

WEST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

DATE OF MEETING: 27 March 2023

TIME OF MEETING: 7PM

VENUE: via Zoom

1. Present

In attendance by Zoom Margaret Pratt (MP) (Convenor), Zofija Sloan (ZS) (Vice Convenor), Alan Coote (AC) (Secretary), Joseph Loganbill (Treasurer),

2. Apologies

Councillor Currie (intimated by Councillor Redman). No other apologies were received.

3. In Attendance

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

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

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minute of the previous meeting held on Monday 16 January 2023, was approved as a true record of the meeting, and was proposed by ZS and seconded by JL.

6. Matters Arising/ Actions

MP opened the meeting by apologising for the need to cancel the original meeting which had been scheduled to take place on 20 March 2023. This was down to issues with the Zoom meeting which unfortunately could not be accessed from the Whitehouse Hall. The meeting was cancelled and re-arranged to 27 March 2023 and was being held on Zoom only.

Action 4 Update: Community Councils had responded directly regarding the proposed NPF4. A scoping report was to be responded to. Only 4 statutory consultees are identified in the framework, namely, the Council, Historic Scotland, Natural Scotland and SEPA.

Action 6 Update: Westport Project; See update under Item 9.

AOCB (16.01.2023): Refuse Bins Whitehouse: MP advised that the broken bin had now been replaced and the Roads dept were looking at the surface on which the bins sit to see whether it can be improved.

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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 advised members that there was nothing further to update from the previous meeting.

8. Updated on Rowan Windfarm

MP advised members that a date was still awaited in respect of this development.

9. Westport Project

MP advised members that this project had now been abandoned. During the discussions and negotiations with the landowner it emerged that there was a difference of opinion as to who owned the car park at Westport beach. Whilst the Council maintained that they owned the car park, the Title Deeds to the car park do not reflect this. Following due consideration of additional demands by the landowner it was decided that additional financing of the project could not be justified.

This item will be removed from future meeting agendas.

10. Clachan Flood Defences

MP advised members that the flood defences are fully up and running albeit there is a need to replace the batteries in the river sensors, which is being addressed.

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 advised that she had visited all defibrillator sites and replaced all the pads, at a cost of £700. Checks had been carried out of all defibrillators and were all found to be in order. The next checks will be due the first week in May 2023.

13. Windfarm Advertising Grants

MP advised that 11 applications had been received and a meeting was scheduled to take place at Whitehouse Village Hall on 17 April 2023 @ 7.30pm

14. Community Action Plan (CAP)

MP advised that there was nothing further to update members on regarding the CAP.

15. Community Liaison Group (CLG)

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MP advised that the next meeting of the SSE Transmission Live group would be 4 April 2023. An update would be provided at the next meeting of the Community Council.

16. AOCB

a. Patchen Cemetery – Safe Parking

Mr Robert Campbell, resident, has raised the above issue with the Community Council. This has been a long standing issue, however it is understood that Patchen Cemetery is privately owned and therefore does not fall with the responsibility of the Local Authority. Following discussion it was agreed that the issue raised by Mr Campbell be forwarded to Councillors McFadzean, Redmond and Currie to establish if there is anything that can be done from the Local Authority's perspective.

b. CNOC Buidhe Windfarm

MP advised that the scoping phase of this project is now with the Local Authority planning department. Major concerns arise with this project as the planning application is for 33 turbines, each standing 230m tall. The visual impact on the peninsula will be significant which will potentially impact on tourism as the natural landscape will be significantly affected by this project. . There is also serious concern for the wildlife in the area including the impact the construction of these turbines will have on the migratory birds such as the gees and others.

c. Highly Protected Marine Areas (HPMAs).

<https://consult.gov.scot/marine-scotland/scottish-highly-protected-marine-areas/>

<https://www.gov.scot/policies/marine-environment/highly-protected-marine-areas/>

Councillor Redman drew member's attention to a current Scottish Government consultation (link above) which seeks to designate 10% of Scottish waters as protected by 2026. The overview to the consultation states '*...These sites will provide high levels of protection by placing strict limits on some human activities, such as fishing and aquaculture, while allowing non-damaging recreational activities to take place at carefully managed levels...*' If implemented this may result in sites being identified that would have a significant impact on local fishing communities.

The closing date for the consultation is 17 April 2023, and Councillor Redman urged all to consider responding to the consultation.

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d. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is **Monday 15 May 2023 at 1900hrs**, at Tayinloan Hall. This meeting will be both the AGM and the normal business meeting of the Community Council.

Unfortunately we will be unable to offer the option of joining by Zoom for the AGM and meeting on the 15th of May.

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	Jan 2023 Mar 2023	Completed	Closed
2	AC to engage with the Barrier to Settlement Project and provide feedback at the next meeting	Alan Coote (Secretary)	Jan 2023	Completed	Closed
3	AC to look at setting up a West Kintyre Community Council Facebook page	Alan Coote (Secretary)	Jan 2023 Mar 2023	Completed.	Closed
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	Completed	Closed
5	MP to share the responses submitted to Scottish Government in relation to NPF4 with members.	Margaret Pratt (Convener)	March 2023	Completed	Closed
6	Councillor Macpherson to provide MP with contact details at the Networks and Standards Office	Councillor Macpherson	March 2023	Completed	Closed
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	Completed	Closed

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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	Completed	Closed
9	MP to share the list of achievements with members	Margaret Pratt (Convener)	March 2023	Completed	Closed
10	Secretary to email Councillor McPherson regarding identifying which road signs are missing from Bellochantuy and Kennacraig	Alan Coote (Secretary)	May 2023		
11	Chain to be fixed to board at Glenbarr to permit access to the defibrillator	Zofija Sloan (Vice Convener)	May 2023		
12	Patchen Cemetery – Safe Car Parking – Secretary to circulate Mr Robert Campbell’s concerns to Councillor Redman, Councillor McFadzean and Councillor Currie for consideration	Alan Coote (Secretary)	May 2023		