



# GARELOCHHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY  
FOR THE COMMUNITY

FINAL minutes for the Garelochhead Community Council meeting

Held virtually owing to COVID-19 restrictions at 1900hrs on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Members present:

Watson Robinson	Convenor
Margaret Stratton	Treasurer
Craig Ritchie	Member and MOD
Mary Gray	Member
Gemma Kimmitt	Member
Andrea Wise	Member
Carole Spencer	Member
David Norton	Member

Attending:

Maurice Corry	MSP
Iain Paterson	Local Councillor

Public:

Ron Fletcher
Laura Cameron

Apologies

Martin Croft	Vice Chair, CC
Mandy Crossland	Member
George Freeman	Local Councillor
Colin Taylor	Member

## Introductions and welcome

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Apologies – as above

Declarations of interest – none



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Watson Opened the meeting and thank all for attending. He then went on to ask for a volunteers to take on Secretary role, No members forthcoming. We then went on to thank Mrs Fiona Robinson for all the hard work she put in over the years. Fiona decided to stand down from the Community Council in July of this year. Fiona was a long standing member and will be greatly missed.

## **Minutes of previous meeting**

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Proposed: David Norton / Seconded: Gemma Kimmett

Actions covered in Committee Reports.

Matters arising:

### **Speed management at east and west side of Garelochhead**

- Council have declined to take any action. Craig Ritchie has asked for more data to review since speed averages are reduced owing to individuals travelling very slowly to enter driveways.
- Discussion regarding collecting number plates and video evidence.
- Ideal outcome would be some kind of speed management tools to slow drivers down (speed cameras, flashing speed sign, speed bumps, 'slalom' -style road narrowing, etc)

Action: Cllr Paterson to look into what was required when speed cameras were introduced in Crianlarich.

## **Police Scotland & CMU reports**

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Police report was circulated before meeting and attached as appendix here.

CMU report included reminder of restrictions on water-skiing, windsurfing and jet-skiing in Dockyard Port area

Actions: Craig Ritchie agreed to check the area covered by the watersports restriction in Dockyard Port area.

CMU have also contacted GCC regarding Operation Wilton, the trial of unmanned craft. No further information available at this point.

## **Councillors' updates (Iain Paterson)**

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## **Rest and Be Thankful**

Traffic being diverted at Tarbet is impacting local businesses in Arrochar negatively. Discussions with BEAR Scotland to move the diversion sign to the other side of Arrochar.

Discussions with Brendan O'Hara, MP, and Kevin Campbell, Operations Manager working at R&BT. Very concerned about stability of the hill. A long-term solution is becoming essential. Has been escalated by Maurice Corry to Grant Shapps, Secretary of State for Transport in Westminster. Jackie Bailey has also raised this with the First Minister.

## **MSPs' updates**

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Focus is on COVID-19 and getting schools back to normality as well as getting people back into offices and on trains. Mental health services and A&E are also being prioritised.

## **Co-opted members**

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Laura Cameron would like to join the CC. Proposed: Carol Spencer / Seconded: Mary Gray. No members otherwise minded. The Community Council welcomes Laura onboard on a co-opted basis.

We currently have 3 co-opted members. Next by-elections are likely to be March '21.

## **Committee reports**

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### **Convenor's report:**

- Planning application at Shore Walk has been withdrawn. Landscape plans are being drawn up and the community will be given the opportunity to provide input.
- Complaint from resident about Shore Walk antisocial behaviour, swearing, lighting fires etc. has been passed to Police Scotland.
- Loch Long Salmon Ltd have sent an email to notify the CC that they are applying for permission for a fish farm just north of Glen Mallan.
- Objection from the CC has been submitted to the planning department about the Portincapple development. The council are recommending the application for approval and it will be discussed at the PPSL meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> August.

### **Secretary's report**



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No Secretary currently in place. Should we consider using social media to recruit a co-opted member to act as Secretary?

Action:

- Laura Cameron to place post on social media

## Planning

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Only one application to note this month. Removal and replacement of the fence at the school. No objections anticipated.

Platform has appeared on west shore of Loch Long. Watson Robinson stated that this was likely to have been included in the original application for the Glen Mallan jetty work. The plans are available at the Gibson Hall.

