

# Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Portsonachan Village Hall

Community Council Meeting

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

**Apologies:** Suzy Anderson, Dominic Harrison, Maggie Clunie, Sybil MacPherson, John Kerr, Cllr Vennard

## Declaration of Interest

Sue Rawcliffe declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 5b (application from the Community Action Group to the Community Council for printing costs) due to her involvement on the Board of the Community Action Group. She withdrew from the discussion and any related votes on this item.

Gareth Young declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 5a (application from Portsonachan Village Hall to the Carraig Gheal Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund for the winter games night) due to his involvement on the committee for Portsonachan Village Hall. He withdrew from the discussion and any related votes on this item.

## Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed – SR

Seconded – PG

## 1. Matters Arising

**SSEN Community Liaison Group** - Meeting scheduled for 12 August was cancelled and postponed to 1 September. SSEN announced a £3.2m benefit fund for Argyll and is consulting with ten community councils on distribution.

**Glen Orchy Ranger post** - No progress to date. Awaiting response from FLS; if no update, we may decide to hold funds until next year as we agreed we are now late in the holiday season, and this is when the need is most acute.

**Road issues** - Potholes reported in Glen Orchy and Glenview.

Action: GY has contacted BEAR regarding signage and will follow up on the Post Office sign in Dalmally.

**Visitor Levy update** - Councillors to attend a seminar on 1 September to review the report, with a decision expected later in September. Cllr Green has not yet seen the report and is unsure if it will be available beforehand.

Action: We will request that councillors share the report after the seminar if possible.

## **2. Community Issues**

**Accidents/road closures** – Community member raised concerns to Jenni Minto about speeding and motorbikes; referred to Police Scotland, who report few complaints in the area. Jenni has contacted the Scottish Safety Camera Programme at Transport. Current review underway on camera placement; possible case for a flexible camera. Issues should be raised via the community to the West Safety Camera Unit. 144 fatalities recorded in Argyll last year; noted lack of proactive policing and traffic management during incidents. Concerns about lack of traffic management when roads are closed, e.g., Inveraray Arch and B840 when A85 is shut.

Cllr Green reported that the council has reviewed increased traffic levels to assess the need for formalising and repairing existing passing places and potentially adding new ones. With the Scottish Election next year, there may be an opportunity to apply political pressure for action. Evidence indicates fatalities decreased when temporary speed cameras were installed between Crainlarich–Tyndrum and Tyndrum–Rannoch Moor. Many fatalities occur on faster road sections; there is potential for both temporary and permanent cameras. Suggested installation of average speed cameras in villages such as Dalmally, Lochawe, and Connel to deter racing activity.

Action: GICC to meet with Police Scotland in the first instance, then review whether we need a coordinated stakeholder meeting with BEAR Scotland and Transport Scotland. GY to follow up with Matthew Shaw (Police Scotland).

**ASN funding Dalmally Primary School** – Parent Council reported a June reduction from 72 to 42 hours and staff loss; staff member now reinstated; funding source unclear. Council states no cuts; concerns remain about ASN reductions across Argyll & Bute. Case noted of a 5-year-old directed to Helensburgh. Cllr Green highlighted provision offered via Oban's Rockfield Centre, though acknowledged this is still some distance to travel. GICC raised concerns that parents feel pressured to be sending children to schools with ASN funding. Confusion persists over whether funding has been cut or redistributed. Cllr Green believes budgets have been reallocated to meet needs; ASN demand increasing by 3% annually, with a legal duty to provide support. Education service developing a funding formula.

Action: Cllr Green will follow up and try to obtain the relevant paper and request information about the new funding formula.

## **3. Police Report**

We received the Police report covering Oban areas. For our Beat Area (LB28) there were 36 calls and two crimes (between 1 June – 30 June 2025). Ongoing issues raised with the lack of detail on these reports.

Action: GICC to raise this when we meet with the Police to discuss road safety.

## **4. Planning Applications**

**Balliemanoach PSH revised submission** – ILI are keen for us to withdraw our objection. They've outlined the key changes to the scheme (including the size reduced by 70%, headpond water holding capacity reduced from approx. 52 million m3 to 15 million m3,

generating capacity reduced from 1,500MW/h to 900MW/h). 0.4m is all they could change the loch levels, is what they claim. ILI were invited to attend the meeting, but declined. They have said we can speak with them on a 1:1 basis about concerns and to discuss what we would like to see by way of community benefit. This action raises concerns about clarity and transparency. For this reason, we decided that our objection would remain lodged with the ECU.

Action: Loch Awe has been given reservoir status (since 2022). GICC to find out what this means.

**Corr Cnoc additional information** – a planning application by Galileo Empower has been lodged for a windfarm being built Taynuilt. Images are available to see if people are interested.

**A&B applications** – we updated the community about planning applications submitted in our CC area. No concerns raised.

## **5. Finance**

- a) Carraig Gheal application from the Portsonachan Village Hall Committee for games for the winter games evening. Agreed to support.
- b) Application for printing costs to GICC from the CAP Care in the Community subgroup. Agreed to support.

## **6. AOCB**

**War Memorial Maintenance** – we have received reports that some of the 1945 name plates on the war memorial appear to be insecure, and 'hollow' when you tap them. It has been reported to the council and to the War Grave Commission, but it's been said that they were erected by local subscription, and therefore it might be a matter for the Community Council.

Action: GY to explore this further, and to take a picture of the existing name plate for reference.

**Rural Development Trust** – GY presented proposals for a mid-Argyll Rural Development Trust, following on from a meeting with Community Councils that Jenni Minto hosted. Agreed we would be willing to have further exploratory meetings, but concerns were raised about conflicts with local Trusts in GICC that also have big ambitions. Action: GY to follow up with Jenni Minto's office.

**Argyll & Bute Housing Needs Survey** – A&B Council are urging residents to complete the questionnaire to help them understand the area's housing needs and to influence future decision on housing investment and policy. The link to the survey is [here](#).

**Fair Access and a Threshold of Care Policy Consultation (NHS Highland and Argyll & Bute Health & Social Care Partnership)** - A proposal has been made to limit home care provision to 25 hours per week, prompting consideration of whether some individuals may need to move into residential care. This is an important consultation for the community to respond to. Here is a [link](#) to the website with all the information about the consultation. The Health and Social Care Partnership is facing budget pressures and there is a limited pool of available carers. Cllr Green has requested a detailed cost analysis, including the potential additional expenses of moving more people into care homes. He also stressed the need to

assess current capacity, as there are concerns that existing care home spaces are insufficient to meet demand.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025, Bridge of Orchy Hall.

**Meeting closed:** 20:42