

# Ardgay & District Community Council



www.ardgayanddistrictcommunitycouncil.org.uk

<b>Meeting 9th May 2022 - DRAFT Minutes</b>	
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	9 May 2022 at 7:00 PM
<b>Location:</b>	Ardgay Hall
<b>Present:</b>	Betty Wright, Chair (BW); Marion Turner, Secretary (MT); Andy Wright (AW); Rob Pope (RP); Anna McInnes, Minutes Secretary (AM)
<b>Also attending:</b>	Theresa Langley (TL); Patricia Hannah (PH); Councillor Michael Baird (MB)

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome:</b> BW opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Apologies:</b> Silvia Muras, John Denniston, Buster Crabb, David Watson, Anna Patfield, Christine Mackay
<b>3.</b>	<b>Approval of March 2022 minutes:</b> Approved as true and accurate record. MT proposed, BW seconded.
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Matters Arising:</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>i. <b>Footpath project:</b></i> No updates received from David Watson or Matt Dent. BW to follow up. <b>ACTION BW</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>ii. <b>Riverwoods film – Fisheries trust hoping to organise a showing locally later in the year</b></i> Sean from Fisheries Trust contacted BW to ask for suggested dates/times, and advice on how to encourage farmers, stalkers, land agents to attend. BW will circulate updates as appropriate.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>i. <b>Rollout of BT broadband only:</b></i> BT has <a href="#">paused the rollout of Digital Voice Program</a> which proposed moving all landline phone services to broadband only. No deadline has been set and MT will circulate any further updates.</p>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Chairperson's Report (BW):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcomed MB, new Councillor for Ward 1. Discussion of some of the types of queries he could assist with in liaising with THC.</li> <li>• Noted photo shared by Christine Mackay of tree planting by Gledfield pupils at the Church for Queen's Green Canopy.</li> </ul>
<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 for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Migdale Hospital:</b> MB noted Kate Kenmure attended Creich CC recent meeting to update on Strathy Ward closed since March 2020. Will review in 6 months with consultation in Autumn, plan to bring back physio, podiatry, clinics, minor operations.</li> <li>• <b>War Memorial:</b> PH asked about CC plans to commemorate Centenary of the war memorial and updated on other are CC activities. Main ceremony to be in Ardgay in November this year (actual centenary in July). Help with financial assistance as well as upkeep are needed. BW suggested applying for funding from small grant award for exhibition, refreshments. MT</li> </ul>

	<p>suggested putting call for volunteers in next issue of Kyle Chronicle. MB suggested contacting Deputy Lord Lieutenant (Christine Mackay).</p>
7.	<p><b>Treasurer's Report (JD):</b> Two sets of reports circulated by email ahead of the meeting: one set up to the end of the financial year in April, and another set since then.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As of 30th April 2021, balance at the bank is: £34,745.29. This comprises: Restricted funds: £34,140.49; CC Admin fund: £220.50; Windfarm Admin fund: £384.31. The balances of the restricted funds are: BnO: £20,789.61; CnC: £12,310.00; BTWF Community Projects: £931.00; RWE Path: £73.20; Toilet Caretaking: £ 36.68. Expenditure between 23rd March and 30th April 2021: £3,000 to Culrain Hall from CnC. Income since 23rd March 2021: None.</li> <li>As of 29th April 2022, balance at the bank was: £48,830.84. This notionally comprises: Restricted funds: £48,421.67; CC Admin fund: £370.195; Windfarm Admin fund: £38.975. The balances of the restricted funds are: CnC: £22,827.02; BnO: £24,099.37; BTWF Community Projects: £1,422.08; RWE Path: £73.20. Expenditure since 5th Apr 2022: None. Income since 5th Apr 2022: None. Expenditure not in statement yet: None.</li> </ul>
8.	<p><b>Ardgay, Creich (Bonar Bridge) &amp; Lairg Community Action Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BW &amp; AM to represent A&amp;DCC on CAP steering group. Funding for community plans will become available from windfarm developments. MT gave recap of recent meeting, introducing the members and discussions about survey questions, priorities, existing locality plans. Karen Derrick from VABS is producing draft of the actions to take forward.</li> </ul>
9.	<p><b>Regular updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Planning issues:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Comments from local resident re proposed MidFearn distillery &amp; response:</i> Correspondence received from resident concerned re: effluent being discharged into Dornoch Firth and reply from Developer. A&amp;DCC will monitor planning as it develops.</li> <li><i>Application for Section 36 Windfarm near Rogart on planning list, boundary with Creich. Exhibition 18th May.</i></li> </ol> </li> <li><b>Climate Issues:</b> Email update provided by Anna Patfield: <a href="#">Highland Climate Festival</a> will be held on 25th June to 4th July. Aiming to organise local events such as nature walks; kid's events; community planters; carbon cafes; films etc.; and wider events to publicise and take part in. Highland Adapts' Community Climate Advocates team have been working on climate charter for community leaders (and others) to hopefully sign up to. KoSDT seed/garden swap day to be held on Saturday 14th May. Also discussing local community compost (hotbin) pilot and how that may best be implemented.</li> <li><b>Windfarms:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Sallachy</b> approved by North Planning Committee, bringing prospect of shared ownership one step closer. Possibly a first for Scotland, hopefully a model for future.</li> <li><b>Meall Buidhe:</b> further photomontages available on their website.</li> <li><b>Achany extension:</b> more information available about changes including removal of 2 turbines. BW has USB available if anyone wants to view.</li> <li><b>Croick, Braelangwell, Strath Oykel</b> are in A&amp;DCC area.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust:</b> No report available, David Watson on annual leave.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Highland Council:</b> Council elections last week: 2 new councillors for Ward 1: Michael Baird (LibDem) and Marianne Hutchison (SNP) and 1 returning councillor Hugh Morrison (Independent). Power sharing arrangement to be decided soon. MB updated on speed restrictions on Bonar Straight. Toilets open again at South Bonar. BW asked MB about his position on Gledfield Development as he signed petition objecting to development. MB stated his objection focussed primarily on issues with SEPA, Scottish Water. MT to forward CC's position/submission to MB. <b>ACTION MT</b></li> </ul>
10.	<p><b>AOCB:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AM and MB noted two young men have gone missing recently, Finn Creaney and Shaun Banner; can we help to raise awareness, amplify search efforts on social media.</li> </ul>
11.	<p><b>Date of Future Meetings:</b> Next meeting will be 13th June in Ardgay Hall. Will also be AGM. Potential to keep the Zoom option for those unable to attend.</p>
12.	<p><b>Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Applications (private session):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application to the Beinn Tharsuinn Wind Farm from Kyle of Sutherland Hub for the project Community Jubilee Fun Day was approved in the amount of £660.</li> <li>• Application to the Beinn Tharsuinn Wind Farm from Culrain Hall for the project Jubilee + was approved in the amount of £350.</li> </ul>

*Meeting closed at 20:50*