Planning Process, which will complement the Local Development Plan is the Local Development Action Programme.

The Action Programme accompanies the Local Development Plan and identifies the actions needed to implement and deliver the development delivery and to highlight where more focussed action is needed to help facilitate this.

The Community Councils will still be the statutory consultee within their area of responsibility.

National Park Partnership Plan

A National Park Partnership Plan is under development and a draft will be open for consultation from the 10th April to the 3rd July 20¹⁷. Communities are encouraged to review this draft and ensure their priorities are receiving the level of focus that is needed.

DMcK pointed out that the Head of Loch Long litter issue is included within the document and this should make it easier for councillors to argue for money to alleviate the problem.

DMcK added that Scottish Water after long debates are putting a large sum of money into a new sewage system for Strone and Kilmun, but this does not change the problem of raw sewage being discharged into Loch Long from the private dwellings in Blairmore and Ardentiny.

Other

With Linda McKay standing down, James Stewart, who has a background in the Private Sector and Army has been appointed as the new convenor to the National Park.

Camping Byelaws. – Now in place.

Firkin Toilets – Toilets at Firkin are still not open, and limited opening hours operating at Tarbet, likewise Inveruglas. With the tourist season about to start this issue needs to be addressed quickly by the National Park.

Succoth access path – CC passed the request from the NP to A&T Development Trust asking if they would take on the task of applying for funding to treat the invasive species

growing in the area of this path. The CC has received no answer but the Trust may have replied to the NP directly.

Item 8 – Projects

War Memorial. Luss Estates have now felled the trees on the Church road side of the site and have delivered the pipe required to pipe the burn. This means the in-kind work pledged by Luss Estate complete. Next steps is Drimsynie Construction will pipe the burn and level the site in preparation for the siting of the gabion baskets to form a wall to the back of the plot. Materials for this work should be on site before the end of March.

Pontoon. The CC has been successful in being awarded the ‘Moving forward grant’ from the National Park. This will fund the Otter Survey and additional drawings which are needed before a full planning application can be submitted.

We have had a meeting with Kirsty Moyes from LEADER which sounds promising. DG will re-vamp some bits of the feasibility study that she has written up and then LEADER will check to see if it will be acceptable or advise as to whether we need a professional input. The CC has received a preliminary response from the Big Lottery.

During a meeting with Visit Scotland they advised us to start looking for letters of support from businesses and authorities within our area.

The CC now needs to decide on the system before plans can be drawn up. Cllr Freeman suggested that the CC contact Garelochhead Support Services for advice re the various types of pontoons available.

Contact should now be made with the Community Partnership Development officer for help with applying for funding grants.

We have been told that Friends of Loch Lomond & the Trossachs have now employed a development officer and we should contact James Fraser and ask if this type of project is within the new officers remit.

Visitors Moorings. These were installed in the Tighness bay by a local Business Association back in the early 90’s. Ian Kay and Tim Kinvig will undertake a dive to establish if they are still intact.

Item 9 – Regeneration Forum – (see also the last Forum minute).

Head of Loch Long – Last mechanical clean-up of the shoreline round the retaining wall of the village side of the car park has taken place. This now concludes the CC’s allocation of grant funding.

A&BC have allocated £200k for beach cleaning in their recent budget which is good, but we are assuming that this will be to cover the whole of Argyll & Bute that has a coast line as long as France.

A letter to Roseanna Cunningham the Cabinet Secretary for Environment has been sent from our two local MSP’s covering this subject.

Viewpoint Junction A83 / A814 – A meeting took place between 7N Architects, A&BC, LLTNP, TS and the CC to discuss the feasibility of a viewpoint at this site. This has resulted in 7N Architects producing a **DRAFT** study of how the site **could** look. We will place this in the 3V Hall for any interested resident to view.

Booklet – This was sent out to Scottish Government Ministers and A&BC officials after the last meeting. We have had meetings with Visit Scotland, CEO of A&BC and Jackie Baillie, MSP West Dumbarton. Letters of support received from, the CEO A&BC and Cllr Freeman.

Acknowledgements from, the First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, Deputy First Minister John Swinney, Transport Scotland Humza Yousaf, Fiona Hyslop the Culture Secretary, Dick Walsh Leader of A&BC and Cllr Corry MSP.

At the seminar ran by Argyll & Bute Council, Community Planning Partnership recently, at the workshop Your Parliament Your Voice, the speaker John McCormick who is the Chair of the Commission for Parliament Reform showed particular interest in the steps we the Arrochar, Tarbet & Ardlui CC had taken to enlighten the ministers and service providers of the problems we have here in our villages. John has since been in contact with the CC with a list of other names he thinks we should send the booklet to. He finds our approach very interesting and would like to keep in touch re our progress.

Brown Site opposite Tarbet Hotel – through the CC's publicity about the brown sites within our area the owners of this site may take steps to tidy the area up. We will ask if they could tidy up and level the site for car parking, but leave the boulders where they are placed as this prevents larger vehicles turning, at present the site can't be used as a drive through for them.

Item 10 – Forestry Commission – No Update.

Item 11 – Ardlui – Defibulator money now in place and purchase of the machine will go ahead. FLLT, the SSE and Ardlui Hotel have now funded the cost, and the Defib will be place at the warden's office.

