

# Ardgay & District Community Council



www.ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk

<b>Annual General Meeting 12 June 2023 - Draft Minutes</b>	
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	12 June 2023 at 18:30 PM
<b>Location:</b>	Ardgay Hall
<b>CC Members Present:</b>	Chair Betty Wright (BW); Vice Chair Silvia Muras (SM); Secretary & Treasurer Marion Turner (MT); Andy Wright (AW); Buster Crabb (BC); Minutes Secretary Anna McInnes (AM)
<b>Also attending:</b>	Cllr Michael Baird; David Watson, Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust, Christine Mackay, Stuart Hewlett, Samantha Kane

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome from the Chairperson (BW):</b> BW opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Apologies:</b> Rob Pope
<b>3.</b>	<b>Approval of 2022 AGM minutes:</b> Approved as accurate record. Proposed SM, Seconded MT.
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Chairperson's Report (BW):</b> This last year has seen a welcome return to something like normality following Covid, although there still has been plenty to occupy A&amp;DCC at our meetings. Local issues that we have been dealing with during the last year include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas lights – A band of volunteers put up lamppost lights &amp; tree in village. Thanks to Andrew Murray from Murray forestry for providing the tree &amp; to Jamie Macrae for help with putting up lamppost lights.</li> <li>• Flower tubs – Jean Richardson has continued to maintain the tubs. Thanks to her &amp; Steve.</li> <li>• Speed restriction on Ardgay – Bonar straight A836. This has finally moved forward with a TRO being laid to extend the 30mph limit from Bonar village out beyond Ardgay Game – which will mean that at last the Hub will be within a 30mph limit. A speed restriction of 50mph will cover the remainder of the road to Ardgay.</li> <li>• Climate Change issues &amp; Windfarm updates - There will be a public inquiry into the Strath Oykel wind farm, to be held in October. Scottish Government have approved the application for Achany Extension Windfarm, which consists of 18 turbines at 150m with an installed capacity of 80MW. Meall Buidhe was refused by THC, but has gone to DPEA on appeal.</li> <li>• Community Benefit funds. The CC has continued to consider applications to the Beinn Tharsuinn, Beinn nan Oighrean &amp; Coire na Cloiche funds. Full details in Treasurer's report.</li> <li>• Proposed development at Gledfield: This is still in planning.</li> <li>• Core Paths: Hopefully we will have time to take this forward this summer!</li> <li>• Ardgay, Bonar Bridge &amp; Lairg community action plan. SSE commissioned Voluntary Action in Badenoch &amp; Strathspey (VABS) to work with Voluntary groups Sutherland (VGS) to produce a new community action plan. A panel of local groups met several times and fashioned a questionnaire that was delivered to all households along with the Kyle Chronicle. A series of Big Conversation meetings were held in Ardgay, Bonar &amp; Lairg which fed into the final report, which can be seen on our website. <a href="http://ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk/community-action-plan/">http://ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk/community-action-plan/</a></li> <li>• 20mph speed limits in Highland villages. Ardgay is included in this rollout of National Strategy which is funded by Transport Scotland. Following representations from ADCC &amp; Cllr Baird, the A836 as it runs through Ardgay has now been included.</li> </ul>

- SSEN Spittal – Loch Buidhe – Beaully 400kV pylon line. Following the many concerns raised locally about this, our June meeting will be a joint meeting with Creich CC attended by representatives from SSEN so they can hear our concerns.

A big thank you to all our cc members & office bearers - Silvia Muras (vice-chairperson), Marion Turner (secretary & treasurer), Anna McInnes (minutes secretary), Buster Crabb, Rob Pope & Andy Wright for all the work they have done in various ways to address local issues. Thank you to all concerned for giving up their time to help their community.

*Betty Wright Chairperson 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023*

**5. Treasurer's Report for the financial year 2022-2023 (MT):** The balance of A&DCC bank accounts, as of 5th April 2023 was £55,576.82 of which:

- £55,099.75 was in restricted accounts, as follows:
  - £27,349.37 in the Beinn nan Oighrean (BnO) account
  - £26,246.14 in the Coire na Cloiche (CnC) account
  - £ 1,431.04 in the Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm (BTWF) account
  - £ 73.20 in the RWE Path account
- Admin Account £496.67
- Wind Farm Admin Account (£19.60)

**Admin:** During the financial year, the Highland Council (THC) gave the community council £485.03 for administrative work. Total admin expenditure (Zoom licence, web/mail hosting costs, minutes secretary payments, insurance etc.) for the period was £717.13 split evenly across the admin fund and the windfarm fund.

**Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm (BTWF) account:** The BTWF account is intended for use by A&DCC for community needs/projects. The total for grants received was £2,000 and disbursed during the period was £1,991.04. which included payments towards: maintaining flowers and tubs £150, armistice wreath £31.20, defib routine battery replacement x2, £312, defib pads replacement x1, £302.40, top up to wind farm admin £300, new CC noticeboard £895.44

**RWE Path account:** No income was received in this financial year and nothing was spent on improving paths.

**Community Benefit:** A&DCC currently share in 5 community benefit funds. Two members of the A&DCC represent Ardgay & District on the Achany/Rosehall panel (funds held by SSE and FS). A&DCC full council decide on applications for Beinn Tharsuinn (funds held by THC), Beinn nan Oighrean and Coire na Cloiche (both funds held by A&DCC). Details of these are reported separately.

All agreed accounts. BW signed off and MT will return to Phil Tomalin to release the admin grant.

