

KILNINVER AND KILMELFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The meeting of the above Council was held on 14th April 2009 at the Village Hall.

Present: Robin Asbury, Chairman (RA), Robin Grey (RG), Nigel Mitchell (NM),
Also in attendance were Cllr Duncan MacIntyre, Cllr Donald McDonald and Elaine Robertson.

1. Apologies : Lindsay Davies and Alasdair Oatts.

2. Minutes of previous meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 10th Feb 2009 were taken as a true and accurate representation of that meeting. Proposed RG, Seconded NM.

3. Matters Arising from previous meeting:

- a). Roads issues - Thanks to Councillor MacDonald for helping to expedite pothole repairs. Also confirmation of completion of white lining at end of Loch Avich road.
- b). Speed limit in Kilmelford – No progress. Carried forward.
- c). Bus Shelter in Kilmelford – New timetable to be promulgated.
- d). Problem weeds in Scammadale - No progress. Councillor Robertson explained that there was no dedicated budget for this and eradication was a long term proposal.
- e). Sight lines in Arduaine – No further developments. Removed from agenda.
- f). War Memorial – No further progress. Carried forward.
- g). Community Council Review. – A decision on the way forward was expected towards the end of September. The Community Council has met and completed the Hexagon questionnaire. The value of the questionnaire was questioned and Councillor MacDonald stated that A&B Council had distanced itself from it and that the questions contained therein were all devised by Hexagon. Carried forward.
- h). Wheelie bins at Village Hall – Following Toni Mitchell’s query at the last meeting as to why the Village Hall was required to pay a commercial rate to have these emptied, she now accepted that this was not negotiable and that the appropriate payment would need to be paid. Removed from agenda.
- i). Wind Farm at Raera – Following the planning application for temporary anemometry masts to be erected, a letter had been received from NPower inviting KKCC to attend a meeting with them on 29th April to hear their declaration of intentions and for local input. NM and RG (if available) agreed to attend and report back.

4. Land around Kilmelford Village Hall:

Councillor MacDonald explained that the new County Plan was not yet available for progress to be made. He indicated that it may be in place by June.

5. Closure of Arduaine Gardens.

RA stated that a small ad hoc committee had been formed on the basis that it was better to do something rather than just allow the Gardens to close and to investigate what was happening at present and the National Trusts (NT) intentions and reasons for the proposed closure. He gave details of what the committee had been able to glean from various sources and the NT's financial position and funding in respect of the Gardens. It was emphasised that no decision had been made for the actual closure, but it remained a proposal (and that closure of other NT Gardens/Sites was also under consideration).

Following this statement there was a considerable discussion from the floor covering funding, improving methods of operating, improving publicity, joint ventures and sundry other possibilities.

It was agreed that the Gardens were a National asset, rather than parochial to Kilninver and Kilmelford and that every effort should be made to keep them open. That time was of the essence and that a petition should be progressed to obtain as many names as possible. That A&B Council should be involved and that the subject should be raised as an emergency item on the agenda of the next suitable executive meeting of A&B Council. That the Kilninford News would carry a flier in respect of the Petition, to promulgate information generally and to seek additional members of the Group.

6. Planning Applications:

Two applications:

- a). For redevelopment of Farmhouse at end of Degnish Road – no objection.
- b). For a breakwater at the mussel farm in Loch Melford – no objection.

7. Correspondence:

None highlighted.

8. Any Other Business

Easdale Medical Practice Members Participation Group is seeking a volunteer from Kilninver and Kilmelford. Names to NM.

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting of Kilninver and Kilmelford Community Council will be held at 8pm on 9th June 2009 in Kilmelford Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 pm .