

Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting 10th December 2025

Dalmally Community Centre

Present: Ishbel Livingstone (Convenor), Cllr Luna Martin, Sue Rawcliffe (Vice-Convenor), Suzy Anderson, Paul Greaves (minutes), Cllr Kieron Green, and 12 members of the local community

Apologies: Sybil MacPherson, Maggie Clunie, Gareth Young.

Declaration of Interest: None declared

Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed – PG; Seconded – IL

1. Matters Arising

SSEN Community Liaison Group:

First pylon is completed and they have completed the construction of Creag Dhubh switching station. They now have to wire it but the issue is they have to get two large transformers but there is an issue with getting it transported.

Community benefit funding: SSEN will be publishing the report on the consultations. £3.2m over five years. Priority going to community council areas so it's important the community council put in any applications as soon as funding is made available.

Janet asked for it to be raised about the lights at Creag Dhubh – do they need to be on in the evening as this is causing light pollution? Cllr Green fed back that lights will only be on when staff are on site.

Community benefit fund will be organised by an independent panel and will be appointing a fund manager.

Glen Orchy Ranger post: Email today from Robbie explaining that because of the organisational headcount it is unlikely they will be able to employ another ranger next year.

Accidents and road closures (A85/A82): Jenny Minto has been emailed to ask for a round table. Email never reached her but now it has. Jenny happy to set up a meeting with varying stakeholders such as BEAR, Transport Scotland etc.

Police Scotland have suggested that we should do something with other community councils. We should make contact with other community councils to collectively look into this. Other community councils are reporting similar issues but it would be stronger as a collective.

Postal Service: The postal services have said that they have addressed the issues, and more people have been employed.

It was asked if anyone has any issues and all agreed that it has improved. Suggested that new staff check addresses as some properties have same or similar names close by.

Resilience Plan: Dalmally Hall has completed a resilience plan. Suggested that we apply for an emergency generator in case of power cuts.

Kieren was asked what the plan was with the emergency bags in power cut situations.

Community council should update the resilience plan to ensure any resources available during a power cut are accessible for the local community.

2. Argyll and Bute Council updates

Community Council elections will be held in August 2026. Applications for community council have to be in July and should there be an election it would be via postal vote.

There was a plea from current members of the community council to the local community for further support to ensure the council has enough members to continue.

Review of Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils:

Funding for community council hasn't changed for many years and this has been acknowledged. Given the increase in general costs Sue mentioned that some community councils have requested to be doubled. This should be within the A&B Council budget for community councils.

Education Plan:

Cllr Green is now the lead for education and has moved over from planning. It was asked about the pupil funding within schools, this is something that he will investigate.

ASN funding Dalmally Primary School:

Some concerns raised around pupils with additional needs support and the application process is quite challenging. Sue had discussion with Dalmally Parent Group lead who shared similar concerns.

Cllr Green said that there was going to be an education review. ASN hasn't had funding cuts and there will be some communication regarding this in the future.

Education review went through council which is the starting point and it is still under review.

3. Finance

Carraig Gheal additional micro grants

£780 Left in their grant. £1k has been allocated for each community council. If there are unconstituted groups that need anything it would be good to apply for the funding.

£220 has already spent on Christmas lights for Loch Awe

4. Police Report

Meeting with Matthew Shaw it was discussed that the current reports don't have much use. Matthew to review and consult as to what could be included in police reports. Information can't be for just interest it has to be for a purpose.

It was discussed what might be useful such as trends in calls. Possibly alerts if there are specific scams.

There has been a recent attempted break in in Loch Awe that members of the local community wanted people to be aware of for vigilance.

5. Planning Applications

Planning application – Demolition of the old village hall and to build a house. Parking is off the road (lay-by) and path up to the building.

Certificate of lawfulness for the erection of a chalet at Portsonachan Lodges.

Erections of a new hotel, guest accommodations Auch Estate Bridge at Bridge of Orchy.

Long term forest plan near Cladich.

6. AOCB

Dalmally Stores:

This is up for sale. Was suggested that people try and share the advert. Oban Times have been in touch with Sue for comment, she will feedback after the community council. Put something in the Oban times that would talk about the loss to the community. There needs to be a larger advertising campaign.

Innisherrick Island Loch Awe:

Email from Neil McKay from Australia explaining his family are buried on there. He would like to purchase the island and restore it as it is very overgrown. Richard McKenzie is the owner so details will be tried to pass on.

Medcap Meeting

Janet fed back from the MEDCAP Meeting – Meet four times per year. CCTAC they do all the vaccines etc. If you are not notified about vaccines, you can just turn up but advise the GP practice that you have not been notified. The practice is well covered for GP's and trainees. There have been some issues with the practice rooms soundproofing and they are working on this.

Men Shed: should make an application for funding from the GP surgery.

New physio services online: they will contact you for advice and exercises for muscular skeletal injuries.

Hospital at home service is expanding and is currently expanded to Connel and this is applied for via GPs.

Update from Community Trust: Sue presented on this and that it is now recognised as a charity. A report will be published on the Orchy and Awe Website. There will be a short update and what's happened since the trust has been launched.

Dalmally Community Centre: First trial run on 4th February of a Community Lunch.

Revaluation of non- domestic rates. Concerns over proposed revaluation for non-domestic rates. Landlords' rates have been hugely increased. They have now moved to bed space, and the value is now valued on how many bedrooms a property has. This also impacts building such as churches and village halls.

Some issues around commercial waste raised, churches and other such places don't need commercial waste and don't want to have to pay for it. Further clarity and information requested on this. Cllr Green mentioned about the new taxation rules and basically said that you are either a business or a personal property and this will impact on what /how you pay. If a property like a church doesn't generate waste, they have to prove this so they don't have to pay.

Walkways around Loch Awe and walkways to the castle: Mentioned about the new walk and cycle tracks at Glencoe and could we apply for something here at Loch Awe. Cllr Martin proposed she to send an email to BEAR to ask about the potential of extending the pavements. Cllr Green advised there would have to be a funding bid in to get something like that to happen. There was previously a plan to create a walkway from Oban to Tyndrum, but approximate costs were £40m. The question of could the new Trust take this on in terms of trying make something happen.

Streetlighting: Cllr Martin said she had approached but there is currently no plans to add in street lighting around Glen View.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11th February 2026, Dalmally Community Centre.

Meeting closed: 20:50