



DRAFT Minutes for the Garelochhead Community Council Meeting

Held virtually owing to COVID-19 restrictions at 7pm on 17th August 2021

1. Introductions and welcome

a. Present

Watson Robinson	Convenor
Hilary Worton	Secretary
Carole Spencer	Treasurer
David Norton	Member

Attending:

Cllr George Freeman	Ward Councillor
Cllr Iain Shonny Paterson	Ward Councillor

Guests:

Insp Nicola Taylor	Road Traffic Officer
Stewart Hawthorn	Loch Long Salmon Co
Mark Shotter	Loch Long Salmon Co
Carol Craster	Public

b. Apologies:

Martin Croft	Vice Convenor
Gemma Kimmett	Member
Fergus Madigan	Planning Officer
Craig Ritchie	Member
Fiona Robinson	Member
Colin Taylor	Member
Ron Fletcher	Portincaple RA

c. Declarations of interest – none

d. The Convenor (Watson Robinson) opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests.



2. Police reports

No reports were provided by the MOD Police/CMU.

3. Minutes and actions from last meeting

Minutes of last GCC meeting held June 15th 2021 has been agreed by email, proposed by Watson Robinson and seconded by Fiona Robinson.

Status on actions agreed at last meeting as follows:

Agenda item	Who	What	Status
Cllr's updates – DIO land disposal	Cllr Freeman	Circulate plans and link to auctioneer's website	Done
	WR/CR/HW	Liaise re potential response from CC if required (subject to feedback from CR)	Done. Note land is now in hands of local man who says he has no plans for significant development.
Roads	CR	Initiate relevant activities as minuted in June	Carry forward to next meeting
	HW	Submit Participation Request (A&BC and Police Scotland)	Done
Cemetery Gates	MC	Liaise with CS/HW to prepare letters for funding once agreement finalised with Council	In progress. Still awaiting Council agreement.
	CS	Investigate additional fundraising	£102 donation gratefully received from G'head Station Trust Justgiving page being set up for sponsored walk. Arranging to meet with Faslane Cdr to discuss possible assistance from base.
Community novel	MC	Arrange for copies to be printed. Add Laura Robinson's name to authors	Carry forward. NB. The Perch and Eureka have agreed to sell and have posters.
Planning	FM	Contact developer for more information regarding application 01822	Carry forward
Website	FR	Upload missing meeting minutes	HW to ask Fraser Muir to help.
Grants/funding	CS	Obtain petty cash box	Done
3 Lochs Way	Convenor	Arrange site walk through with J Urquhart	Organised for 4 th Sept.
GA Residents Assoc	All	We need a representative from GCC on the GRA	Still outstanding



4. Roads discussion

Road Traffic Officer Sgt Taylor joined the meeting for this discussion. She has been briefed on the background to this matter and our ongoing concerns about speeding in the village. Sgt Taylor explained that their guidance is to only ticket drivers travelling over 40 mph. Even if there are significant numbers of drivers travelling at 30-40mph they can only stop and issue advice and warnings, however it is reassuring that the data shows very few vehicles travelling over 50mph. Road Traffic Officers have been keeping an eye on the stretch coming into the village from Faslane and will continue to do so. It is expected that more visible police presence should help to slow people down.

Particular problem areas are: coming in to the village from the base, heading out from the Anchor area towards the base, as well as heading out of the village towards the peninsular.

WR reminded Sgt Taylor and members that our request to the Council is for speed calming measure, eg changes in the tarmac to slow traffic. We have highlighted the problem however the Roads department seem to be resistant to tackling it. Sgt Taylor stressed that the Police are fully supportive of our efforts and suggested that we should use the dashcams to record the number of vehicles travelling between 30 and 40mph and share this information with the Council.

ACTION: HW to send Sgt Taylor's contact details to CR to follow up

Cllr Freeman asked if the CC could send him a copy of the traffic data we have obtained and commented that in his experience speed surveys rarely show evidence of significant problems, despite residents' concerns.

ACTION: CR to send copy of the speeding data to Cllr Freeman

5. Loch Long Salmon Company

(Copies of the slides used for the presentation are available from the GCC secretary.)

Stewart Hawthorn and Mark Shotter from Loch Long Salmon Company joined the meeting and presented their plans for a fish farm and associated shore buildings to be located roughly opposite the Glen Douglas road on the west shore of Loch Long. If approved this would be the first 'semi-closed' fish farm in Scotland and differs from conventional salmon farms in that the tanks are lined with a secondary opaque and impermeable barrier lining which, along with filling the tanks with water from lower in the loch, aims to reduce the problems of lice infestation. Day to day activities will involve approximately 3 lorries per day carrying oxygen, feed and fish waste travelling via the A82/A83 towards Loch Lomond or Crianlarich. It is not yet decided whether the fish will be farmed to full size on site or transferred to a conventional salmon farm for harvesting. The existing forestry track will be extended to provide vehicle access to the shore base. Planning permission plus other licences will be required, including SEPA, CAR licence, Marine Scotland Welfare Business licence, navigation licence etc. The intention is to submit the planning application in September and hope to have the first fish in the water between Spring and Autumn of 2023. They expect the project will generate around 12 jobs and hope to set up a community benefit fund. They would like to hear our ideas for how this might work.

