



**Sandbank Community Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014**  
**Sandbank Village Hall**

**Present**

Convenor Chris Talbot ,Vice Convenor; Sue McKillop (SM), Secretary; Stephanie Auld (SA), Treasurer; Bill Rankin (BR), Tom McKillop (TM), Councillor Bruce Marshall (BM), Margaret Hill (MH)

**Members of Public**

David Honer, Judith Moen,

**1. Apologies**

Cllr Blair

**2. Declarations of interest**

None

**3. Minutes of meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014 and matters arising**

- **IM and CT** still need to look at Maps – agreed to do in January
- **TM** lighting of the play park is still in process.
- Burn being diverted – Cllr BM has visited the property in question, but proprietor was in at the time. He did inspect and will ask Roads department to look at it.
- **IM** meeting with Tom Murphy and Caucus is on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014
- **TM** clock is coming tomorrow – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014.
- **CT** has emailed about barriers at Ardnadam Pier. Awaiting response from Council

Minutes of 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014 proposed by SM seconded by BR

**4. Police Report**

Nothing from Police this month.

**5. Treasurer's Report: BR reported:**

Balance b fwd from Oct	£16042.11	Dec	£14714.40
Income	£ 1093.42	Income:	£ 222.00
Subtotal	£17135.54	Subtotal:	£14936.40
Expenses	<u>£ 2421.14</u>	Expenses:	<u>£ 3438.99</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£14714.40</u></b>	<b>Total:</b>	<b><u>£11497.41</u></b>

**6. Councillor's Report**

**Cllr BM**

Paul Farrell, Roads Technical Officer is going to report back to me on the issue of the wall at the Church Burn.

Marine Scotland have are drawing up plans for management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)in Scotland and are seeking consultation with the public. The two areas in Cowal are Upper loch Fyne and the whole of Loch Goil but I have consistently argued within Council for a far further ban on trawling and dredging in the Firth of Clyde and right up Loch Long. I am a member of Sustainable Inshore Fisheries Trust (SIFT) and they are about to launch an application to the Scottish Govt. for restrictions on fishing within the Clyde basin.



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Figures show that the reduction in variety and quantity of fish apart from whiting has fallen to a dangerously low level and dredging for prawns is causing havoc on the sea bed. I believe all residents in our communities should be letting the Govt. know that enough is enough and that we should be allowing our marine ecosystem to attempt to recover, although it may already be too late. Lots of discussion took place regarding this. Cllr BM has asked if a petition could be placed in the Sandbank Post Office and SM advised that we can put on the Community Page on Facebook, if he sends it to us via email. Cllr BM to do this after meeting.

**Cllr GB**      **SM** read out his report as follows:

I am unable to this evening. However I spoke with the leader of the Council this week regarding the Councils dealings with the Castle Toward Outdoor Centre which continues to cause grief.

Members of the Community Councils in Cowal are encouraged to access the Save Castle Toward website and click on the councillors who will be meeting next week to decide on the Centre fate.

Both Bruce Marshall and I have to ask permission to speak and vote on this issue the letter will probably not be permitted by the Chair Dick Walsh. We have three outdoor centres in Cowal Ward and another one at Castle Toward obviously affects our ward but alas looks like we will have no vote on the issue. There is an opportunity for over 80 jobs at Castle Toward and it would be great if this community council could support the endeavours of Cllr Marshall and myself to ensure the community buy out goes ahead.

In addition I raised with Cllr Walsh the footway between Sandhaven and Inverreck , again, similar to the gravel footpath put in at Hafton which, while not perfect , certainly is safer than walking on the actual road verge. Church Christmas Tree discussions underway and hopefully it will be up by next week.

Please also note my surgeries are now being held on a Friday afternoon between 1.45 and 2.45 and also from 9.15 to 10.15 on Saturday mornings at the Forward Shop at 186 Argyll Street. My email details are available on the council website along with contact phone numbers.

## **7. Community Councillor's Business**

**SM** SM and IM had a meeting with Ailsa Cummingham of Argyll & Bute Council. At this meeting it was discussed that the Council are happy to work with the SCC on the removal and weeding of the grounds at Rankins Brae. It was also agreed that the SCC would look in to funding for the plans for Broxwood area i.e. the tidying up the picnic area, supplying new bbq's etc. Ailsa also asked SM to discuss with SCC the temporary closure of the toilets over the winter months. SM was initially against toilets being closed, however after it was explained that £5000 is being spent to renovate them and the entire budget for Argyll & Bute is £12,000. Ailsa wants to know if we are happy to have the toilets closed over winter and reopened in the Spring. CT looked online about Human Rights and access to toilets, there is no requirement for toilets to be available, however Disabled toilets must be available. SM advised that the Disabled Toilets will be available, however will be only on a radar key, which we can apply for online. The Council would pay the Marina a small amount of money to allow the public to use the toilets as another alternative if we cannot get the community to take on the running of the toilets. The other item discussed with Ailsa was the Broxwood Picnic area, i.e. draining, play equipment, replacing bbq's etc. The majority of the bottle bins



