

# Ardgay & District Community Council



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## Meeting 12 September 2022 - Draft Minutes

<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	12 September 2022 at 7:00 PM
<b>Location:</b>	Zoom Web Conference
<b>Present:</b>	Betty Wright, Chair (BW); Silvia Muras, Vice Chair (SM); Marion Turner, Secretary & Treasurer (MT); Andy Wright (AW); Anna McInnes, Minutes Secretary (AM); Buster Crabb (BC)
<b>Also attending:</b>	Anna Patfield, Planet Sutherland (AP); David Watson, Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust (DW); Councillor Michael Baird (MB); Christine Mackay (CM)

### AGENDA ITEMS

<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome from the Chairperson:</b> BW opened the meeting & welcomed all. A moment of contemplation was observed to acknowledge condolences on death of Queen Elizabeth. All agreed to proceed with shortened meeting in line with THC guidance.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Apologies:</b> Rob Pope, Cllr Marianne Hutchison
<b>3.</b>	<b>Approval of August 2022 minutes:</b> Approved as accurate record. Proposed BW, Seconded MT
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Matters Arising:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Footpath Project:</b> BW promoted the project in recent Kyle Chronicle, received one response from someone with path through their land. Culrain path to be added to paths of interest.</li> <li>• <b>Proposed Telecoms Mast at Amat:</b> MT &amp; BW met online with Cornerstone reps who explained this is Vodafone and O2, separate from EE mast, part of shared rural network application using private and public money; CC objection to mast will not help us get more coverage. Sean McHenry will put forward our notice of total not-spot to his company as area that needs coverage. He also suggested contacting local MP/MSP. MT has already contacted MSP Maree Todd but no reply yet. MT to withdraw objection. <b>ACTION MT</b></li> <li>• <b>Ardgay, Creich &amp; Lairg Community Action plan (discussion of future use of Community Benefit funds):</b> BW attended recent meeting. Next step is to distribute survey both online and paper copy to go in Kyle Chronicle. Survey will be followed up with 'Big Conversations' with communities to be held in village halls.</li> <li>• <b>Abandoned Car:</b> MT reports car is now gone.</li> <li>• <b>Forestry Consultation:</b> No response submitted as this was regarding access to existing forest estate and not relevant to grant funding and local planting schemes as previously thought.</li> </ul>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Chairperson's Report (BW):</b> Apologies that we have not held meeting in Culrain over the summer, will do so next year as we are using Zoom now.
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Secretary's Report - including Correspondence &amp; Matters raised by local residents (MT):</b> All correspondence circulated by email prior to meeting. Items of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Upkeep of war memorial:</b> received letter asking if CC will take on maintenance of Ardgay memorial, as THC does not maintain war memorials, encourages communities to look after them. Potential for community volunteers willing to assist. MT to reply to letter. <b>ACTION MT</b></li> <li>• <b>Ardgay Hall:</b> received request for Hall Committee members. All agreed to have CC member on committee, will take it in turns. AW to attend next meeting and report back to CC. MT to reply that CC rep will attend. <b>ACTION MT</b></li> </ul>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report (MT):</b> As of 4th August 2022, balance at the bank was: £47630.71. This notionally comprises: Restricted funds: £47,337.67; CC Admin fund: £141.14; Windfarm Admin fund: £151.91. The balances of the restricted funds are: BnO: £27,555.37; CnC: £18,587.02; BTWF Community Projects: £1,122.08; RWE Path: £73.20. Expenditure since 28th July 2022: None. Income

	<p>since 28th July 2022: Beinn nan Oighrean Community Benefit payment £3706.00. Expenditure not in statement yet: None. MT asked why not received CnC yet: missed batch for July but in bank now, as expected. Annual grant from THC will go on next statement.</p>
8.	<p><b>Regular Updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Planning issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Telecoms Mast at Amat</b> (see item 4)</li> <li>○ <b>Gruinards Farmhouse 22/03056/FUL:</b> change of use of outbuildings to 3 self-contained units. BW noticed response from Scottish Water had no objection but noted mains water does not reach and no mains drainage. No need for CC to comment.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Climate Issues:</b> AP hoping to get more community engagement and discussion around community action plan</li> <li>• <b>Windfarms:</b> no updates to report.</li> <li>• <b>Kyle of Sutherland Resilience plan:</b> DW suggests keeping as standing agenda item to review contacts, etc. and ensure details are kept as up to date as possible</li> <li>• <b>Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust (DW):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Office closed on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September</li> <li>○ Falls of Shin update since public meeting: Lottery has given until 30 November for any community interests to present a plan, KoSDT will work with them on development. Grant for costs will be made to KoSDT due to Lottery timeline. Will have better idea as of 30<sup>th</sup> November whether community group will take it on or if private sale is needed. Awaiting confirmation from Creich regarding provision of temporary toilets; Creich to fund with KoSDT to maintain. MB noted that rangers for the ward will clean area.</li> <li>○ Planning underway to provide support for people at Christmas incl. Cash for Kids</li> <li>○ SCP has two 2 new starts. KoSDT locality group will move to area forum, ours will be south and central to include Ardgay, Creich, Lairg, Edderton, Dornoch; to align with high school catchment areas.</li> <li>○ Land next to Hall adjacent to polytunnel will be used for outdoor education space; also signed on to be partner with North Highlands &amp; Islands Climate Hub.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Highland council:</b> Updates from Councillor Baird: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Funding:</b> Ward discretionary funding available, apply by March 2023. Phil Tomalin to put paper to October Sutherland Cttee to divide Covid funds among development trusts for Helping Hands fund. MT requested Phil to ensure up to date Ward 1 discretionary fund accounts are available online.</li> <li>○ <b>Ardgay-Bonar straight speed limit:</b> Discussion around proposals CC has been pursuing and recent changes including suggestion of installing traffic calming measures. BW points out all our Cllrs supportive but THC officials presenting obstacles. DW suggests THC proposition needs to be put into writing so it can be properly assessed. MT to write to Josie Sutherland, Tracey Urry, Sutherland Cllrs, to query the type of traffic calming measures and ask for confirmation of what is being proposed. <b>ACTION MT</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
9.	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p><b>Christmas tree and lights in square:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MT reminder we decided not to put up tree without assistance. SM to look into tree to plant for future. AW notes that lamppost lights are ready to go provided Jamie Macrae can assist. Discussion to be had around planning festive community event. BW to write to Andy Murray to ask if he can deliver tree to Ardgay. <b>ACTION BW</b></li> <li>• DW suggests put Christmas tree plan in writing and KoSDT can assist with coordinating services and volunteers. AW to draft plan and circulate. <b>ACTION AW</b></li> </ul>
10.	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> 14 November 2022, to be held via Zoom web conference.</p>
11.	<p><b>Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Applications (private session):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No applications received.</li> </ul>