The company are keen to get as much feedback as possible on their plans from the community and have held 2 virtual community consultation meetings already. Issues raised so far by the public have included: impact on wild salmon; impact on quality of life for near neighbours (noise, smell etc), stocking levels of the tanks (double the



GARELOCHHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY
FOR THE COMMUNITY

number of fish per m³ when compared with conventional tanks, but otherwise Mr Hawthorn stated that overwhelming local support has been expressed so far, including from the Arrochar, Tarbet & Ardlui Community Council.

WR raised concerns over the expected lifespan of the facility and the plans for eventual decommissioning since there are several abandoned fish farms blighting the Argyll coastline. Mr Hawthorn explained that this would all be covered in detail in the Environmental Impact Assessment which is being prepared by an independent 3rd party.

ACTION: Secretary to make contact with Arrochar, Tarbet & Ardlui and Lochgoilhead CCs to get their feedback on the proposals and ideas for the Community Benefit fund.

6. Councillors' updates

Cllr Paterson reported that he has had no updates on the planned barrier installation on the bend from the A814 heading into Portincaple and noted that the fence has recently been repaired by the new owners of the land.

7. Cemetery gates

Still awaiting formal agreement with the Council for us to take on the repair works although this has been verbally agreed. See action grid above for status regarding fund raising.

8a. Convenor's report

WR reported that he has contacted John Urquhart of the Helensburgh Access Trust to arrange a walkthrough on 4th September of the proposed new routing for the Three Lochs Way heading from Glen Fruin to Garelochhead.

WR has also been in contact with Luss estates regarding the proposed slipway in Garelochhead.

The Clyde Local Liaison Committee meeting date has been changed to 7th September.

8b Vice Convenor's report

Not present

8c. Secretary's report

Correspondence:

- Details of the next steps in the plans for the revised Helensburgh to Garelochhead cycle/walking route have been circulated and posted on our Facebook page.
- Attended conference on Meeting the Needs of an Ageing Population. Contact me for further information.



- I can no longer represent the CC at the Clyde Local Liaison meeting now that the date has changed. Does anyone else what to go instead?
- Have received communication from DIO confirming that the correct procedures were followed regarding communication around the recent land disposal.
- We have received notification of consultation on the Local Food Risk Management Plan. This has been circulated to members for comments.
- Litter picking grants are available (£25-500). **ACTION: HW/CS to investigate further**
- Our next meeting can be face to face! The Church Hall is already operating COVID-safe procedures so our September meeting will be held there.

8d. Treasurer

£623.30 admin grant has been received.

39 tickets have been sold for the Community Lottery, generating £1,014 per annum. We have already had 3 local winners.

8e. Planning

Not present

8f. MOD

Not present

8g. Website/social media

It appears that the archived minutes of GCC meetings has disappeared from the website so these will need to be re-uploaded.

ACTION: HW to ask Fraser Muir for assistance to upload minutes from past meetings

8h. Environment

Not present

8i. Church

Still looking at repairs to the roof and windows and have received quotations. Some work has been done to fix some leaks.

The undertaker has difficulties getting his vehicle in to the churchyard because of nearby parked cars. May need to put cones/no parking signs on the road when funerals are taking place.

CS asked if the church is looking for volunteers to help with the repairs and offered to get involved.



8j. Residents' Associations

Garelochhead RA

Has not been meeting owing to COVID-19 restrictions. Hoping to organise an in person meeting in the near future. We are required to have a member of the GCC on the GRA so we are looking for a volunteer.

Portincaple RA

Ron Fletcher was not present at the meeting but provided this update:

No activity to report apart from the payment of 2 years' electricity for the defibrillator to Mr Tudge on 9th July.

As with the GCC, we are waiting on relaxation of the rules governing meetings to allow us to arrange a get together at the earliest opportunity.

I understand that the GCC are pursuing the official registration of the defibrillator on the Emergency Services Register.

Obviously very pleased with the decision of the Scottish Reporter to uphold the refusal of planning permission, following an appeal by the developer. Unfortunately I don't think it will end there, as my instinct tells me that the developer will wait for the adoption of DLP2 possibly early next year, when the restriction on numbers of dwelling units are proposed to be removed, and will reapply for a new development. One can only hope that the Reporter looking at DLP2, and the representations submitted by GCC, PRA, Campaign Group etc, in January 2020, but not taken up by the Council, will decide to approve the request for the area in question to be designated an Open Space Protected Area (OSPA) as it used to be prior to 2003, when it was changed from Woodland Protected Area to a Settlement Zone.

9. Any other business

WR reminded members that we have funds set aside for Xmas lights. It has been proposed that we plant a tree rather than have to put one up each year.

ACTION: Agenda item for next meeting (Sec)

10. Date of next meeting

The



GARELOCHHEAD

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

next

WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY
FOR THE COMMUNITY

meeting of the Community Council will be held on Tuesday 7th September at 7pm in the Church Hall.

Summary of outstanding actions

Agenda item	Who	What
Roads	CR	Initiate activities as minuted in June
	WR	Send copy of speed data to Cllr Freeman
	HW	Send Sgt Taylor's contact details to CR to follow up
Fish farm	HW	Make contact with Arrochar, Tarbet & Ardlui and Lochgoilhead CCs to get their feedback on the proposals and ideas for the Community Benefit fund.
Community Novel	MC	Arrange for additional copies to be printed Add Laura Robinson's name to authors
Planning	FM	Contact developer for more information regarding application 01822
Website	HW	Ask Fraser Muir to help upload missing meeting minutes
Funding/grants	CS/HW	Investigate litter picking grants
AOB	HW/WR/FM	Xmas tree on agenda for Sept meeting
GA Residents Assoc	All	We need a representative from GCC on the GRA