

DRAFT MINUTES for the
Garelochhead Community Council
COVID-19 Virtual Meeting
held 7pm on Tuesday 16th June 2020

Members Present:

Watson Robinson	Chair CC
Martin Croft	Vice-Chair CC
Craig Ritchie	Member CC & MOD
Mary Gray	Member CC
Carol Spencer	Member CC
Margaret Stratton	Member CC
Gemma Kimmett	Member CC
Andrea Wise	Secretary CC
Fiona Robinson	Member CC

Attending:

Cllr Iain Paterson	Argyll & Bute Councillor
Cllr George Freeman	Argyll & Bute Councillor

Public:

Ron Fletcher

Apologies

Mandy Crossland
Colin Taylor

- Introductions and welcome
 - a. Welcome to members of the public and Convenor’s opening remarks
 - b. Apologies for absence (**as above**)
 - c. **Declarations of Interest** – None.

- Minutes of previous meetings
 - Minutes to be reviewed

Minutes agreed on 16th June 2020 - Proposed by Martin Croft and seconded by Andrea Wise

Meeting Dates for 2020 – 2021 Agreed: copy to be emailed to GCC Members and uploaded to GCC Website

Review of previous minutes

Who	What	Status
Watson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Portincaple Development 	On Agenda
Mary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with roads updates and layby issues 	Ongoing
Ian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Lochs Way – Estimate of works and signage • Barrier at Portincaple 	Ongoing
Martin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter sent to Council regarding dev plan • Cemetery – Photographs required 	Refer 7.1 Refer 7.2

Carole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signed agreement re Christmas Lights • Update on Application to A&B for grant money 	Complete Carol confirmed grant money sent to account
Craig	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOD requirements for housing 	No Update
Fiona	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Website ongoing 	Ongoing
Stg Hutchinson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up on escalated trouble with teenagers at night in Garelochhead 	No Report
Fergus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on Rhododendron Ponticum • Contact A&B Biodiversity Officer 	No Update

- Police Report
- Police Scotland
No Representation at Virtual Meeting
Police Scotland emailed a report to GCC confirming the following incidents of significance:
 - **Policed called to address on Upland Road re persons gathering; all family but 1 arrested on unrelated matter.**
 - **Verbal abuse on Hepburn Road – unidentified individual; enquiry ongoing.**
 - **Disturbance - Report of youths at shore near Old School Road**
 - **Attempted break in at Smiddy Court; no entry gained or damage**
 - **Number of calls regarding breaches to Covid 19 guidelines**

Speed Checks – Laser detection speed checks were carried out next to Garelochhead Bus Garage; fines and warnings were given to a number of drivers. Police Scotland will continue to monitor the speed through Garelochhead and other local areas of concern.

Gemma advised GCC that she had reported to Police Scotland her concerns regarding speeding traffic in Portincapple; this included a delivery driver that was reported to the police. Neither incidents were noted within the Police Report sent to the GCC.

- MDP & Clyde Marine Unit
GCC did not receive a report from MDP

- Committee Reports and COVID 19 Measures

a Convenors Report

Watson advised GCC that Andrea Wise was resigning as Secretary and Fiona Robinson agreed to take on the position: Proposed – Gemma Kimmet and Seconded – Margaret Stratton

Note: Following on from the meeting unfortunately Fiona is unable to take on the role of secretary and the Community Council is seeking a member or new member to take on the position.

Covid 19 - Telephone

Watson confirmed a Tesco Mobile had been set up to allow people to contact GCC should they require food parcels or assistance within the local area; he had spoken to Victoria Ferguson regarding the food deliveries. At present Mary will be responsible for the phone and the helpline number will be added to the website and flyers for the area.

b Planning Applications

20/00070/PP Proposal: Installation of red warning flag on 6m high pole Location: Flag Pole Z Off Yankee Road, Garelochhead MOD Training Land

20/00491/PNRAIL Proposal: Proposed compound Location: Land North West Of High Balemock Farm, Shandon. Applicant: Network Rail

20/00416/PNRAIL Proposal: Proposed slope stabilisation works Location: Railway Line At Whistlefeld, Helensburgh. Applicant: Network

20/00533/HSZCON Proposal: Hazardous Substance Consent for the storage of petroleum products at Garelochhead Fuel Depot (additional use of 2 under ground tanks without exceeding existing consented tonnage for the site) Location: HMOil Fuel Depot

20/00575/PP & 20/00379/LIB Proposal: Extension of existing porch, erection of timber decking areas with canopies over, associated landscaping works, fencing and planters and internal alterations

Location: Garelochhead Primary School

20/00636/PP Proposal: Change of use of land to form a temporary compound and parking area Location: Land Approx 210M West Of Defense Minitions Glen Douglas Ministry Of Defense, Glen Douglas Road, Glen Douglas,

20/00703/PPP Proposal: Site for the erection of dwellinghouse Location: Land East Of Taliesin West, Garelochhead. Applicant: Mr Lorne Thomson

20/00896/PP Proposal: Change of use of land to form a temporary compound and parking area Location: Land Approx 210M West Of Defense Minitions Glen Douglas Ministry Of Defense, Glen Douglas Road, Glen Douglas, Alexandria, Argyll And Bute Applicant: Network Rail 151 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5NW

GCC discussed Planning Application Ref 20/00703/PPP for site above McAuly Burn Application

There have been 14 Objections submitted on this application and it is understood that if the Community Council had a normal open public meeting, some of the residents who wrote these objections would have attended the meeting to seek support from the CC. It was suggested in fairness to the community, that all members read the objections on the Argyll and Bute website and come to a conclusion as to whether or not the CC should consider if any support is needed.

