

LOCHGOIL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON MONDAY 10th DECEMBER, 2018

PRESENT: Iain MacInnes (Chair), Elizabeth Bain (Treasurer), Tom Murray, Dianne Paton (Secretary)

ATTENDING: Councillor Alan Reid and 7 members of the community.

NON ATTENDING: Councillor Yvonne McNeilly and Councillor Gordon Blair.

1. **Convenors opening remarks:** Iain welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Apologies:** Zak Gillan, PC Steven Carr and Sue Morris
3. **Declaration of Interest:** None
4. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** approved by Elizabeth Bain and seconded by Tom Murray
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Current balance is £3,703.15.
6. **Matters Arising:**
 - a) **Broadband at Carrick Castle** - Councillor Reid advised that he had been given one telephone number and had emailed BT.
 - b) **Last Bus To Carrick Castle** - This issue would be raised at the next CTF December meeting. (Councillor Reid/IMaCl to Act)
 - c) **Flooding at Qineteq at Douglas Pier** - Councillor Reid advised that the Roads response was "We will instruction an inspection to our Roads Inspector and he will instruct any remedial/repair works depending on his findings. The initial inspection will be carried out within the next 2 weeks and works will be programmed to be completed by 18/1/19.
 - d) **New Road Surfaces Not Flush With Existing Road** - Councillor Reid advised that the Roads response was "We have put out temporary road surface signs until our Roadmaster vehicle is next in Cowal. This vehicle will then treat edges of these machine patches to 'feather' the edges to smooth the joints".
 - e) **Motorhomes Parking Overnight And Running Generators In the Village Car Park** - Councillor Reid advised that the Roads response was "This car park is not owned by A&B Council therefore the Community Council could look at enforcement of rules themselves as it is a private car park". IMaCl & TM stated that although car park is private, A&B adopted the road surface and as such there were concerns re cleaning and maintenance of the car park, for example, when there is a high tide, there is debris. The car park is also where the council bins are located and the public service bus turns there. Before moving forward on this issue, the LCC would like something in writing from A&B Council. TM stated that there was a similar situation at the Carrick Castle car park. Councillor Reid agreed to make enquiries. (Councillor Reid to Act)
 - f) **All Bottles From Recycling Containers Uplifted by one recycling lorry with no dividers** - awaiting response from Amenity Services.

7. General Update

50/50 Draw.

Winners - 1st £30 - No. 167, Elizabeth Bain, 2nd £20 - No.190, Andrew McLaughlin, 3rd £15 - No. 121, Ian Finch, 4th £10 - No. 130, Iona Ross and 5th £5 - No.166, Harry McConnell

A83 Rest & Be Thankful Road & Bus Stop & A83 Unmanned Road Closures

IMaCl advised that Councillor Alan Reid, DP and himself had attended the recent A83 Taskforce Meeting in Inveraray and asked DP to provide a report on the meeting. DP reported that Michael Matheson, Cabinet Secretary for Transport Infrastructure & Connectivity opened the meeting by stating that he was fully aware of how vital the A83 was to Argyll & Bute. He stated that Argyll & Bute would be prioritised in the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR) next year and that to accelerate this he had instructed consultants be in place by the end of this year to focus solely on

the Argyll & Bute area. He said that a lot of work had been carried out on the A83 to put the mitigation measures in place and that debris had already been caught in the catch pits and netting. These measures had had a significant impact as the road had been able to remain open where previously the road would have been closed. He advised that he had asked for an update on the mitigation measures for February 2019. He had asked Transport Scotland to review current measures and report back early in 2019 to look at options for a permanent solution. He stated that he was committed to a permanent solution, however this may take years to complete. In the meantime, the current catch pit works were ongoing and would remain in place throughout 2019/2020. Iain Stewart of Bear Transport gave a presentation on A83 RABT, presentation available on company website. Next A83 Taskforce Meeting would be end of March 2019.

IMaCl reported that he had asked the Minister who was responsible for placing a road closure sign at the junction of Glen Mhor Road - after consulting representatives from both agencies at the meeting, it was agreed that it was BEAR Scotland as the closure related to an "A" road. IMaCl informed the Minister that there had not been a sign in place when the A83 closed in October. IMaCl informed the Minister that there was a road sign at Pole Brae which had been placed there 5 years ago to be used in the event of a road closure however due to incorrect information this has not been utilised; the Minister asked A&B Council to investigate. IMaCl reported that he had asked the Minister why the Citylink and West Coast Motors public bus service was suspended throughout the winters months from November - March at the RABT as the area was regularly gritted by both A&B Council and Bear Transport; the Minister asked A&B Council to investigate. The possibility of an additional layby at the RABT for the public bus service was also raised with the Minister.

