

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 February 2017 Three Villages Hall

Present:

Ronald Ross	Chairman	Iain Hunter	Ardlui
Ronnie MacDonald	Vice Chair	Cllr Robert McIntyre	Argyll and Bute Council
Dawn Gourlay	Projects	PC David Armstrong	Police Scotland
Ellen Greenwood	Treasurer	PC Furhan Iqbat	Police Scotland
Mary Haggarty	Secretary		

Item 1 - Apologies

Apologies were received from Ian Kay, Tim Kinvig, Jean Mustard, Bill Lowe, David Robertson, David McKenzie, Iain Wilkinson, Cllr Maurice Corry, Cllr George Freeman and Stephen Gillen.

Item 2 – Declaration of Interest

None declared.

Item 3 - Minutes of Last Meeting

One amendment. Under item 10 Forestry Commission. Should have read – The lease for the Burger Van does not expire in January 2017, it expires at the end of March 2017.

The minutes were then agreed by the Community Council (CC). Proposed by Dawn Gourlay and seconded by Iain Hunter.

Item 4 – Treasurers Report

The current balance stands at £3,671.02 which includes the grant from the National Park, £200 from the Friends of Loch Lomond and £800 being held for the DFIB machine for Ardlui and £1,860 Park grant for War memorial. See items 8 and 11 below.

Item 5 – Police Update

Date	Location	Crime/Incident	Persons charged
27/12/16	Ballyhennan Crescent, Tarbet	Speeding	1xmale reported
7/1/17	A82 Tarbet	Drink driving offence and possession of controlled substance	1xmale arrested
23/1/17	Ardgartan, Arrochar	Dangerous Dog Act 1991 S(3)	Male bitten by dog. Enquiry continues with owner of dog.
27/01/17	Ballyhennan Crescent, Tarbet	Speeding	1xmale reported
27/1/17	Ballyhennan Crescent, Tarbet	Speeding	1xmale reported
11/2/17	Ballyhennan Crescent, Tarbet	Speeding	1xmale reported.

Road Safety.

Local police continue to carry out speed checks in the Tarbet and Arrochar area where possible. This has led to a number of drivers being charged / or warned regarding their driving. Residents are reminded to report any concerns by calling 101.

Bogus Callers.

Unfortunately there can be a rise in Bogus workmen type crimes during spring/summer months Police Scotland is reminding residents to be wary of and bogus workmen or cold callers either to your home address or via telephone calls, text messages or emails pretending to be from large companies offering to carry out computer or other home/garden maintenance. The individuals involved in these scams can be very convincing, please be wary and if you receive any unsolicited contact never feel pressured into engaging with these persons or provide any personal/bank details. If you believe you have been a victim of this type of crime or are concerned a neighbour or family member is being targeted please call 101. If you are suspicious of any persons or vehicles in the area, please note descriptions and call Police Scotland on 101. You can also obtain further Crime Prevention advice by visiting the Keep Safe page on the Police Scotland website.

It was reported that the disused Observer Core bunker in Succoth had been broken into but on further observation it looked more like the locks had just rusted. The bunker has been made secure and owners are being sought.

A concerned resident has reported speeding through the village of Arrochar.

Item 6 – Luss Estates - no update, but the CC have spoken with IW throughout the month mainly to do with the WM project.

Item 7 – National Park

Planning Applications – none.

Review of Planning System – This was discussed and deemed favourable to the community councillors that it may give them an input into planning applications at an earlier stage in the process.

Community Partnership – it has been suggested that Arrochar, Tarbet & Ardlui CC should attend the Balloch meetings of the CP. However this is not favoured by the ATACC as they have over the years that the CP has been in existence attended the Cowal meetings with whom they have more in common sharing the same type of issues.

The CP has sent out a reminder that the National Park's Natural Heritage Grant will close on the 28th Feb17. The CC are looking at the possibility they could use this to apply for a soft landscaping grant that could be used to purchase plants and shrubs for round the extended War Memorial platform. RMacD will enquire about this.

When the CC met with the CP Development officer back in September last year it was promised that the CP would supply the ATACC with a generic application paper that could be used when applying for grants. This has not yet been received.

Camping Byelaws. – Following on from last month's minute, the CC received a further update from the National Park's CEO which clarified the procedures leading up to the 'go live' date. This also includes the type of signs that will be used giving guidance to the public.

Succoth access path – The old camping field (Inc: path and bridge) is owned by a company involved in the Ben Arthur resort. Path and Bridge maintenance responsibilities / liabilities will reside with the landowner. The path is lit by street lights; A&BC have confirmed their responsibility. FCS and A&BC had some historical involvement in the path and bridge, but no arrangements are in place and budget is not allocated towards their maintenance. The National Park has mapped the spread of invasive species, and we can look at controlling these as part of an improvement project. Given the importance of the link, active travel funding streams may be available and the park are wondering if the A&TCDT would apply for funding? The CC will pass this to the Trust.

