

Ardgay & District Community Council



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Annual General Meeting 14th June 2021 DRAFT Minutes

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| Date & Time: | 14 June 2021 at 7:00 PM |
| Location: | Zoom Web Conference |
| Present: | Betty Wright, Chair (BW); Silvia Muras, Vice Chair (SM); Marion Turner, Secretary (MT); John Denniston, Treasurer (JD); Andy Wright (AW); Rob Pope (RP); Anna McInnes, Minutes Secretary (AM) |
| Also attending: | Anna Patfield, Planet Sutherland (AP), Christine Mackay (CM) |
| Apologies: | Buster Crabb, David Watson, Kirsteen Currie |

AGENDA ITEMS

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| 1. | Welcome from Chairperson: BW opened meeting and welcomed all |
| 2. | Apologies: Buster Crabb, David Watson, Kirsteen Currie |
| 3. | Minutes of the 2020 AGM: Approved as true and accurate record. |
| 4. | <p>Chairperson's Report: Report to AGM 14th June 2021 from Chair BW is copied below:</p> <p>This has been a year like no other – coping with an ongoing global pandemic has brought so many challenges to everyone in our community & I would like to once again offer huge thanks to David Watson & the team at Kyle of Sutherland development trust for all their hard work & initiative in supporting us through this time – by continuing & expanding Food Larder & accessing funds to help in so many ways.</p> <p>Local issues that we have been dealing with during the last year include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas lights – A band of volunteers put up lamppost lights & tree in village. Thanks to AW for rewiring the lights & Jamie Macrae for help with putting them up. • Flower tubs – Jean Richardson has continued to maintain the tubs. Thanks to her & Steve. • Windfarm applications. It has been another busy year! We (Marion & myself) have been in negotiation re Community Benefit funds with several developers. These funds are independent of planning process but if used wisely can bring huge benefits to our area (as we have already seen). KoSDT continues in negotiation with WKN re Shared Ownership of Sallachy WF. This would be an exciting development & a first for buy in to a commercial scale development. • Speed restriction on Ardgay – Bonar straight A836. We continue to pursue the introduction of a 30mph limit between the 2 villages. It has continued to be difficult |

to engage Highland council on this issue. *There are indications that they might at last be considering this.* (this was copied from last report!) It is unacceptable that The Hub, which is a place for families & young people is sited outwith any speed restrictions when it is so close to the village.

- Climate Change issues – this is a standing item on our agenda, so any ideas for local action etc can be discussed. We welcomed Joe Perry, Highland council Climate officer to our April meeting
- Community Benefit funds. The cc has continued to consider applications to the Beinn Tharsuinn & Beinn nan Oighrean CB funds. In addition, we received the first years payment from the recently commissioned coire na Cloiche WF. We will make annual awards to several essential local organisations to help with their running costs, for an initial 5-year period. (Ardgay Hall, Culrain Hall Gearrchoille Community Wood).
- We were joined at our Nov meeting by John Morphet from Pure Leisure who shared with us his initial plans for his development of Holiday lodges and bistro at Gledfield. We will share more info about this when it becomes available.

In March this year, our much value minutes secretary Mary Goulder retired. Her patience & good humour (in addition to her secretarial skills!) will be much missed. We were pleased to welcome Anna McInnes as our new minutes secretary & trust she will be equally patient with us. She will also take on the duties of updating our website, something done for us till now by Phil Olsen. Thank you Phil for doing this long after you left the cc! Bill Knott stood down from our community council in January & the vacancy remains unfilled. A big thank you to all our cc members - Buster Crabb, Silvia Muras, Rob Pope, John Denniston, Marion Turner & Andy Wright for all the work they have done in various ways to address local issues. BW was elected chairperson, SM vice chairperson, MT secretary, JD treasurer. Thank you to all concerned for giving up their time to help their community.

As we are still unable to meet in person we have been conducting meetings via Zoom and residents can request a zoom link to join the meetings. You can also read about what is happening in the local area by reading you free copy of Kyle chronicle, funded from WF CB funds.

We are all looking forward to a move forward out of Covid restrictions towards something which feels more normal, but we may have to be patient a bit longer!

