



GARELOCHHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

*WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY
FOR THE COMMUNITY*

**MINUTES for the *Garelochhead Community Council meeting*
held in *Church Hall, Garelochhead* on *Tuesday 25th October 2016***

Members Present:

Alan Pinder	Acting Secretary CC
David Norton	Acting Member CC
Hazel Mackinnon	Acting Member CC
Margaret Stratton	Treasurer CC
Martin Croft	Vice Chair CC
Watson Robinson	Convenor CC

Attending:

Insp. Coleen Wylie	Police Scotland
Craig Borland	Helensburgh Advertiser
Denise Donald	Garelochhead Primary School
Fergus Madigan	Member of the public
CLlr George Freeman	A&B Councillor
Sgt Graeme Hogg	Police Scotland
James Munn	Member of the public
John Reid	Member of the public
Kathy Blakeley	Member of the public
Ken Blakeley	Member of the public
CLlr Robert G. MacIntyre	A&B Councillor
Russell White	MOD Police

Apologies:

Colin Smith	Member CC
Colin Taylor	Member CC
Dorothy Hughes	Garelochhead Primary School
James Dagleish	Clyde Marine Unit
John McMurtrie	Parliamentary Regional Co-ordinator for Cllr. Maurice Corry
Cllr. Maurice Corry	MSP

1. Introductions and welcome

- **Welcome to members of the public and Convenor's opening remarks**
- **Apologies for absence** (as above)
- **GCC membership update** – welcome to new members David, Hazel and Alan.
- **Declarations of Interest** – none noted.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

- **Review of actions from last minutes**

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Status</i>
Martin	Finalise and publish June minutes (including to the Advertiser)	Done
Watson	Follow through on beach-clean.	Done – on agenda
	Follow up on Scottish Water septic tank refurbishments	Done – on agenda
Alan	Put out brief for website/social media project to Hermitage senior pupils	Done – on agenda
	Finalise and publish September minutes	Done
George	Raise condition of Medical Centre to Building Control <i>George raised to building control – they have no concerns re safety. Asked Building Control to pursue with the NHS to clarify their plans.</i>	In progress
	Update on Bendarroch Park progress – <i>funding has been allocated.</i>	Done
	Update on School Holidays scheduling – <i>decision pending (Council)</i>	Blocked

- **Approval of previous minutes**
Proposed and seconded – Margaret and Watson.

3. Committee updates

- **Planning**
One house extension in Birchbrae, Garelochhead;
CCTV cameras at the station (now approved);
Two wind turbines Ref 16/02662/PP (48m tall, above Faslane) – it is understood that the proposal includes provision for the community benefits (around £5000 p.a.) from this to go to Route 81.
- **Treasurer**
Current balance £1,923.99
- **Secretary**
Letter from Scottish Water (see below);
Until web-site domain / email addresses are arranged, Watson will continue to receive mail for the GCC.

4. Councillors' updates

- **School bus contract.**
Out to re-tender – current contract extended to end of December.
- **Gully / drainage opposite Café Craft.**

Blocked grating causing drainage issues both sides of the road – noted as still an issue at present – any blocked gullies, please contact Cllr MacIntyre.

Noted that there are issues with water on the main road near the bus garage and also the oil fuel depot / near “Woodburn”.

- **Home insulation funding support from the Home Energy Efficiency Programme for Scotland: Area Based Scheme (HEEPSABS Programme).**

Councillor Freeman reported that, having complained about this matter over the past two years, he could now confirm that the Helensburgh and Lomond area is now included in the HEEPSABS programme (Home owners in Council Tax bands A to C and those in D with an income of under £20,000 can be considered for inclusion on the programme). Public event is planned in Helensburgh to promote the program.

5. Police reports

- **Police Scotland**

Low crime in recent past – one drunk driver in Garelochhead, and at the weekend, two vandalism incidents recorded (one to a house window, one to a vehicle) – enquiries are ongoing. Insp Wylie encouraged members of the public to call 101 if any concern about youths gathering.

Mobile office no longer in use – but police have been asked to have an increased visible presence in the local area.

Rural Watch – awareness campaign planned to help promote this further to rural communities – encourage members to sign up for the message alerts service from this.

Road safety – Garelochhead continues to be a focus for this, including unmarked cars.