Item 8 – Projects

War Memorial. More positive movement on this project has taken place over the last month. In kind providers met and discussed start dates. Materials covered by National Park grant are being purchased and Community Pay back team have agreed to help out with labour to fill gabion baskets. Luss Estates have already removed most of the trees from the site and will complete this stage by removing the trees nearest to Church road which will leave the site ready for the installation of the pipe required for the small burn to the back of the memorial by Drimsynie Estates.

Through losing the in-kind commitment from Landmarc due to timescales and their own work commitments the costs for this project has accelerated. Anyone wishing to give a small donation towards the project please contact the CC.

Pontoon. Waiting to hear back from the Park re the 'Moving Forward Grant' which if successful would fund the Otter Survey and additional drawings which are needed before a full planning application can be submitted.

There has been no response from LEADER regarding our Expression of Interest – this was chased up and apparently the system has been experiencing problems – however, they have now tracked our EOI and Kirsty Moyes from LEADER is happy to come and talk to the CC in March re possible funding.

Item 9 – Regeneration Forum

Cllr Freeman has supplied the CC with documentation regarding Rural Regeneration Funding, which appears to be different from how it has been put over to the CC to date.

BAR site -No more updates on the site since the road through the site was closed to vehicle traffic.

Head of Loch Long - Arrangements are now being made by the CC for their last mechanical clean-up of the shoreline round the retaining wall of the car park before allocated funding expires.

Viewpoint Junction A83 / A814 – First on-site informal meeting is scheduled for the 20th Feb, where 7N Architects, A&BC, LLTNP, TS will meet with the CC to discuss the feasibility of a viewpoint at this site.

Booklet - highlighting the problems and issues the Community Council have spent endless volunteer hours trying to rectify has been printed. It is being sent to all Ministers and Officers responsible for delegating budgets to service providers in the hope that it will draw attention to issues that are affecting the economic problems within our area.

Item 10 – Forestry Commission – See amendment to cc minute of the 19th January 2017.

Item 11 – Ardlui – IH will speak to IK about a small grant from SSE towards this cause. He has also spoken with the owners of the Ardlui Hotel who are willing to donate the shortfall from the FLL&T generous donation and SSE's contribution (if successful.) This matter has to be off our books by the end of the financial year.

Item 12 – Argyll and Bute Council

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 – ownership of this bridge is proving hard to find, it runs across the Smiddy Burn from SSE's land to Luss Estate land but neither are owners of the 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.

Action Cllr MacIntyre

ITEM 13 – School Issues

On the 31st Jan 2017 The Scottish Government announced the pupil equity funding programme. £120 million will be given to schools across Scotland to improve educational outcomes of children affected by poverty. Argyll and Bute will receive £1.3 million of this fund, with 69 out of its 81 schools receiving money.

The funding is allocated to schools on the basis of Free School Meals eligibility. £1200 per pupil is being allocated to schools across Scotland based on the number of pupils per school who are entitled to Free School Meals.

Helensburgh and Lomond will receive £343,200 of this fund; unfortunately Arrochar Primary will receive no money from the fund, as at present they have no pupils in the school entitled to Free School Meals. **They are the only school in the Helensburgh and Lomond area not to receive money from this fund**, which is extremely disappointing. The Scottish Government is making the assumption that if you receive Free School Meals you are underperforming and underachieving. The way this money has been allocated to schools is unjust and certainly does not make for a fair and inclusive education system. Pupils who do not receive Free School Meals are being disadvantaged by this divisive and non-inclusive funding programme.

Item 14 – Transport Scotland –

Further too recent correspondence received, the CC also wrote to TS covering a holistic view of problems on A82 / A83 affecting our area from the Rest and be Thankful to Ardlui and down to Firkin. See letter attached with answers received. The CC will continue to press for these issues to be taken forward moving towards a more satisfying outcome.

Item 15 – Dunbritton – No further update from Dunbritton since they held the open day in the 3V Hall. On another issue the CC spoke to TS which included the access to Succoth. The CC has been told that TS are not installing a Traffic Island at this point but the **Developer** is designing a ghost right turn lane at the junction.

Item 16 – Development Trust – No update from Trust. Ronald Ross is stepping down as the CC Representative on the Trust and will be replaced by Ellen Greenwood.

Item 17 – AOCB

Date of Next Meeting

The next Community Council Meeting will take place on Thursday 16 March 2017 at 1900 in the Village Hall.

Summary of outstanding issues from August 2016 to date

Date of Meeting	Action Point	Actionee
	Water on McKenzie Avenue remains outstanding	A&BC
	Weeds outside of the play park wall in Church Road	A&BC
	Litter – Both on the pathway between Church Road and Cobbler View, the edges of Church Road and the adjacent field	A&BC
	Litter along the path from the hotel to the station in Ardlui	BEAR Scotland
15 Dec 16	CC to check the extra funding for the DFIB machine	CC
	Cllr Freeman to seek approval to use car park revenue for the clean-up	A&BC
	Cllr McIntyre to check on Economic Development budget procedure	A&BC
	Cllr Freeman to seek answer on accessing Christmas Lights Fund	A&BC