

# Glenorchy and Innishail Community Council Meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 13th March 2024

Portsonachan Community Hall

**1. Present:** Maggie Clunie, Ishbel Livingstone, Andrew Short, Sybil Macpherson, Cllr Kieron Green, Layna Marshall, Stephen Bathgate and c20 members of the public

**2. Apologies:** Suzy Anderson, Janet Buchanan and Sue Rawcliffe

**3. Declaration of interest:** Robert Wilson re refusal of planning consent due to water levels at Loch Awe

**4. Minutes of the last meeting:** (10.01.24) accepted. Proposed MC; Seconded IL

**5. Bridge of Orchy water supply:** No key updates, but one will be supplied at the next Community Council meeting

**6. Loch Awe water levels:** A meeting was scheduled with Jenni Minto and a small group of community members on Monday 18 March at Dalmally Community Hall.

Those in attendance at the Community Council meeting were encouraged to email Maggie with their views to present to Jenni at this. Views were also expressed verbally, including:

- Planning permission has become an issue
- There is concern over the effect of hydro developments on the water level (and there is a need to obtain more facts around this)
- The impact on the farming community has been underestimated
- The key driver seems to be climate change
- Much of the local land is prone to extreme flooding
- The floodplain will make shore properties less valuable
- The water level at Loch Awe was not as high before
- The barrage is controlled by personnel in Pitlochry
- SEPA have quoted Drax as being part of the problem

**Action:** Maggie took the views expressed via email and the sentiment from the room to present to Jenni. The outputs from this will be discussed at the next Community Council meeting, or in advance if applicable.

**7. National Park:** A recent meeting was attended but no significant updates were provided. There is an overwhelming feeling that community engagement has been badly advertised,

hence a poor turnout at the meeting in Dalmally. Information has not been forthcoming, due diligence has not been undertaken, no support has been offered and there is no awareness around who is actually in charge. Those organising the campaign are difficult to get hold of and a lack of clarity has been provided around the boundary – along with many other points. NFUS are strongly opposed to National Park status as are many members of the community, presenting views including:

- People being misquoted / misrepresented within the community, in support of the campaign
- Claims that the Community Council is also in support, despite no evidence to this effect and previous disputes from its members
- The farming side of it is being completely ignored
- Concerns around visitor impact, referencing issues at existing National Parks
- Currently no position has been given by Argyll & Bute Council at this time, but members of the public are also encouraged to get in touch with local Councillors to raise their concerns / objections directly
- A petition is available to sign on the All About Dalmally Facebook page and the Scottish Government site

**Action:** Maggie will seek to get confirmation of the exact boundary to determine what is in scope.

## **8. Renewables**

- An update was provided on the Corr Chnoc Wind Farm – a proposed development located on land at the Dunach Estate, south of Glen Lonan, comprising c15 wind turbines. Via a memorandum of understanding, a variety of community benefits and funds have been proposed and further details can be accessed at [www.corrchocwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.corrchocwindfarm.co.uk).
- SSEN are seeking participants to join a community liaison group for the Creag Dhubh sub-station construction.
- £2,000 has been received from Braevallich Community Benefit Fund for 2024 – available as small grants.

**Action:** Maggie to find out who to contact about applying for available grants.

## **9: Finance**

Nothing to note.

## **10. Police Report**

Nothing to note.

## **11. Local Councillor's update**

A Single Authority Model proposal has been provided to the Scottish Government – a model that would 'establish an elected single legal entity with fully integrated service budgets, empowered by its elected status to give clear and accountable leadership'. Argyll & Bute has

been identified as potentially suitable for this model, resulting in the merging of functions and services becoming accountable to local people.

Regarding the proposed Council Tax increase, it was expressed that this is still under discussion with A&B Council leaders. Positive updates have been provided on both parts and full resolution is expected soon. *(Update: Further to letters received in April 2024, the 10% increase applied for this year appears to have been refunded to eligible households).*

## **12. Planning Applications**

The following were announced:

- Land South West Of Lower Kinachreachan Dalmally PA33 1AE  
Ref. No: 24/00350/PNWAY | Received: Mon 26 Feb 2024 | Validated: Mon 26 Feb 2024 | Status: Unknown
- Forest Land At Auch Estate Bridge Of Orchy Argyll And Bute  
Ref. No: 24/00219/PAWAY | Received: Tue 13 Feb 2024 | Validated: Tue 13 Feb 2024 | Status: Awaiting decision
- Land Approximately 2.5 Km South West Of Cladich Argyll And Bute  
Ref. No: 24/00260/PP | Received: Mon 12 Feb 2024 | Validated: Thu 15 Feb 2024 | Status: Awaiting decision
- Eredine Woodland East Lochaweside Argyll And Bute  
Ref. No: 24/00257/FDP | Received: Fri 09 Feb 2024 | Validated: Fri 09 Feb 2024 | Status: Unknown
- 4 Scott Terrace Dalmally Argyll And Bute PA33 1BX  
Ref. No: 24/00250/PP | Received: Thu 08 Feb 2024 | Validated: Thu 08 Feb 2024 | Status: Decided
- Auch South And Invergaunan Forest Bridge Of Orchy Argyll And Bute  
Ref. No: 24/00227/FDP | Received: Mon 05 Feb 2024 | Validated: Mon 05 Feb 2024 | Status: Unknown
- Invergaunan Woodland Bridge Of Orchy Argyll And Bute  
Ref. No: 24/00219/PNWAY | Received: Mon 05 Feb 2024 | Validated: Tue 06 Feb 2024 | Status: Unknown

## **13. Any other business?**

- Concerns were reiterated around the severe flooding on the A85 at Loch Awe. As a main arterial route, the overwhelming feeling is that something needs to be done. A drainage survey is in plan, and permission is awaited.
- Recent work done to upgrade the white lines on the roads has been badly managed. Pot holes are also continuing to cause issues in the area.
- It was suggested that future CC minutes could potentially be shared via more public forums, such as the All About Dalmally FB page and local noticeboards.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 15 May at Dalmally Community Centre at 7.30pm.**