

# Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Dalmally Community Centre

## AGM

**Present:** Ishbel Livingstone (Convenor), Sue Rawcliffe (Vice-Convenor), Paul Greaves, Cllr Kieron Green, Sybil Macpherson, Maggie Clunie, Gareth Young (minutes) and three members of the public.

Last meeting: 15 May 2024

Minutes from the last AGM agreed.

### 1. Convenors report

**Broadband:** Still pursuing better connections for Dalmally and surrounding area and the loch side from Blarghour to Eredine. There has been a recent announcement regarding project gigabit and Brendon O'Hara our MP is checking whether we are included in the new contract.

**Loch Awe water levels:** The Community Council prepared a paper in July 2024 that was presented to an in-person meeting of all stakeholders coordinated by Jenni Minto MSP. There have been two further meetings but little progress on finding a solution to concerns about water levels. Jenni Minto is now setting up a meeting with Argyll and Bute Council and SEPA to try to clarify responsibilities.

**Planning:** Despite our best efforts SSEN was given planning consent by Scottish Ministers for their new pylon line across the area. Work is underway and the CC have agreed to be part of a community engagement group to ensure people are kept up to date on what is happening both with the Creag Dhuhb sub station and new pylon lines.

**Balliemanoach Pumped Storage Hydro scheme:** The Community Council responded to the Energy Consent's Unit consultation on the proposed Balliemanoach Pumped Storage Hydro scheme. The scheme is now being modified in the light of comments from statutory consultees and we anticipate being able to respond once these plans are seen.

**Cruachan 2:** The CC has been notified that DRAX are not progressing with Cruachan 2 at present as it does not represent a good return on investment. They will, however, continue with the refurbishment of Cruachan and look at how this might be expanded.

**Visitor Levy:** The Community Council developed a response to Argyll and Bute Council's proposed visitor levy. We await the outcome of the consultation.

**Glen Orchy Ranger:** Following concerns raised Robbie Layden, Visitor Services Manager FLS was invited to a CC meeting. It was agreed to trial a ranger in the Glen if the CC could contribute towards the cost. The CC have raised £7000 towards this and are awaiting next steps from FLS.

**Community Action Plan:** The CC continues to support the implementation of the Community Action Plan. Key developments this year have included:

- information boards installed at Barr a'Chasteilean with further boards in development for Duncan Bhan's monument.
- Ongoing programme of youth activities supported by a self-employed part time youth worker. New parent volunteers now PVG checked and ready to go.
- Completion of a feasibility study for the sport's pitch in Dalmally.
- Support to the funding group for the redevelopment of Portsonachan hall.
- Work with West Highland Housing Association on their phase one housing development in Dalmally.
- Formation of a small working group looking at care in the community. Results from the initial survey (some 100 responses) will be available soon.
- Development of the new community website - [orchyandawe.co.uk](http://orchyandawe.co.uk)
- Formation of Orchy and Awe Community Trust to be launched on May 23rd which will replace the ad hoc community action group.

Thanks to everyone who has supported and contributed to our work over the past year. This will be the last year for this community council - new elections will take place in 2026 - so please think about getting involved.

## **2. Treasurer's report**

Total income: £4,538.24

Total expenditure: £7,630

Total loss for the year: **-£3,091.76**

Our expenditure has been towards supporting the Development Officer role (£5,750), a contribution to the feasibility study for the MUGA (£1000), a grant for the Dalmally bench (£400), hall fees (£300) and contributions towards the maintenance of defibrillators (£180). Our income has come in via Argyll and Bute Council (£490.90), DRAX Community Donations (£750), Bravallich Community Benefit Fund (£2069.35) as well as from interest on our savings.

Our bank balances are as follows:

Current account: £462.20 (2023-2024 - £893.45)

Savings account: £11,674.74 (2023-2024 - £16,645.87)

It was raised and has been noted that our spending is not sustainable long term. It was acknowledged that the Council are aware of this, and we do not want to be holding onto substantial funds when there is a community need for investment. However, we are aware this is a consideration, and a plan will be put in place and communicated at a future CC meeting.

We will be using some existing funds to support the Forestry Development Officer, as agreed at a previous meeting. Funding for the development officer was a struggle because we're not a formally constituted.

### **3. Appointment of Office Bearers**

[ran through existing roles]

Proposal Ishbel for convenor, proposed by Sue and seconded by Maggie

### **4. Schedule of meetings**

13 August 2025, Portsonachan Village Hall

8 October 2025, Bridge of Orchy Village Hall

10 December 2025, Dalmally Community Centre

11 February 2026, Portsonachan Village Hall

8 April 2026, Bridge of Orchy Village Hall (BOO)

10 June 2026, Dalmally Community Centre (AGM)