**6. Report re: Beinn Tharsuinn, Beinn nan Oighrean & Coire na Cloiche Community Benefit Funds:**

***Beinn Nan Oighrean Awards 2022-2023***

2022-2023 the Beinn nan Oighrean fund received £ 3,706.00. Three awards were made to the value of £456.00:

- Royal British Legion War memorial celebration - £250
- Invershin Hall for Balance Bike training - £126
- Invershin Hall for Balance Bike training (uplift to meet demand) - £80
- 

As at 05/04/2023 the balance in the Beinn nan Oighrean Fund is £27,349.37

***Coire na Cloiche Awards 2022-2023 (Funding year 3)***

Coire na Cloiche (CnC) Windfarm account

2022-2023 the fund received £ 21,659.12 and made 9 awards to the value of £18,240. Of the nine awards six were annual awards. The annual award acknowledges the contribution made by the applicant to the community and its responsibility for the upkeep of its assets on behalf of the

community. The primary purpose of the annual award is to make a contribution towards the financial burdens associated with owning and maintaining a fixed asset.

- KOSDT: Helping Hand Home Energy Fund (1/3) - £4,000.00
- KOS Gala Week - £240.00
- Ardgay Public Hall (3/5) - £3,000.00
- KOSDT Helping Hands (awarded Dec21) - £2,000.00
- Culrain & District Hall (3/5) - £3,000.00
- KOSHS (2/5) - £1,500.00
- GPSPC (2/5) - £1,000.00
- GCWA (3/5) - £1,500.00
- KOS HUB fitness instructor wages (extension) - £2,000.00

As at 05/04/2023 the balance in the Coire na Cloiche fund is £ 26,246.14

**Beinn Tharsuinn Approvals 2022-2023 (Award year 18)**

<b>A&amp;DCC Approvals</b>		<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Balance</b>
	Balance carried forward			19,966.30
		10,542.14		30,508.44
		12.97		30,521.41
		4,865.45		35,386.85
		10,189.48		45,576.33
Kyle of Sutherland Hub	Community Jubilee Fun Day (£660)		660.00	44,916.33
Culrain Hall	Jubilee + (£350)		350.00	44,566.33
Ladybird Club	Ladybird Club (£350)		350.00	44,216.33
Ardgay CC	Transfer to Ardgay Endowment Fund	10,000.00		34,216.33
Culrain Hall	Food Larder (£2000)		2,000.00	32,216.33
Bonar Bridge FC	Car park and playing field lighting (£2000)		2,000.00	30,216.33
Culrain Hall	Archaeological Survey (£1365.60)		1,365.60	28,850.73
Kyle of Sutherland Hub	Hub Support Costs (£2000)		2,000.00	26,850.73
Highland Wool CIC	Highland Wool - Pilot Project (£3000)		2,000.00	24,850.73
Ardgay and District CC	Environment Projects (£2000)		2,000.00	22,850.73
Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust	Kyle of Sutherland Community Resilience (£325)		325.00	22,525.73
			13,050.60	22,525.73

<b>A&amp;DCC Endowment Fund</b>				
	Balance carried forward			30,000.00
Ardgay CC	Transfer to Ardgay Endowment Fund	10,000.00		40,000.00
		10,000.00		40,000.00

7.	<p><b>Appointment of Office Bearers:</b> All CC members stood down. Cllr Michael Baird (ex officio member) took the chair for the purpose of electing the Chair. Office bearers were elected as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair:</b> Betty Wright; proposed: MT, seconded: BC</li> <li>• <b>Vice Chair:</b> Silvia Muras; proposed: BW, seconded: MT</li> <li>• <b>Secretary:</b> Marion Turner; proposed: AW, seconded: AM</li> <li>• <b>Treasurer:</b> Marion Turner; proposed: SM, seconded: BW</li> <li>• <b>Minutes Secretary:</b> Anna McInnes agree to continue</li> <li>• <b>Achany/ Rosehall Panel Representatives:</b> Silvia Muras and Marion Turner</li> <li>• <b>KoSDT Board Representatives:</b> Andy Wright and Silvia Muras</li> <li>• <b>Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm Company Representatives:</b> Betty Wright</li> <li>• <b>Ardgay Hall Representative:</b> Andy Wright</li> </ul>
8.	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>Reminder of Community Council elections in November 2023. Timeline available to download from THC website here: <a href="https://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/18101/cc_election_timetable_2023">https://www.highland.gov.uk/downloads/file/18101/cc_election_timetable_2023</a></p> <p><b>Key Dates for CC Elections:</b></p> <p>Tuesday, 5 September 2023: Earliest date for receipt of Nomination Papers.</p> <p>Tuesday, 3 October 2023: Latest date for lodging Nomination Papers by 12noon.</p> <p>Tuesday, 10 October 2023: Existing uncontested Community Councils dissolved at 11.59pm.</p> <p>Tuesday, 31 October 2023 Post out of ballot papers, where election is contested</p> <p>Monday, 27 November 2023: Existing contested Community Councils dissolved at 11.59pm.</p> <p>Monday, 27 November 2023: <b>ELECTION DAY</b> - postal ballot papers must be received by 12 noon.</p> <p>Thursday, 30 November and Friday, 1 December 2023: Counting of the Votes</p> <p>By Monday, 18 December 2023: Notification issued regarding the calling of the first meetings of the new Community Councils.</p>
9.	<p><b>Dates of meetings until November 2023 elections:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14 August</li> <li>• 11 September</li> </ul>

*AGM ended at 18:41*