Betty Wright Chairperson 14th June 2021

5. Treasurer's Report: JD circulated full report by email in advance of the meeting. The balance of A&DCC bank accounts, as of 5th April 2021 was: £37,745.29 of which:

- £37,140.49 was in restricted accounts, as follows:
 - £20,789.61 in the Beinn nan Oighrean (BnO) account
 - £15,310.00 in the Coire na Cloiche (CnC) account
 - o£931.00 in the Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm (BTWF) account
 - o£73.2 in the RWE Path account

- £36.68 for the toilet account
- £220.5 was in the admin account
- £384.31 was in the Wind Farm admin account

Admin: During the financial year, the Highland Council (THC) gave the community council £485.03 for administrative work. In addition, we received £500.00 towards administrative costs from Beinn Tharsuinn windfarm. Total admin expenditure (Zoom licence, minutes secretary payments, insurance etc.) for the period was £732.89 split as £409.45 from the admin fund and £323.45 from the windfarm fund (both rounded to nearest penny).

Toilets: There was no grant and no expenditure on the Toilets this year. As Toilets are now the sole responsibility of the Highland Council, this account will be removed from A&DCC accounts in future.

Newsletter & Kyle Chronicle: The Ardgay and District Community Council newsletter has now been superseded by the Kyle Chronicle. There were no receipts or expenses associated with these publications this year. As with the Toilet account, this will be removed from the A&DCC accounts in future.

Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm (BTWF) account: The BTWF account is intended for use by A&DCC for community needs/projects. No income was received this financial year. The total for grants disbursed during the period was £1,344.83 which included: payments towards broadband for Ardgay Hall; Christmas lights; the Armistice wreath; and an award for work on flowers and plants.

Coire na Cloiche (CnC) Windfarm account: Ardgay & District Community Council has decided that a proportion of this money should go to supporting groups that have assets that need maintaining such as buildings. The remainder is available awards by application directly to A&DCC. Guidelines and an application form can be downloaded from the A&DCC web site. A total of £19,810 was received this financial year and £4,500 was paid out as grants to the Gearrchoille Community Wood and Ardgay Public Hall.

Beinn nan Oighrean (BnO) Windfarm account: The BnO account is intended for grants to community projects of up to £250. Total income this year was £3,387.5.13, whilst expenditure was £810, being grants for: the Ardgay Christmas party; Rainbow, Brownies & Guides groups; Gledfield School Parents council; and Planet Sutherland.

RWE Path account: This was previously the E.ON Path account. No income was received in this financial year. £97.20 was spent on improving paths.

6. Report re: Beinn Tharsuinn, Beinn nan Oighrean & Coire na Cloiche Community Benefit Funds: BW to create a list of grants awarded once annual statement is received from Phil Tomalin.

7. Appointment of Office Bearers: All members of the Community Council stood down and Anna McInnes (ex officio member) took the chair for the purpose of electing the Chair. Office bearers were elected as follows:

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Betty Wright was proposed to continue as Chair; proposed: Andy Wright, seconded: Marion Turner. • Silvia Muras was proposed to continue as Vice Chair; proposed: Betty Wright; seconded: Andy Wright. • Marion Turner was proposed to continue as Secretary; proposed: Betty Wright; seconded: John Denniston. • John Denniston was proposed to continue as Treasurer; proposed: Silvia Muras; seconded: Marion Turner. • All agreed to Anna McInnes continuing as Minutes Secretary. • Representatives to the SSE/E.ON Achany Panel will be Silvia Muras and Marion Turner. • Representative to KOSDT will be Andy Wright. • Representatives to Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm Company will be Betty Wright and Rob Pope. |
| 8. | Any Other Business – None presented |
| 9. | <p>Dates of Meetings until Next AGM</p> <p>Meetings will continue to take place via Zoom until further notice. Meeting dates are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 August 2021 • 13 September 2021 • 8 November 2021 • 13 December 2021 • 14 February 2022 • 14 March 2022 • 9 May 2022 • 13 June 2022 + AGM |
| 10. | <p>Date and Time of Next Annual General Meeting</p> <p>The next AGM will be held on 13 June 2022.</p> |

The AGM closed at 7.37pm