

EAST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting held in Carradale Village Hall
3rd December 2015

MINUTES

Present:

Eleanor Sloan (ES)(Secretary), Robert Strang (RS), Ronnie Brownie(RB), Bill Bidmead(BB), David Prag(DP)

In attendance –

John McAlpine (JMA), Donald Kelly (DK) PC Harper (PH)
7 Members of the public (MoP) 1 journalist from Campbeltown Courier

1. Welcome

Eleanor Sloan was convening this evening as Stuart Irvine (Convener) was absent
At 7pm – Eleanor Sloan welcomed attendees and started the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies from – Stuart Irvine, Elizabeth McMillan (Treasurer), Anne Horn.

3. Minutes of last meeting – 5/11/15

Proposed by Robert Strang, seconded by Ronnie Brownie

4. Matters arising

Only one matter – not covered by the agenda – ES contacted Forestry Commission – re updates on local works – via email and as yet there has been no reply.

5. Treasurers report

Treasurer absent this month – so no update – figures are from last meeting
The balance as of 5/10/15 – £1951.83

6. Welfare rights Officer ACHA

According to the agenda Fiona Evamy was due to attend this meeting – she did not attend – but as SI was not in attendance we couldn't confirm this was a joint arrangement.

Note from after the meeting

ES has followed this up and this was a clerical error and Fiona Evamy was never planning on attending this meeting and will hopefully attend a meeting in the New Year.

7. SSE update

SI emailed an update to ES – who read this out at the meeting

“SSE Update re film: I spent over an hour with the film team from Perth. In the end after a discussion I spoke for about 4 minutes on the benefits we had received in relation to compensation to East Kintyre residents for the inconvenience caused by the Crossaig to Hunterston project. Obviously I mentioned the good work they did on the road from Crossaig to Carradale.

In addition I mention the favours we had received such as Village hall Car Park, drainage at the Church, WW1 bench, trees etc and other items which came to mind.

The team were very happy with my contribution. I hope to get a copy transcript which can be minuted”

8. Brackley Cemetery

SI emailed an update to ES – who read this out at the meeting

“Alan Walker raised this matter with me and I wrote to Kilmory, Cemeteries Dept. After a somewhat delay I had a call from Paul Martin and he and a colleague are meeting with Alan and myself at 11.00am at Brackley to discuss the matter

Notes on meeting with A&B re cemetery: – We had a good meeting with Paul Martin and Alison McIlroy yesterday at 11.00am at Brackley Cemetery. We were expecting to be knocked back by

EAST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

budget restraint. However both were extremely helpful and will draw up a paper based on what action might be taken.

a) The road from the farm to the entrance of the cemetery could get hard core on it with a path for visitors.

b) The car park could also get a hard core covering which could then be maintained by EKCC

c) Part of the grass verge on the road from the farm could be used as a car park by laying matting. The grass would grow through it.

We offered to give some financial assistance through the Windfarm Trust and Alison said that it would help to get the Council's approval.

Once we receive the paper from Alison we can discuss this matter further.

Alan also raised the matter about the condition of some of the gravestones.

All in all this was a worthwhile meeting and we shall await their response"

Comments from the meeting –

- Possibility of a cattle grid?
- Kissing gate?
- What is happening with fallen stones?
- Is there access to water at the cemetery?
- It was suggested to keep up regular communication with the staff from ABC regarding this issue – as this may slip off their radar easily.

9. Possible car park at Well park

SI emailed an update to ES – who read this out at the meeting –

"Possible Car Park at Wellpark John Hooper raised this with me as car parking is very limited. The suggestion is that an area on the left as you turn into Wellpark could be cleared an spaces for a few vehicles. I shall be discussing this further with Councillor Strang as he takes to do with maintenance of Wellpark"

10. Pavillion Public Toilet

This is all in hand.

11. Village Signs

SI emailed an update to ES – who read this out at the meeting –

"I had a lengthy discussion with Alan Milstead re the road signs as I seem to have a different take on the agreed basis.

Alan was also of the opinion that the Tourist Group would pay for theirs

Leaving us to pay for ours with painting and erection. However after a discussion the following seems a good compromise.