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will be removed over the next few months. Therefore if you look at Broxwood, Rankins Brae, Playpark etc we could possibly employ someone in the Community to take over the grass cutting etc – we would need to obtain funding for this and it could only be available at 12 monthly intervals. IM advised that meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December will discuss these issues as well, other members of the Community Council are welcome to come along. **BR** advised that the best way to do this is to get an ad placed looking for quotes for grass cutting of these areas and then take it from there. This was agreed by all the CC. It was a general consensus that the SCC should not be employing someone as this would complicate the issue i.e. payment of wages, NI, Tax, employment law.

**SM** Has applied for Keep Scotland beautiful funding to renew the planting within the planters. £250 has been applied for.

**SM** Baked potato oven was taken up to Sandbank Primary School to their Christmas Fayre, which was a great success.

**MH** What is happening about the benches at the memorial? SM advised that it is the Trust that is dealing with it, Joe at Deerpark is going to be making one/two to replace these.

**TM** Last week as you know the lamppost was erected for the clock, this should have been delivered last week, however due to a fabrication issue it could not be completed until this week. After much discussion the company have offered, as an apology for the delay, to give us by Spring time to send us a third face for the clock to point down Rankins Brae, priced at £700.00, however this will be **Free of Charge** to us as goodwill for the inconvenience suffered. Installation will also be **Free**. There will be one blank face left for the Sandbank Community Council Logo and any other dedications that we wish. The person who resides in the property most affected was part of the positioning of the clock. The clock arrives tomorrow, it will be going up on Thursday. TM is hoping to get the cherry picker to get the lights on the trees for Christmas. SM advised that Finlay Currie stated that the electricians are now in place. TM also advised that the tree is now place, delivered by the Forestry Commission. With the new tree TM took the opportunity when the hole was dug for the tree socket to put in a rounded steel tube inside it, this is for putting in a scaffolding pole. This could be used in the summer to put a canopy up and have a market in that area, there is also power available. Further discussion is ongoing regarding the lighting at the playpark and TM will update on this hopefully at the next meeting in January.

**TM** The latest issue of the Sandbank Scene will be ready on Thursday. SM advised that we will need to sort out distribution of the Scene, IM advised that RA has all the details so this will need to be discussed. Due to the fact that TM has already laid out the scene he has mentioned to Inglis about printing costs, however he has not had an answer. CT stated that it might be worth while looking at other alternatives for printing if the costs still remain high. This was agreed.

**SM** Are we going to be able to do a switch on for the Christmas lights this year? Can we get an ad in the paper to advertise? SA and SM will advertise on Facebook that the switch on will be on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at 6pm.

**CT** The joint funding application with SCDT/SCC was submitted to LLTNP Community Grants Scheme before the deadline. (Informal Kayak launch point - Broxwood). We should hear back sometime in January 2015.

I assisted with some of Tom's preps for the clock and ducting - the technical term is 'I dug a hole' (with Iain).



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I have submitted an online request to A&BC about Judith's 'barriers'.

After the initial prep work for the clock and tree was completed Finlay Currie asked if we would kindly sponsor Ryan Currie on his 'sponsored fast' raising money for the Malawi Project. Finlay had provided help (in the form of manpower x 2, cement and tools) to get the clock's 'pole' set in concrete and upright. Tom and myself thought a nice gesture would be for SCC to approve a donation of £50 to Ryan. Approval will be sought at the meeting on 9 Dec 14.

## **8. Local Community Planning**

**IM** IM reported that since the last meeting there had been only two planning applications in the Sandbank area, i.e. 'Non-material amendment to planning permission ref. 14/00682/PP (change of use and alterations to former police station to create dwellinghouse and erection of two dwellinghouses) to incorporate the cladding of recess on front elevation (14/02773/NMA), High Road' and 'Removal and replanting of one beech tree at the the "Old Mill", Ferry Road (14/02846/TPO).

## **9. Planning**

**IM** He also advised that the planning application for the demolition of a former farm steading and the erection of 23 flats in the Hafton holiday park area had been refused.

## **10. Any other Business**

**MH** is 50/50 club up to date, BR advised that we need more people to take numbers. 29 numbers available.

## **11. Public Questions**

None

## **12. 50/50 Draw**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: 72 Linda Maxwell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: 127 S Lambie 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: 97 Robert Diamond

## **13. Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 7.00pm.**