## Treasurer's report

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Balance on 14.12.20	£3,992.57
Payments in:	£1,000.00 from Scottish & Southern Electricity resilience fund (COVID-19)
	£200.00 from Waitrose
	£676.10 A&B Council grant
Payments out:	£18.50 expenses (not yet paid) for masks / leaflets given out locally
	40 x fruit & vegetable bags to the over 80s in Garelochhead & Portincaple
	Activity packs for children receiving free school meals

## MOD update

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- Coulport and Faslane have no positive COVID-19 cases. Everyone is working from home where possible. Some projects are now restarting and so contractors are beginning to come back to work on those.
- Have contacted Richard MacKenzie regarding closure of American Road barrier. There has been a lot of antisocial behaviour in that area during lockdown and his staff have had a lot of clearing up to do as a result. He is keen to attend a future meeting to give an update.
- Help with Xmas tree should also be provided this year.



## Environment

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- The council are cutting the grass by Shore Road/Shore Walk and mowing over the top of knotweed and spreading it.

Action: Cllr Paterson to follow up with Tom Murphy at A&B Council.

- Request for CC to purchase a pet scanner (£250 plus VAT) and Carole Spencer would take responsibility for identifying any animals involved in RTAs.

Action: Carole to prepare email to be sent to CC members on the subject

## Website

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Fiona Robinson has agreed to continue updating the website for the time being.

## Roads

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- Cemetery gate is still missing and tarmac is damaged. Council had been planning to demolish cemetery house. Wargraves commission only tend to graves/gravestones, but can't help with the gate.

Action: Maurice Corry to discuss with Commonwealth Wargraves Scotland and will write to council.

- No calls have been received to the helpline.

## Updates from other groups

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- Looking at how to reopen the Church. Risk assessment done. Likely to open mid-Sept.
- Community Planning Partnership looking at feasibility of a physical meeting in Nov.
- Portincaple Residents' Association have received confirmation from council refuse department that food waste collection will be as per the published calendar.
- Portincaple Residents' Association trying to get details of A814 junction improvement. Cllr Paterson has spoken to Jim Smith at A&B Council regarding the scheduling of this and is keen for it to be done before the next winter.



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- Portincaple Residents' Association looking into reducing speed limit down from 60mph on Feuins Road.
- It was suggested to invite Jim Smith from A&B Council to attend a meeting to discuss various roads issues (speeding in Garelochhead, A814 junction, speed limit in Portincaple.)

Action: Craig Ritchie to add this to his discussions with Jim Smith and invite him to meet with GCC.

## **AOB**

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- Email from Ian Hamilton at Finart Farm regarding tree felling on the track at the crossroads in Garelochhead at bottom of Whistlefield Hill. Cllr Freeman is following up directly
- Centre 81 has Glen Mallan contractors staying at the hostel which is bringing in income. Most activities are suspended owing to COVID-19. Looking for volunteers for this very good cause and ideas for income generation
- Suggestion to put out a social media post inviting any local groups to use our platform to request assistance from the community on any project.

## **Date of next meeting**

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Next meeting will be held (online) on 15<sup>th</sup> September.



## ACTIONS FOR FOLLOW UP AT NEXT MEETING

Agenda item	Who	What
Speeding in Garelochhead	Cllr Paterson	Look into what was required when speed cameras were introduced in Crianlarich.
CMU report	Craig Ritchie	Check the area covered by the watersports restriction in Dockyard Port area
Secretary's report	Laura Cameron	Post on social media regarding Secretary vacancy
Environment – knotweed	Cllr Paterson	Follow up with Tom Murphy at A&B Council
Environment – pet scanner	Carole Spencer	Prepare email to be sent to CC members on the subject
Roads – cemetery gate	Maurice Corry	Discuss with Commonwealth Wargraves Scotland and write to council.
Updates from other groups	Craig Ritchie	Add A814 junction and Feuins Road to discussions with Jim Smith at Council. Invite Jim to meet with GCC.

## Appendix

### 1. Police Scotland report



Garelochhead Police  
Report 13.08.20.docx

### 2. CMU correspondence



CMU  
correspondence 1508

[End of Minutes]