Diversion signs when A83 is closed - BEAR Scotland are working on a signage review - this issue will be raised at the CTF **(Councillor Reid and IMaCl to Act)**

Roads - IMaCl reported that there was a leak on Hall Road opposite Feorline Cottage. **(Councillor Reid to Act)**

Request for extension of 30mph limit to the bridge over the River Goil - Roads response "We will carry out a speed/volume survey at this locus in the New Year".

Potholes on the road from the bridge over the River Goil to the wooden bridge at the entrance to Drimsynie and from the Police Station to the Village Car Park - Roads response, "We are looking to have these works programmed for next year's capital resurfacing works".

TM reported that there were potholes on the road by the holiday village and the golf course. There were potholes at the TV mast at Carrick Castle. **(Councillor Reid to Act)**

Police Report

IMaCl reported that PC Steven Carr was leaving Lochgoilhead mid January to take up another post in Helensburgh working with Community Youth and that a new policeman and his family would be moving into the police house in Lochgoilhead.

Entrust: EB advised that there was nothing to report.

Forestry Commission: DP read out email report from Sue Morris - Update of forest works by bridge - Ditching and flailing work complete. Contractor is presently off site, returning towards the end of next week to replace culverts and spread and compact 200mm and 65mm stone.

Planning: TM reported the following planning applications

- Proposal: Erection of Dormer Window. Location: Oakburn, Lochgoilhead. Location: Land to South of
- Proposal: Proposed 33kv Pole for New Connection to an EE Mast. Location: Drimsynie Forest Lochgoilhead
- Proposal: Subdivision of garden ground and erection of dwellinghouse. Location: Whisperwood, Carrick Castle
- Proposal: Construction of an agricultural stock handling facility and associated access track. Location: Track off the A83 by Loch Restil, Glen Croe.

Donich Hydro Water Scheme: TM reported that the alteration to quieten operation was complete. Investigations ongoing into the possibility that Corporation Tax may have to be paid on the income generated.

Trust Reports:

Jetty Trust: TM reported that the application to Leader for funding had been abandoned as the criteria could not be met because the planning application had been held up by Marine Scotland. The focus would now be on 1st phase, replacing the existing pontoon, hopefully sourcing funding from Robertson Trust, Awards For All and Donich Hydro Scheme. Drimsynie has agreed to take away the old pontoon.

Carrick Castle Trust: TM reported that Carrick Castle Christmas Fayre was a success and raised over £1,000.

Hall Trust: IMaCl reported that Village Hall volunteer group had painted the toilets for Christmas & New Year functions. All safety inspections had been carried out and heating oil had been ordered to cover the winter period.

Lochgoil Community Development Trust: TM reported that 80 people had attended the opening of the River Walk. The next phase of the walk would be more challenging as a bridge would be required over the River Goil. The Rifle Range had now been transferred to the Trust. There is a small area available to anyone within the Community Garden. TM thanked Roger Brook for supplying the Duck Hut for the pond. Question from the floor: Had the criteria changed as a result of the new scoring system employed to assist with funding applications for Hydro Scheme funds? Answer from table: No. Question from floor: When Hydro Scheme funds are available, why is this not advertised in TWG and on Community Website? Answer from table: Funds are released annually, September/October and this is communicated via Trust minutes which are available on Community Website. After discussion, it was agreed that TWG and Community Website would be utilised in future to advise availability of funds to enable interested community groups to apply.

Letters: DP advised that a letter had been sent to Cormonachan Woodlands Association (CWA) in support of their New Proposed Paths Project.

Email received from CWA re item 6b in CC November minutes. CWA advised that the majority of overhanging trees are owned and managed by FES, including those at Cormonachan Woodlands. FES carried out a survey and CWA were advised that a contract has been put out to cut down any potentially dangerous trees along the road side - no date advised. FES have advised that any further wind fallen trees being blown down across the road - contact Head Office FES @ Aberfoyle 0300 067 600 email FE.Scotland@forestry.gsi.gov.uk CWA have in the past, cleared fallen trees from the road and are prepared to do so again if asked and if resources are available.

Any Other Competent Business: IMaCl read out the contents of the letter which he had handed over Michael Mathieson MP at the A83 Task Force Meeting.

IMaCl wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and thanked his fellow Councillors for their support over the last 12 months. IMaCl thanked local Councillor Alan Reid, who had attended all the CC meetings over the year for taking forward our concerns.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 11th February at 7.30pm