

# WEST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES

**DATE OF MEETING: 16 JANUARY 2023**

**TIME OF MEETING: 7PM**

**VENUE: Whitehouse Village Hall**

**And via Zoom**

### **1. Present**

**In attendance at venue:** Margaret Pratt (MP) (Convenor), Zofija Sloan (ZS) (Vice Convenor), Alan Coote (AC) (Secretary),

**In attendance (virtual by Zoom)** Joseph Loganbill (Treasurer), Christine O'Hanlon (CH) (Member),

### **2. Apologies**

Councillor Currie

Jessie McDougal (resident)

### **3. In Attendance**

**Virtual attendance:** Councillor Tommy Macpherson (South Kintyre)

**Virtual attendance:** Councillor Alastair John Redmond (Kintyre & the Islands)

**Virtual Attendance:** Councillor Dougie McFadzean (Kintyre & the Islands)

**Virtual attendance:** Anne Littleson (Resident)

### **4. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **5. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minute of the previous meeting held on Monday 21 of November 2022, was approved as a true record of the meeting and was proposed by ZS and seconded by JL.

### **6. Matters Arising/ Actions**

MP advised that a letter of thanks and appreciation had been received from the Marie Semple Fund, following the donation of £10,000.

Updates against each of the actions from the previous minutes were updated and are outlined at the end of this minute.

### **7. Update on Sheirdrim Hill Windfarm**

MP provided an update on the above wind farm. MP reminded those present of the public enquiry that had taken place over an 8-day period between December 2020 and Jan 2021 during which arguments against the windfarm were presented. A response from the Scottish Government had been expected by now but nothing had

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been received. MP further advised that she was in receipt of correspondence seeking comment on the new National Planning Framework, namely NPF4. Whilst NPF4 is in consultation, comment had already been submitted based on the previous framework NPF3. MP stated that considering the previous comments were made in relation to NPF3, it should be this framework and not NP4 that a decision on the above windfarm should be based. MP highlighted that Policy 7 section E2 removes the right of communities to object. MP urges all members to view to proposed framework.

Councillor Redman expressed concerns at these developments and after further discussion it was suggested that local Community Councils should be raise the concerns through the national body.

Councillor Macpherson raised concerns that there appeared to be a lack of concerns being expressed from Argyll and Bute Council

<b>Action No</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Action Owner</b>
4	MP to raise concerns relating to the impact of National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) on the ability of Community Councils to object to future planning applications with the Community Council Forum	Margaret Pratt

<b>Action No</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Action Owner</b>
5	MP to share the responses submitted to Scottish Government in relation to NPF4 with members.	Margaret Pratt

## 8. Updated on Rowan Windfarm

MP provided the update above at item 7 which incorporated the Rowan Windfarm project.

## 9. Westport Project

MP advised that this project was still proving difficult to progress. Councillor Armour has approached the landowner to try to make progress, but the landowner has with additional demands, which are being considered.

Councillor Macpherson advised that during a recent meeting he had attended there was the possibility of funding available. Some funding was being made available to

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improve road signage and whilst there was not a significant sum available, this may be an opportunity to explore. The Network and Standards Office may be able to advise.

Action No	Action	Action Owner
6	Councillor Macpherson to provide MP with contact details at the Networks and Standards Office	Councillor Macpherson

## 10. Clachan Flood Defences

MP provided an update on the above and advised that the flood defence pod was now fully stocked. The river tracking system was in place that would provide warnings to people should the level of the river rise to dangerous levels.

## 11. Annual Accounts SCIO Fund

MP advised that the annual accounts were with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) and had been fully approved. The next round of funding request was due July 2023.

## 12. Defibrillator Checks

MP raised concerns that there did not appear to be any returns in relation to the defibrillator checks.

