

Strathard Community Council minutes
3rd September 2015

1. **Present:** F McEwan, R Dingwall, J Quinn, M Colquhoun, C Smith, S Stephen, A Goulancourt, F Wood. Four members of the public also present.

2. **Apologies:** A McLellan

3. **Minutes:**

Change Aberfoyle to Kinlochard - Briskona.

Post meeting apology for absence from police.

Proposed Colin Smith, Seconded by Jimmy Quinn.

4. **Matters arising :**

Debris Loch Ard - situation has improved.

Council/road closure issue. Extreme concern expressed by local business owners present, at lack of consultation and notification regarding road closures during busiest tourist months. Publicity generated combined with multiple requests to Stirling Council and Councillors managed to postpone the late August closure at Port of Menteith until September. Several Council officers have been given redundancy or left so lack of communication appears to have resulted. Nicole Paterson, now head of environmental services contacted re Cllr. Gibson's comments in Stirling Observer stating annual closures had been advised when we have no record of such communication. Kirsty Scott, communications, also contacted. Agreed that Council would need to be reminded to issue documentation as before and that this procedure would need to be monitored.

Proposed we challenge SC on need to close roads due to size of machinery, and perform cost benefit analysis including impact of closure. Ways of accessing smaller equipment e.g. from other councils could be discussed. SCC has queried in past but a new approach to Council agreed worthwhile before next budget is set. Traders present would look into liaising with existing association, however SCC would also ensure that any meetings to discuss the subject were advised to traders.

Noted that CC minutes needed uploaded onto the internet.

Flooding. Public meeting this month tba.

Electric chargers in car park causing safety concerns in event of floods. No consultation. Ros to continue to query safety.

Poker tree: in finals of Tree for Scotland.

5. **Correspondence:**

a. NP - CAP want to help, also Sepa consultation on role of landscape in community life. Want to combine both. More details would be good.

b. TAN now run by Community Partnership. Ask to be informed. Meeting to come. If community empowerment is needed can we bring back village officer?

c. Loch Katrine activities: Is there interest in Cycling Sportive? Do we want to hold an event? J Fifield will investigate and reply.

d. Parks Summit Stirling Council. Of limited relevance,

- e. Energy advice drop in session in Aberfoyle tonight, details arrived too late to publicise.
- f. Grant notification from Foundation Scotland 2015 programme for Stirling. Older people, employability, young people. Ros to pass to those who asked about funds.
- g. Notice re NP vacancy following resignation of Owen McKee.

6. Planning

Stronachlachar Workshops Planning Committee site visit. Workshop residential conversion plus 4 holiday units. Community concerned re traffic at corner. Majority 6 to 1 carried by Planning Committee. Conditions imposed not yet available. Meant to be houses for living not holiday. How to develop socio-economic side of community? A community council representative for Stronachlachar to be sought.

Applications received. No action needed unless noted below.

Pole at L Arklet.

Duchray House Agricultural building.

Extension Inversnaid hotel. Porch at sunroom. Minor works.

Garage, Store and home office at Hill Cottage, Aberfoyle.

Extension same size as house, but seems to be to the back so not too visible. Check views and appearance.

Approved :-

Inversnaid Primary change of use approved.

Braeval Farm

Query as to whether work at Inversnaid Hotel carried out according to permission – to be checked.

7. Reports:

Police - concern raised re bad signage in car park. Minor accident caused by driver trying to read multiple signs for SWC. No permission for signs. Fergus has told planning. Police could consider as littering.

Disorder incident. Locals helped to prevent.

Query re contacting police. Phone outside at fire station not well publicised for visitors and others. Signs needed.

Query regarding re-starting police surgeries. This apparently unlikely because the police cover too wide an area now. Suggestion of mobile police office.

Police asked if closure needed for Remembrance parade. No.

Council :

PBB meeting in Lochearnhead 7th Sept. Cllr Wood offered lift. No information has arrived yet.

National Park (by FW)

Drumlean access issue still in court. Also NP planners plus Building Control in discussion over new buildings with no permissions.

Broadband. Difficult getting consensus re end of cable at F Hills. Hoping for meeting with senior management.

8. AOCB:

J Fifield. Reading room. Wondered if it could be used as heritage centre and /or youth centre. She is investigating possibility, but it was thought property has already been sold.

Cattle grid on road to Inversnaid still very slippery (RSPB).. Also shrubbery still narrowing road. To be followed up by FM.

Next meeting at beginning, John Hair, FC guest, re activity in forest. Topics of interest to be covered had been requested and several were raised.

9. Date of next meeting:

Oct.1st in Aberfoyle Memorial Hall, 7.30pm