

Kilmallie Community Council

ChairpersonJillian Clark, Kilmalyn, Corpach
Treasurer..... Margaret MacKenzie, 42 Hillview Drive, Corpach
Secretary.....Dawn Rigby, Puiteachan, Glen Loy, Banavie

**Minutes of meeting 24th March 2011
Time 7.00pm at Kilmallie Hall, Corpach, Fort William.**

Council members present

Jillian Clark (JC) Margaret Mackenzie (MM), Dawn Rigby (DR)
Christine Hutchison (CH), Janet Maclugash (JM), Kshama Wilmington (KW), Tony
Whitelocke, (TW), Russell Leaper (RL) and Mandy Ketchin (MK).

Other

Councillor Bill Clark (BC)
No members of the public present.

Apologies

Calum Dennison (CD)

Brief introductions were made welcoming Cll Bill Clark and member TW, who was absent from previous first meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting.

CH mentioned that Kilmallie Hall is not known as Kilmallie Village Hall. Amendments were made.

Matters arising

Contents of files passed over from previous KCC.
Chair had mainly archive documents and past minutes of AGMs
Treasurer had all past invoices and had a report to discuss later.
Secretary had past minutes and correspondence, also details of the Newsletter and Gardens competition.

Website.

(MM) had researched into previous and new websites, with availability for a new domain name. There seemed to be some confusion with Kilmallie Community Company, and Kilmallie Community Council. It was suggested that we should try to find a new domain name and that Kilmallie CC is currently available. After much discussion it was agreed that a new website is important, it should be updated regularly and be as active as possible. We should get somebody to set it up, but KCC would do all the updating of the site.

Suggestions were put forward such as a forum for the public and press releases. RL suggested if costing was too high for a forum on the web site, then possibly a Facebook page would work.

MM to look into prices of web hosting and domains.

ACTION

Cllr BC advised that a press officer should be appointed to liaise with KCC and the press. This helps to channel public opinion and helps councillors. To circulate a press release first on the web page asking for the public's opinion before releasing it to the press. RL agreed to take on the responsibility as press officer.

MK and MM agreed to take on the responsibility of setting up the web site.

Cllr BC suggested that discretionary money could be made available for such a project.

MM to look into applying for funding.

ACTION

New Constitution.

The Chair handed out copies of the new constitution to all present. It was agreed that it should be read through and discussed at the next meeting. The new Scheme would be implemented from 1st April 2011, but CC's will be required to adopt the new Constitution and Standing Orders before the end of June 2011 with elections for CC members being held in November 2011. The Chair explained how it was still unclear if our newly formed CC would still have to go through the new election process. Awaiting comment from the Highland Council.

Correspondence

Letter from the Highland Council regarding the proposal to close the Special Class at Banavie Primary School.

Meeting about proposals, arranged by the Education Authority on 28th April, 2011 at 7.00pm. Council Chambers, Lochaber House, Fort William.

Secretary to email consultative paper regarding proposals to all CC members. *ACTION*

Financial Report

The latest statement from the bank has yet to arrive due to the changing over of names. Only a statement over the phone was given.

Current bank balance, dated 28/02/2011 £1,971.73

Treasurer gave each member a detailed printout from 31/02/2008 to 28/02/11 and 01/03/11 to 01/03/11 of the accounts.

Treasurer asked if no money would be spent until after the end of the financial year, March 31st 2011.

The previous accounts need to be signed off by a person unknown to the existing treasurer. Chair suggested Joy Biggin, a previous KCC member.

KCC members are now insured, but the documents have yet to arrive.

Treasurer suggested considering a data protection act registration, in view of the website going live, and this would cost approx. £35.00

AOB

Smiley face road signs through Corpach.

Proposed by the Chair

The previous KCC had tried to establish these signs to help reduce speeding, and it was agreed that we should pursue it, as it has been noticed how traffic has been increasing, (especially HGV's) and speeding, ignoring 30mph and 40mph signs. People are worried about children frequently walking along the road to school, nursery and the shops. CD(absent) had expressed his concerns through the Chair about the traffic speed signs at the Treasures of the Earth end of Corpach being 40mph and how many vehicles are ignoring this, and going straight up to 60mph.

The current warning/hazard lights at the school are broken. Cllr BC said a letter has gone to Transerv concerning this matter. It was noted that the public do not know who to contact about these matters, and more public awareness was needed. The more people who complain, the better the chances of the job being done. MM was concerned about the increased number of HGV's and suggested a traffic survey. RL said that Transerv had conducted a traffic survey for Banavie Quarry, and speed and vehicles were included in it.

Secretary to contact Transerv to ask if they can run a speed and vehicle survey on the main road, also about the hazard lights at the school not working. *ACTION*

Bio Diesel Plant at Corpach.

Chair addressed Cllr BC about the recent letter in Lochaber News (dated 10th March, p7) from Mr McClymont of Kinlochleven, about a bio diesel plant being built in Corpach. Cllr BC explained how nothing had gone through planning for this and he knew nothing about the proposals.

Biodiesel-energy.co.uk, have since stated on its website that the letter was published without the authorisation of the owner of Biodiesel Energy, Robert McClymont, and he has asked for an apology to be printed in the paper.

Planning

Cllr BW explained that all local planning will go through KCC, via the secretary. It was agreed that the secretary would forward copies of all planning received to members via email, so they may look over the plans in preparation of the following KCC meeting.

Chair asked secretary to invite Susan Poole from the planning department to the next KCC meeting, to discuss planning matters. *ACTION*

Newsletter

CH and KW agreed to take on the responsibility of the KCC Newsletter. It will be published 4 times annually.

Gardening Competition.

Agreed to put this on hold until somebody became available/willing to take on the task.

Caol Regeneration Project. Marina

The current proposals for a new marina in Caol have recently been discussed at the Kilmallie Community Company. Cllr BC said that Dr Sen (project leader) needed to get a feasibility study up and running for his proposal, and it is still in its infancy. Dr Sen has been invited to a future Kilmallie Community Company meeting to discuss the marina. It was decided to wait until the feasibility study had been done to see how the project was going, and to look into the matter again.

JM who is also a member of the Kilmallie Community Company, sent the chairman's, Mr Paul Brian's regards to KCC.

Closure of Public Toilets.

The Chair addressed Cllr BC about the news of a Highland Council decision to close a number of public toilets in Lochaber. Four local conveniences - at Arisaig, Caol, Kinlochleven and Traigh Beach near Arisaig - are to be shut from June. All members of the KCC disagreed with this decision, especially the closure of the toilets at Traigh Beach near Arisaig, where there are no facilities nearby and there is already a huge problem with wild camping.

It was agreed for the Secretary to send a letter to the Highland Council showing the KCC's disapproval of the scheme. *ACTION*

Next Meeting.

Cllr BC was thanked and asked if he would like to attend the next meeting. Accepted.

It was agreed to see if we could change the present room the meeting was held in as there would be no space for any members of the public if they wished to attend.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 28th April, 7.15pm at Kilmallie Hall.

Members of the public are invited to attend and if you wish to contact the Community Council, please do so through the Secretary, Dawn Rigby.

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