

Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 15th January 2025

Dalmally Community Centre

1. Present: Sue Rawcliffe, Ishbel Livingstone, Sybil Macpherson, Suzy Anderson, Cllr Kieron Green, Gareth Young, Luna Martin and 16 members of the public.

2. Apologies: No apologies.

3. Declaration of interest: Money for community mental health bench outside Dalmally Community Hall.

4. Minutes of the last CC meeting: (13.11.24) accepted. Proposed SR; Seconded GY

5. Matters arising:

- **SSEN pylon line:** It was agreed that we would participate in the community engagement initiative. SSEN were invited to attend the meeting but did not. Work is not supposed to start until the 24 conditions applied have been addressed, but there has been no update on this. **[ACTION: CC to write to planning officer to check on the progress of these conditions]**
- **Visitor Levy:** No response has been provided to the CC enquiry. Questionnaires are running from January to April and consultation is not yet live. All community members are encouraged to fill in the questionnaires. A Facebook site has also been set up on the A&B levy - <https://www.facebook.com/argyllandbutecouncil/posts/%EF%B8%8Fvisitor-levy-information-events%EF%B8%8F-mull-event-were-hosting-a-drop-in-information-/943432961304727/>.
- **Loch Awe water levels:** An online meeting was scheduled with Jenni Minto for 27 January, with stakeholders. The loch level was high in December. There appears to be no co-ordination between the parties operating this. A question was raised around accountability for managing these water levels. There is a website where this information can be requested – floodingenquiries@argyll-bute.gov.uk. **[ACTION: CC to report issues to this site]** Portsonachan Hall is happy to host the monitoring system and this was to be discussed at the meeting with Jenni Minto.
- **Ardchnonnel Schoolhouse:** The reason this has not been sold is due to issues with the water supply, which was disconnected by Forest Enterprise. There are regular inspections of the property and as soon as this is rectified it will go on the market for sale.
- **Street Lighting:** Luna raised the issue around lack of appropriate lighting along the main road through Dalmally with BEAR and it is not being followed up. It is appreciated that this is still a contentious issue for the community so Luna will continue to try to get some traction.
- **Forestry traffic at Bridge of Orchy:** Dom raised it with Forestry Land Scotland and progress will continue to be monitored.
- **Police report:** Gareth has emailed to get a more detailed report for our area. No response, but an update will be provided when this is received.

6. Finance

- **Grant applications:** Following grant approval, the bench outside Dalmally Community Centre has been purchased at a cost of £400 plus £100 delivery.
- **Portsonachan Hall Christmas lunch:** This was postponed in December but will be re-advertised in due course.

7. Planning

- **Energy Consents Unit:** CC objection to the Balliemeanoch proposal, with concerns around water and peat, was submitted in October. No response has been received to date. Regarding the Eradine windfarm development, representations were to be made by 22 January. The Cruach windfarm proposal was also discussed and there are concerns around the accumulative impact of all of these proposals on our local area.
- **Planning Applications:** Planning applications were shared from the latest available online at <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-applications/weekly-list-valid-planning-applications>. The most recent applications will be shared at the next CC meeting in March.

8. Any other business

- **loch-awe.com:** It was requested that members advise of anything that can be deleted to bring the site up to date with the most relevant information.
- **Future care needs:** A survey to gauge community thoughts on what type of care may be needed by individuals in the future was handed out and filled in by those present at the meeting.
- **Proposed Glenview housing development:** The CC conducted a survey a few years ago and concerns were raised around access to the proposed site. Safe walking routes to the station and along the main road were raised again in relation to this.
- **Forestry Land Scotland:** Agreement has been made to hire a ranger that will cover Oban to Fort William. There may be a plan to hire a second one in due course.
- **Speed limit in Loch Awe:** Concerns were raised by a number of members around the speed of traffic going through the village. The need for average speed cameras and calming measures were discussed.
- **Drax trucks on the road:** Concerns were raised about the level of traffic that could end up going through the village when the Cruachan development is underway. There is a transport plan with Transport Scotland but this hasn't been agreed yet. *[ACTION: CC to request Drax rep to attend a future meeting to discuss plans with the community]*
- **Bottle banks:** Concerns were raised around the mess that is left around all the local bottle banks, with broken glass spilling out. *[ACTION: CC to request the bins to be replaced with those that have lids]*

- **Overflowing bins:** The bins at Portsonachan Hall and other local hotels (Muthu Dalmally) are causing major issues as they are not being cleaned / collected regularly enough. **[ACTION: CC to raise with Environmental Health]**
- **Date of next meeting: 7.30pm on Wednesday 12 March, Portsonachan Hall**