

WEST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held via ZOOM 14th September 2020

- 1. Present:** M. Pratt (Convener), L. McCrae (Vice Convener), Zofija Sloan, J. Loganbill, Cllr. A. Horn, Cllr. A Redman.
- 2. Apologies:** M. Soudan, M. Branson, C. O'Hanlon
- 3. Declarations of interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
- 4. Westport Beach:** There has recently been a spate of people being caught in rip tides at the beach resulting in the need for coast guard and lifeboat call outs, this resulted in an urgent socially distanced meeting with interested parties to look at the need for signage to alert people of what to do in such circumstances. An emergency windfarm trust discussion resulted in agreement to purchase 4 signs to be manufactured and erected on site informing people what to do in such circumstances. These signs will have both wording and pictorial information to ensure all groups are able to understand what to do and who to contact if needed. Discussion took place on the need to progress the proposal to erect toilet and shower facilities at this site using windfarm money set aside for this project. Margaret has spoken with several local groups and the landowner adjacent to the car park who are willing to be part of a project group charged with progressing this. Volunteers to join this group were sought – Zofija and Joseph agreed to be part of the project group, **Action:** Margaret to seek suitable dates for first meeting of group.
- 5. Working Group for SCIO in readiness for BaT3 negotiations:** BaT3 windfarm is now in an advanced stage of construction, there is now a need to set up the SCIO needed to receive any monies from this installation and in particular to advance our possible shared ownership deal being negotiated on our behalf by EKREG with whom we have signed a memorandum of understanding. Margaret has previously shared documentation drawing up much of the agreements we need kindly drawn up by the EKREG, we need to alter these to suite our future needs and to formally enter into an SCIO for West Kintyre. Volunteers for this work were sought: Zofija and Linda agreed to be part of this group. **Action:** Margaret to seek suitable dates for the first meeting.
- 6. Research study on the use of face coverings in rural Argyll:** Margaret is part of this group formed by NHS Highland and has circulated the questionnaire widely. She will report back on its findings once evaluated.
- 7. Report of AGM of Umbrella Windfarm Trust held via Skype 8th September:** Margaret attended and gave the annual report of the funding of projects for this last financial year. The Chair (Cllr Horn) and power companies indicated they were happy with the results of our actions this past financial year.
- 8. Community Council by-elections:** The mid-term CC vacancies have been advertised by the returning officer with the election date being early November. Michelle has resigned from the CC due to moving out of the area, Jenny has also resigned due to in the future spending part of her year with her family in the south. We thank them both for their work and support over the past years and wish them a happy future. Joseph

will be included in the electoral role as of 1st October so will be eligible to be formally co-opted onto the CC as full member at our next meeting.

9. **Update on Covid-19 support:** As agreed by all with the advent of Covid-19 we collectively decided to fund an expansion of services already operational in the area. With this in mind Shopper-Aide have received £10750 for alterations to their vehicles to carry the increased shopping deliveries, lap tops for remote working of staff and the setting up of a telephone buddy service, plus virtual quizzes and tea parties each month. At the height of “lockdown they delivered 95 shopping parcels a week to residents in our area. £1000 to Campbelltown food bank for the purchase of freezers to cope with increased demand, and £200 to “Friends of Tarbert” for fuel costs for deliveries to our area.
10. **Update on BaT3 and Blary Hill windfarm developments:** With BaT3 being allowed to commence work during the initial stages of the pandemic “lockdown” there was a need to set up a liaison group with the developer SPR and their contractors to deal with any problems that may arise with regards to large numbers of workers from outwith the area being housed in the area. Cllr Horn and Margaret were on this group which originally met 3 times per week to deal with the many teething problems with regards to keeping the community safe from the possibility of Covid-19 being brought into the area. This worked well with the group no longer having to meet and any problems that may arise being dealt with by the local liaison officer based in Campbelltown. Blary Hill Wind farm also commenced work during this period and are working within Covid-19 regulation plus have agreed to regularly send letters to all local residents updating them on a regular basis of the each stage of the development and what to expect with regards to traffic etc using Barr glen road.
11. **Next round of Windfarm applications:** Adverts for the next disbursement of funds have been placed with a virtual meeting of Trust members to be arranged for October.
12. **Update on Bursary applications being supported 2020:** The West Kintyre Community Fund(Freasdail fund) is currently supporting 8 bursaries ranging from apprenticeships, college courses and university degrees.
13. **Website:** It appears we will need to meet virtually for quite sometime in future which in turn means we need to find better ways of communicating with the local community. Our current web site does not have the full capacity to encompass all the various strands of the CC work. It was proposed we apply to the Windfarm Trust for a professional web site to be designed which includes sections for CC, Windfarm Trust, Community Fund, minutes and notices of meetings and a contact us page plus dedicated email address. **Agreed by all – Margaret to seek quotes and apply for funding.** The need for a Facebook page to reach out to both those who use Facebook and our younger people was also discussed and agreed as a good idea. **Action-volunteer to set this up required.**
14. **AOCB:**
 - ZOOM meetings, due to some not able to link into Zoom via video Margaret suggested that we purchase Zoom professional version which will enable those who choose to join meetings to use their phone via a link attached to the invite. **Agreed by all – Margaret to action**

15. **Date and time of next meeting:** Tuesday 10th November 7.30pm – Margaret will send meeting link once new Zoom account set up. **Please ignore any previous invite sent for this date.**