There are concerns regarding flooding and queries regarding the footpath.

Watson confirmed the applicant is planning to build house at the high end of the plot and the possibility of a War Memorial to be located on another area of the land.

Cllr Freeman confirmed the GRA are looking for a site to establish a war memorial in the village

It was agreed the CC should respond to the application on behalf of community.

ACTION: Watson asked the members of the CC to review the application and feed back their comments for a response to Argyll & Bute Council on behalf of the community.

c Treasurer

Current Balance Dated 08/06/20 - £ 4346.25

Received following:

Grant - £5000

Waitrose - £200

Argyll and Bute Grant - £626.10

Margaret confirmed £100 had been used to pay for materials to make face coverings for the community.

Argyll and Bute Grant: Carol confirmed the grant from Argyll and Bute was to be put towards food for community; it was agreed the grant could be used to make up food/treat boxes. Fiona suggested we provide fresh fruit and vegetables as a healthy box option.

ACTION: Carol, Margaret and Fiona to arrange a meeting to discuss the idea.

d MOD

Craig advised GCC that the number of people going to the base had reduced following the lockdown for Covid 19. The Base are working on measures to become Covid secure and will keep GCC updated on any changes. There is ongoing work at on Whistlefield roundabout and there will be restrictions with temporary traffic lights to be in place on northern access.

e Environment

- There are no beach cleans planned during the lockdown period.
- Carol confirmed the last beach clean took place on the 15th March; it was attended by 18 people and 31 bags of rubbish were collected. Lunch was provided at the Gibson Hall for the volunteers.
- Fiona raised the issue regarding visitors to Portincaple beach; they are leaving litter and other items; signs have been erected asking visitors to

- kindly take their litter away but it is a problem to be monitored.

• Carol asked if anyone had seen the feature on the BBC Programme Landward regarding litter in the local Lochs. Cllr Paterson said he would pass the details of Christina Sanchez Naverro who has been campaigning regarding the litter issues.

Shore Walk

There continues to be a youth problem on shore walk, shore road and McAuly Burn. Over the last year numerous reports of vandalism, bins burned, cars damaged, road side safety mirrors damaged, and youths running in and out of residents properties, have been reported to the police and A&B Council, despite this residents giving potential names of these youths no deterrent seems to be able to prevent them from carrying out their activities. Below is an email from a local business owner outlining the issues:

"Youths are consistently breaking regulations on social distancing, congregating often on vacant land at end of shore walk, smashing bottles, vandalism, lots of minor thefts in other areas of village, loads of reports on the garelochhead community page, last weekend mirrors smashed on shore road, problem not going away.

The council and police have a statutory obligation to deal with anti-social behavior, this problem is growing and there is now concern that other youths from outwith areas are coming into Garelochhead on weekends to participate in this behavior. Many of these incidents are reported, many are not for a range of reasons. Will the police respond in a very pro-active manner and engage positively with the community to curtail this behaviour ? what is their response ? residents who live on shore walk and shore road as well as other places are having their lives made a misery, the council and the police must acknowledge and act, talk solutions rather than statistics."

Carol added that there is a boat on Shore Walk which keeps being targeted.

It was agreed this is an area of concern and GCC want the Police to deal with this matter in a more pro-active manner.

ACTION: Watson to contact the MOD Police and ask for their help regarding the issues.

Craig agreed he would also contact the Chief Super Intendent and ask the MOD to extend their patrol.

Cllr Freeman and Cllr Paterson to also assist with dealing with this matter

f Roads

Speeding in Garelochhead was raised as a continual concern. Craig added the speeding from Garelochhead garages towards the Base was an issue and it would be helpful to have a summary on the recorded speeds for this section of road. Watson confirmed that following a recent survey carried out by Andrew Barren on 11th March the average speed recorded though the village was 38/37 mph; this is a

concern as it is over the speed limit yet nothing is being done to deal with the matter.

As a result of the recordings and concerns raised, GCC would like further traffic measures to be put in place. GCC want to know what can be done by Argyll and Bute Council and Police Scotland regarding the implimation of traffic calming within the village.

ACTION: Cllr Freeman to pursue the matter with Police Scotland and A&B Council and report back

g Website

Website up and running; Meeting Agendas and Minutes have been added but further content is welcome; this can include photographs of the area and local information.