Bogus callers – re-emphasised that members of the public should be vigilant against these organised criminals using phone and email approaches. Police Scotland website “keep safe” link has good information.

Upcoming events – Bonfire display 5th November will have increased police presence.

Local officer has been placed as Youth Engagement Officer in Hermitage, and has also visited Garelochhead Primary School (PC Stamp).

- **MDP & Clyde Marine Unit**

Rural Watch – meeting between MDP and Police Scotland to focus on Rural Watch service (Wed 2nd November) – Russell will provide a report back after the meeting.

GCC and members of the public discussed the benefits to the community of having the extra resources of MDP deployed locally, and that Police Scotland and the Ministry of Defence Police clearly worked very well together on behalf of, and to the benefit of, the local community.

6. School update

Request for help to relocate the new bench at the school site into the school memorial garden – Ferguson and Watson offered to assist (post-meeting update: now done).

7. Questions from members of the public

Question raised as to whether the local GP surgery was part of the Argyll & Bute Health and Social Care Partnership – confirmed that it is.

Question raised regarding waiting times at the doctor's surgery – suggested that this is a question for the practice manager (and the new GP or GPs when appointed shortly). Suggested that once the new GP(s) are appointed, an invite should be given for them to come and discuss go-forward approaches with the Community Council.

Question regarding locks on bins in Feuins Road, Portincaple – two have been fitted and four have not yet been fitted (though keys have been issued) – Cllr Freeman will follow up.

Question as to whether the council could raise profile of Rhododendron Ponticum, like Knotweed, as an invasive plant – Cllr Freeman asked constituent for information to be passed to him so he can raise the issue with council officers.

BT Openreach is not reaching us... can this community raise one or more Community Champions via Digital Scotland to help pursue improved local connections? Alan will investigate.

8. Follow up items:

- **Scottish Water**

Ruraidh Macgregor has updated that repairs have been done to the septic facilities at the head of the loch – this has been confirmed, though damage to the two public slipways are still to be repaired. Watson to follow up re the schedule for emptying this tank.

- **Beach Clean**

21st / 22nd November planned for contractor to remove the worst of the debris, Watson to confirm details with George so the Council can provide the skip to support this.

Watson has contacted the CMU regarding breaking up the old boat. Stuart McQueen has proposed a community beach clean effort – GCC believes an initial mechanical clean is required.

- **Web site**

Brief shared to Hermitage Academy – awaiting a follow up meeting in November to discuss if senior pupils can take this on as a project. GCC members meeting in December to discuss initial content for the web site.

- **Medical Centre (Doctors update)**

Councillor Freeman reported that interviews were due to take place before the end of the month.

9. New items:

- **Three Lochs Way (Old American Road)**

Queries raised regarding the state of the link path from the Three Loch Ways down to the roundabout at the Haul Road above Garelochhead. A proposed draft letter to seven Helensburgh & Lomond councillors, the constituency MSP, the MP and the press from John Urquhart, chairman of HADAT (Helensburgh and District Access Trust) was discussed – requesting the DIO (Defence Estates), as land-owner, to provide a path agreement for this stretch of the route. Cllr Freeman suggested that he contact John Urquhart in the first instance to see if he can help progress the matter. This was agreed.

- **Garelochhead Memorials & Water Fountain**

Bench is gone and beyond repair, but the GCC has kept the memorial plaque – can the plaque be re-sited somewhere?

Water fountain – N J Slee Engineering has agreed to renovate this.

10. AOB and date of next meeting

- **Any other business** - None raised
- **Date of next meeting** - Tuesday 15th November at 7pm at the Church Hall.

11. Actions – for review at next meeting:

<i>Who</i>	<i>What</i>	<i>Status</i>
Alan	Follow up with John Reid re Community Champion to support co-pay fibre broadband connections	
Watson	Invite new GPs to GCC meeting in Q1 2017 Follow up on November Beach Clean / removal of boat / arranging skip Follow up with Scottish Water re emptying cycle for the septic tank, and completion of remaining slipway repairs.	
Martin	Fill in the collapsed area in the path on Shore Walk, with David Norton	
George	Progress issue of old Medical Centre with NHS via Building Control Update on School Holidays scheduling (not expected before December 2016) Contact John Urquhart regarding DIO providing a path agreement Confirm re the locks pending fitting on bins at Feuins Road, Portincaple.	

[END OF MINUTES]