

**KILNINVER AND KILMELFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER 2015  
8 p.m. KILMELFORD VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Nigel Mitchell (NM); Antoinette Mitchell (AM); Jane Rentoul (JR); Colin Clark (CC); Annie Delap (AD); Jamie McAndrew (JMCA); David Wilkie (DW) 15 members of the public.

In attendance: Councillor Elaine Robertson (ER); Constable Jeremy Moore; Kieron Green

The Chairman welcomed David Wilkie to the committee as a result of the By-Election held 8th October 2015.

**1. APOLOGIES** - Stuart Cannon

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - There were none.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 11th August 2015** - Item 5 d) Public Consultation on Ward Boundaries - The second sentence should read 'The Scottish Government has reduced the number of Councillors in Argyll and Bute from 36 to 33 in order to increase the number in designated deprived areas'. With this amendment AM proposed and AD seconded that the Minutes were a true and accurate representation of the meeting.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING**

**a) Carraig Gheal Community Fund** - DW advised that since the August meeting we had been waiting for the main organisers to finalise their paperwork. This they have now done following a company board meeting but with further alterations which situation is prompting DW to write a letter outlining his concerns. It is hoped to go live with application forms online concerning the two grant schemes (major schemes up to £7,000 and micro ones up to £200) by end October. Organisations or individuals would then be able to apply. The Community Council would be asked subsequently by the Community Fund people for its approval of any application made. This is a change from what was agreed previously, namely that Community Councils would be the conduit for such applications and is in the interests, apparently, of saving us work.

**b) Street Numbering Glebe Kilmelford** - ER reported that Graham Stone advised that the signs were ordered and would be installed once physical sources were available.

**c) Community Council Elections and Post Allocation** - A meeting of the Community Councillors would be held Tuesday 3rd or Tuesday 10th November to discuss individual duties within the Committee.

**d) Public Consultation on Ward Boundaries** - see below after Any Other Competent Business.

**5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Pending Decision:**

**Melfort Pier and Harbour Kilmelford Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4XG - Discharge of planning obligation in relation to planning permission reference 01-95-0311 Ref 15/02206/PP**

**Prior Notification - no objection: Lagganmore Farm Kilninver Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4UU - Demolition of two buildings Ref 15/02132/PNDEM**

**Application Permitted:**

**Land to East of Hill House Arduaine Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4XQ - Renewal of planning permission Ref 12/01179/PP (Erection of dwellinghouse) Ref 15/02118/PP**

**Loch Melfort Hotel Arduaine Oban Argyll and Bute PA34 4XG - Erection of dwellinghouse Ref 15/02239/PP**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Historic Scotland has advised that as from 1 October 2015 Historic Scotland and The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) will cease to operate and will be replaced by a new organisation, Historic Environment Scotland (HES). This notice has been given to the Community Council in relation to the cairn behind the village hall, Kilmelford and full information can be found at <http://data.historic-scotland.gov.uk> then inputting SM followed by Index Number 3778.
2. Leaflets available regarding Adoption in Argyll and Bute.

#### **7. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

- 1) In the event that the local authority potential cuts might include the mobile library service it was asked that the Community Council would support the retention of this service which is particularly valuable to the elderly and housebound. The meeting agreed that it would do so.
- 2) Extraordinary General Meeting at Cuilfail Hotel, Kilmelford at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday 4 November to receive feedback from the public regarding the Kilninford Newsletter.
- 3) It was reported that the light in the telephone booth in Kilmelford is not working. AD undertook to contact BT.
- 4) ER undertook to speak to Macleods who as landowners are responsible for trimming back the gorse bushes which are growing over a significant portion of pavement in the Lower Glebe, Kilmelford.
- 5) The newly installed wind turbine above Arduaine was noted to be particularly visible on the skyline and noticeably flashing in sunlight.
- 6) The issue of difficulty of couriers/carriers finding certain houses was raised. The possibility of producing a map showing all house names in the Kilninner/Scammadale/Kilmelford/Arduaine area was discussed. ER finding out if such a map, likely to be held by the Planning Department, might be available to the general public. Privacy protection and copyright might be an issue for any map newly produced. It was suggested that free online maps are available at present. DW suggested that producing such a map, if feasible, could be the sort of initiative that would qualify for funding under the micro grant scheme from the Carraig Gheal Community Fund.

**4 d) Public Consultation on Ward Boundaries** - AD asked if there would be a possibility of having the consultation period extended beyond the deadline of 22nd October. Kieron Green advised that this was extremely unlikely. He then passed around copies of maps showing the changes in boundaries and explained that a press release had gone out to Oban Times, For Argyll and Press & Journal. It was hoped that the Oban Times in particular would put it on the front page rather than at the foot of page 3 as in the issue of 13th August. It was confirmed that there is no procedure in place with the Boundary Commission for any appeal. Community Councils for the area, numbering around nine, will submit not only a joint response to the proposals but also a letter to the Chair of the Commission complaining about the way they have been consulting with communities and inviting them to come and meet people face to face to see the impact of an Edinburgh based proposal on those living in a rural situation and having to deal with the geography, public transport issues and road conditions in winter etc. etc. which are all very different in reality from an urban based perspective.

In the hope of encouraging people to write/email to the Boundary Commission, letters with suggested points had been prepared and would be available from the next day in the village shop, along with addressed envelopes bearing stamps, which the meeting agreed could be paid for out of community council funds.

ER responded to a question from the floor, confirming that cutting our councillor number from 4 to 3 was a done deed and non negotiable. Kieron Green further explained that cutting the total number of councillors in Argyll and Bute from 36 to 33, after consultation with Councils, was the basis for removing one of the councillors for our area and for the newly drawn boundaries. It is hoped that if the responses during the Ward Boundary Changes consultation period show that there is no possible way that having 33 councillors will work then the decision to reduce the number will have to be revisited. Also, ripping communities from their social hub etc would demonstrate they have got it wrong and would have to go back and think again. There followed much discussion and questions from the floor, with comprehensive explanation by Kieron Green on the various aspects of the proposal for change.

Police boundaries at present reflect council ward boundaries and Constable Moore explained that the emergency services and the police do not recognise boundaries as such when someone is in need of help. It would be a strategic problem if Sheriffdoms, which are set in statute, police and ward boundaries were to change.

In response to a question relating to Kilninver Primary School, Kieron Green said that catchment areas will remain as at present but in the longer term, if we are in the mid-Argyll ward, Argyll and Bute Council might change the situation.

ER outlined the added pressure likely to fall on the three councillors who already have their duties at strategic level along with ward work and said that council officers will be looking now at the likely extra burden on these councillors. Kieron Green stated that the ward boundary changes, if they go ahead, would come into effect after the 2017 elections when the political make up of the council might be completely different from what it is at present.

The Secretary read out the letter which she had sent to the Boundary Commission on behalf of the community council and which was applauded by the meeting. She had also written a piece which has appeared in the current Kilninford News.

It was agreed that letters from individuals would be very effective and it was noted that we had nine days left before the deadline of 22nd October. Copies of these letters should be sent to our elected representatives such as our MSP Mike Russell, Highland and Islands MSPs, as the ultimate decision on the boundary changes lies with the Scottish Government. Kieron Green undertook to supply contact details by email at the request of anyone present.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:20 p.m.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 8th December 2015 at 8 p.m. Kilmelford Village Hall.