Gemma and Fiona suggested approaching a company Swish Social to manage the websites

ACTION – Gemma to contact Swish Social for cost estimate for managing the website on behalf of GCC

h Garelochhead Residents Association

- **No report presented to GCC.**
- **Watson asked Cllr Freeman if a key could be given to either Mary or Margaret to allow information to be put into the noticeboard.**

i Garelochhead Station

No update

j Community Planning Partnership

No Update

k Portincaple Residents Association

PRA Chair Ron Fletcher confirmed the following:

- **There had been 844 responses to the Planning Application: 842 nos objections and 2 nos of support.**
- **The Planning Application would not to be presented in June; the next Planning Committee Meeting is scheduled for the 19th August.**
- **Watson asked Ron to email a copy of the Planning Committee dates to GCC**
- **A letter has been sent to D Lawson regarding the bridge inspection and the date for improvements to the road junction into Portincaple; awaiting a response.**
- **Cllr Paterson confirmed the road junction improvements were scheduled for April but have been postponed he will find out if a new date has been agreed.**
- **Concern was raised that it may be a virtual public meeting and there was still further information to be supplied by the applicant**

Following a discussion regarding the Planning Application it was agreed Garelochhead Community Council should consider the local community concerns regarding the proposed development and reflect the opinion of the local community. As a result the Community Council agreed due to the major concerns raised regarding the application they would formally submit a letter of objection to the proposed Planning Application Ref 20/00094/PP

ACTION: Watson asked the members of the CC to review the application and feed back their comments for a response to Argyll & Bute Council on behalf of the community.

- Councillor's Updates

Cllr Freeman confirmed the Bin collections were going back to the normal schedule and the Refuse Tip – Blackhill Recycling Centre is now open.

- Questions from Public
Mrs Waltham Email

Watson confirmed he had responded to Mrs Waltham's email concerning the beach clean and updates from the Community Council.

- AOB

7.1 Response to Local Development Plan

Martin confirmed he had sent a letter to A&B council regarding the LDP as agreed by the Community Council supporting the arguments raised by the Portincaple Residents.

7.2 Cemetary Gates: Martin confirmed he been asked to forward photographs of the gates, the building that is being ring fenced for destruction, which is blocking the road, and the K13 war memorial site. He has asked a local photographer to produce some professional photos which will then be forwarded to the appropriate authorities for comments.

7.3 S.S.E. Resilience Communities Fund Protective Face Coverings

Margaret ask if we could appeal for more sewers to help make face coverings for the local community. Gemma suggested Sew Grateful who are based in Kilcreggan; Margaret confirmed she had already been in touch with them. A request to be sent out to the community for spare 100% cotton material to use for face masks.

Margaret has been organising the distribution of face coverings and putting them in the post office and Spar; she plans to order more masks.

- Training - **Carol advised the CC she had taken part in a Social Enterprise Course.**
- Community Watch - **David asked that signs for Community Watch to be reinstated**
- Power Upgrade Portincaple - **Ron advised the CC that there was a power upgrade**

- **scheduled on the 17th July 9.30 – 4.30 pm; power in the area will be switched off.**
- - **Community Novel - Martin asked if more members could contribute to the CC Novel**
 - **Yankee Road Barrier - Fiona raised the issue regarding the recent closure of the Yankee Road Barrier Gate of the Haul Road; she was advised it was going to be closed more frequently due to antisocial behaviour. Cars now have no option other than to to park on Glen Fruin side of the road as they are trying to deter cars parking on haul road next to barrier.**
ACTION: Craig will make enquiries to find out why the gate is being closed.
 - **Fiona confirmed she had taken part in an online webinar regarding re-allocation of roadspace to allow for multi use for walkers and cyclists. She raised the issue regarding the inappropriate allocated road speed of 60 mph in Portincaple as 60mph road and no markings or signage.**
Fiona has discussed this with Melissa Stewart and requested it be put on list for street policy and survey.
ACTION: Watson would contact Roddy MacNeill regarding speeding matters

8. Date of the next meeting

Date of next meeting: 18th August 2020

9. Actions for follow-up at next meeting

Who	What	Status
Watson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Portincaple Development • Shore Walk – Contact MOD 	
Mary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with roads updates and layby issues 	

<p>Ian</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Lochs Way – Estimate of works and signage Barrier at Portincaple 	
<p>George</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shore Walk – Assist with this matter • Speeding Garelochhead – Pursue matter with Police and A&B Council 	
<p>Gemma</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact Swish Social regarding website management 	
<p>Martin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covering letter to A&B Council re LDP • Cemetery Gates – Write to A&B Council. 	
<p>Carole</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign agreement re Xmas lights when amended copy received from A&B Council • Application to be made for grant re lights. 	
<p>Craig</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yankee Road Gate Closure – Find out why and future position on the closure of the gate • Shore Walk – Contact MOD ask to extend patrol 	

<p>All Members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to Planning Applications: Ref 20/00703/PPP for site above McAuly Burn Application Ref 20/00094/PP for site development in Portincaple 	
<p>Carol, Fiona & Margaret</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange a meeting to discuss food parcels 	

[End of Minutes]