Action No	Action	Action Owner
7	MP to provide a list of those who have agreed to check defibrillators to the Secretary and reminders will be sent out.	Margaret Pratt
8	AC to email /contact each nominated person responsible for checking the defibrillators and seek confirmation that the devices have been checked	Alan Coote

## 13. Windfarm Advertising Grants

MP advised that the next round of funding available through the windfarm grants would be March and local community halls are encouraged to apply for grants to help upgrade their facilities with the installation of things such as wi fi, heating, and anything that will help improve the local facilities. Whilst some have received funding previously, they have not come back to seek any additional funds and they should be encouraged to do so.

## 14. Community Action Plan (CAP)

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MP advised that there had been a 46% return rate, which was an excellent return. MP referred to some of the achievements that had been secured over the past 12 months and agreed to share the outcomes with members at the meeting.

Action No	Action	Action Owner
9	MP to share the list of achievements with members	Margaret Pratt

## 15. Community Liaison Group (CLG)

MP advised that the next meeting of the SSE Transmission Live group would be 21<sup>st</sup> January. An update would be provided at the next meeting of the Council.

## 16. AOCB

### a. Site of Refuse Bins at Whitehouse

AC advised that a local resident had advised that the area where the bins are sited neat to the Whitehouse Village Hall are not on a safe base and raised concerns that when trying to open the bins they can move, which may result in injury. The resident asked whether or not they could be put on to a better base to avoid them moving.

The resident also stated that there does not appear to be sufficient bin capacity given that they are nearly always full shortly after they have been emptied. Members of the Council acknowledged that the issue of capacity has been an ongoing problem as they are used by people out with those who reside in the road to which they serve.

### b. Road Signage

Councillor Macpherson advised that road signage at Bellochantuy and Kennacraig which were missing are a priority 2 for Bear Scotland and Transport Scotland so should get addressed.

### c. Community Council Board Glenbarr

Access to the Community Council noticeboard was raised as it was unclear who now had access to the board as unlike others it does not have a key attached to the board. Following discussion, it was established that the key was accessible through Glenbarr Stores.

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## **d. Date of next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is Monday 20 March 2023 at 1900hrs, at Whitehouse Village Hall.

In addition, this meeting will provide the opportunity for people to join via Zoom. Zoom meeting details will be provided in advance of the meeting.

## **Dates of Future Meetings**

20.03.2023 -

15.05.2023 – AGM/Meeting

17.07.2023

18.09.2023

16.10.2023

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## ACTION LOG

Action No	Action	Owner	Due Date	Action Update	Action Status
1	Mr Hamilton to be approached to obtain a response to the proposed lease agreement	Councillor Armour	<del>Jan 2023</del> Mar 2023	MP advised that Mr Hamilton has been approached but additional demands from him are being considered	Open
2	AC to engage with the Barrier to Settlement Project and provide feedback at the next meeting	Alan Coote (Secretary)	Jan 2023	AC engaged with the project and provided responses to questions. Final report on project still to be released	Closed
3	AC to look at setting up a West Kintyre Community Council Facebook page	Alan Coote (Secretary)	<del>Jan 2023</del> Mar 2023	AC advised that the FB page had been created and was being further checked before publication.	Open
4	MP to raise concerns regarding the impact of the NPF 4 will have on the ability of Community Councils to object to future planning	Margaret Pratt (Convener)	March 2023		Open
5	MP to share the responses submitted to Scottish Government in relation to NPF4 with members.	Margaret Pratt (Convener)	March 2023		Open
6	Councillor Macpherson to provide MP with contact details at the Networks and Standards Office	Councillor Macpherson	March 2023		Open
7	MP to provide a list of those who have agreed to check defibrillators to the Secretary and reminders will be sent out	Margaret Pratt (Convener)	March 2023		Open

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8	AC to email/contact each nominated person responsible for checking the defibrillators and seek confirmation that the devices have been checked	Alan Coote (Secretary)	March 2023		Open
9	MP to share the list of achievements with members	Margaret Pratt (Convener)	March 2023		