Transport Scotland has still not cleaned the footpath which runs to the station from Ardlui. Again the speed limit through the village of Ardlui has been brought into questioning following the recent RTA's in Ardlui where the emergency services were in attendance. TS have on several occasions been asked to look at reducing the speed limit on the stretch of the A82 through Ardlui but say that the last speed limit review deemed the present 50mph to be correct. As they deem the speed limit to be correct the CC will ask TS if 'speed awareness, messages' can be displayed to warn drivers to slow down through the village.

Item 12 – Argyll and Bute Council

The CC through A&BC has received an application to review concerning the owner of Mansfield, Arrochar applying for a Premises Licence – 2005 Act (Provisional). The CC has no objection to this being awarded.

Dog Fouling Banner. The CC has purchased another banner to replace the one that was removed from the railings across from the Hall. We have also had a very generous offer from Ben Arthur's Bothy saying that they will collect donations through putting a box on their counter to raise the cost of a further banner which they would like situated at Tighness. Still no sign of the bin requested nearly two years ago to be placed between the village of Arrochar and Tighness for the collection of dog litter. **Action Cllr MacIntyre.**

Slow Sign – request for a SLOW sign to be painted on the A814 at Admiralty Cottages corner has not yet appeared. **Action Cllr MacIntyre.**

Succoth Footbridge – See under Item 7, National Park.

Bemmerside / Still Brae Footbridge – No further on the identifying the ownership of this bridge.

TV Reception survey - on-going.

The Hedge bordering the A814, between the Claymore ground and Cobbler View. During the recent cutting back of vegetation on the A814 this stretch of hedge was left untouched. It may be ACHA's responsibility. Hopefully this problem is not going to be a repeat of the patch of grass at the bottom of the access to MacKenzie Avenue where neither A&BC nor ACHA will cut the grass.
Action Cllr MacIntyre.

Bin Collection – This remains a problem in some areas of the villages especially within housing complex's when bins are not collected on the scheduled day.

Action Cllr MacIntyre

Bus Shelters – Arrochar village. Cllr Freeman stated that he was now very hopeful that the request from him and the CC for a bus shelter in the centre of the village heading south would be successful. Although there was no further update, the CC was aware that A&BC/STP are looking into land ownership issue with a view to identifying a site for the proposed bus shelter.

20's Plenty Signs – The CC will contact A&BC to ask if these signs could be erected on Station Road and Ballyhennan Crescent. However the CC believes that Station Road is not an A&BC adopted road and it may not be considered.

Review of the scheme of Community Councils. Cllr Freeman highlighted that A&BC had produced an excellent electronic DRAFT of a Community Council Handbook to supplement the information in the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils and Best Practice Guidance and that the Council would welcome any comments on the Handbook from the CC. Cllr Freeman agreed to copy it to all Community Councillors.

Item 13. - School Issues. Re the statement in last month's meeting this issue is been looked at through COSLA.

Item 14 – Transport Scotland. The CC has again received correspondence from a local resident concerned about the speed limit on the A83 at the stretch that is locally known as the 'Ballyhennan straight' as well as Ballyhennan Crescent, Station Road and the A82 at the school area, the resident has offered to arrange a meeting with our local MP to see if he can help in this matter.
TS have already stated that the latest speed limit review deem the limits set are correct. The CC will continue to pressure TS on this matter.

A83 Drainage – From Tarbet to the Shire Bridge in Arrochar. Work on these issues has been schedules to start in April 2017.

A83 – Rest and be Thankful. Again major works are taking place in this area. Pits are being put in on the hill side to catch surplus water to enhance the stability of the fencing. Cllr Freeman highlighted concerns at the on-going massive cost of these piecemeal works when it would probably have saved money to implement the permanent solution a number of years ago. On-going.

Item 15 – Dunbritton – No further update, and no sign of the work being started.

Post meeting Note: - Cllr Freeman attended a Strategic Housing Forum meeting on 21st March 2017 where he asked for an update on the Dunbritton development at Succoth. They have now confirmed to him that *“Agreement has been reached in relation to acquiring the area of land required for road widening. Once this is concluded the Association will progress with the site set up and there is an anticipated start date of May 2017”*

Item 16 – Development Trust – The CC representative on the ATCDT was asked if planning would be needed for a large notice board advertising up and coming events was to be placed outside the 3V Hall. The CC is led to believe that all advertising signage in our area needs planning permission from the National Park. However if the board was ‘portable’ we believe this to be exempt from planning.

The CC has received letters from both Luss and Arden Trust and Luss Estate to say they have pulled out of the joint Hydro Scheme Project because they don’t deem it to be viable, this now leaves ATCDT on its own. Cllr Freeman confirmed to the CC that he had been told earlier in the week by David McCowan of the Luss & Arden Community Development Trust that the project had now been abandoned.

This issue was discussed and it was decided by the table that the Convener of the CC should write to the Chair of the ATCDT for more in-depth information.

Item 17 – AOCB

Date of Next Meeting

The next Community Council Meeting will take place on Thursday 20th April 2017 at 1900 in the Village Hall.