There are four parts to the job: -

- a) Signs
- b) Posts
- c) Paint for posts
- d) Erection

As the funds of the tourist group are fairly minimal compared to EKCCWFT,

I suggest we pay for the signs, posts and paint. Tourist Group will pay for the erection.

Do you agree?"

All agreed.

12. Planning

Rhona Elder brought up the proposed erection at Bein an Tuirc 2 of 19 new turbines, she has concerns over the proposed height of the new turbines and the low wattage they are expected to produce – the question was asked will the wattage increase after they are installed? And if so what will be the effects on the community payback – do we receive an amount on the proposed wattage or if it is increased will our payment also increase? ES agreed to contact Richard Kerr ABC planning dept – regarding this.

Rhona agreed to email her concerns to ES to share with absent committee members for their thoughts.

Rhona also commented that the photos accompanying the plans are not to the specs of SNH and are not a true image of the landscape after turbine erection.

Action – ES to contact planning dept

EAST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

13. ACHA repairs

RS told us that his roof is now up but there is still work to be done on the dormer windows, and that the workmen are very untidy, they leave tools etc lying around and restrict access for the householder – his car had a near miss with a ladder left lying on the driveway. RS told us they have kept a record of all the activity that has been going on at his home. He said the worst part was that workmen arrived – started a job and then disappeared again for days on end.

Any phone calls to Bill Anderson are going unanswered and never returned.

ES agreed to email Bill Anderson with EKCC concerns.

JMA pointed out that ACHA had promised to bring all their properties up to Scottish Housing Quality Standards by November 2015 – has this been done? ES to contact SHQS and find out the situation with ACHA.

JMA reminded us that all ACHA tenants have the right to buy until July 2016.

Action – ES to contact Bill Anderson

ES to contact Scottish Housing Quality Standards authority.

14. Web site

DP said that there have been 126 visits to the website, 100 visitors and 456 page views Hits from California and Russia.

All the minutes and agendas are available on the website.

The address for the website is <http://eastkintyrecc.org>

Please contact David david_prag@yahoo.com if you want anything included on the website

15. AOCB

- ABC public consultation – this is not user friendly and excludes people without access to computers – although paper versions are available they are wieldy and have to be chased down.
- Update from DR Elder via Rhona – First responders are still awaiting a response from Scottish Ambulance Service – everything else is good to go...
- RS told us that there is a blocked gully at An Croit.
Action – ES to contact Dougie Lang to report this.
- RS told us that the Xmas tree is ordered and will be erected in due course.
- RS asked PC Harper for any reassurance about the violent public incident at the weekend – PC Harper reported that –
 - The man was arrested and is out on bail (back in the village)
 - He cannot approach any of the members of the public who were involved on the Sunday night – as part of his bail conditions.
 - PC Harper has raised his concerns over the housing of this individual in such a remote location – where it can take about 40 mins for extra police to come to the village – if PC Harper is not here –
 - ACHA had not (at the time of the meeting) returned any of his phone calls.
 - Concerns from the room were that - an unpredictably violent person was at large in our community and a few folk have already been approached by him and put up with verbal abuse – he lives near a school and seems to have a history of violence and intimidation.
 - PC Harper says – if he approaches you or has done in the past – contact the police and have it recorded – to get a true picture of his offending.
 - It was generally felt that someone like this would be better living nearer services that can support him and respond quickly if he becomes aggressive and dangerous.
 - It was mentioned that people have become more vigilant and are feeling unsettled over this – no longer feeling safe in their own communities and homes.
- RS said that the Fire service Christmas card postal service was up and running – £1 for 4 cards to be delivered locally – boxes in the shop and garage.
- RS told us - soup and sandwiches morning 13/12/15 at the fire station 11am onwards.
- This is David Prag's last meeting as a co-opted member and ES thanks him for his work with EKCC and he has agreed to carry on with our website and will report to us with figures when he can.

16. Date of next meeting

7pm – 4/2/2016

Eleanor closed the meeting at 7.58pm and thanked everyone for attending.