LOCHGILPHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes OF 10th August 2015

1.     Attending - A Buntin (chair), E Rhodick (vice chair) (minutes) B MacLennan, S Watson, I Liddell, R Millar, C Edmonds, Cllr D Macmillan, J Simpson, Malcolm Sinclair (Phoenix Project) Inspector Julie McLeish and Sergeant David Ferguson (Police Scotland) Colin Cameron, (Argyllshire Advertiser).

2.     Apologies: H Rhodick, D Mochrie J Fisher, G Voinot, N MacLennan, A Stewart, Cllr D Philand

3.     Police Report – Sergeant David Ferguson gave a synopsis of the crimes committed and being investigated in the area, there were 30 + crimes including theft, fraud, assaults, road traffic incidents and breach of the peace. Inspector Julie McLeish urged members of the committee to be vigilant re scams etc and asked that any and all vulnerable groups be made aware that Police Scotland, community officers, will happily give a small presentation re same and offer advise to all with concerns’

4.     Minutes of June meeting – Proposed by Andy Buntin as being correct, seconded by Ian Liddell and agreed

5.     Matters Arising –                                                                                                            a) The Viking festival went very well despite the inclement weather, there was good support from local businesses and the community at large. Although there will not a festival next year on such a large scale, it was felt that something should be organised. Good public comments.

b) The Armed Forces Day went well with good weather and a large turnout of visiting veteran’s contingents, some from out with Argyll & Bute. Good feedback from those who attended and took part in the event.

c) The LCC stand was well supported at the Armed Forces Day and lots of interest shown re presentations in Marquee.

d) The Saltire is now being flown in all areas of Argyll & Bute, Andy thanked all who helped with the petition etc and stated that this was a great success for the residents of the area.

e) Front Green – Fiona Kalache and Peter Hogbin will apply for funding once the plans are in place. 13 companies will be invited to submit their proposals but the Tender process has been put back

e) The LCC now has a website and the committee were asked their views on this. All agreed that it was great to have this in place and Andy thanked Brian and Norma MacLennan for their hard work to get this project up and running.

6.     Treasurers Report – Brian MacLennan reported a balance of £1618 after paying for the website. A poppy wreath will be ordered for Armistice Day. On line banking is now in place for LCC.

7.     Election to Community Council – Andy explained the importance of the current co-opted members to stand for the upcoming community council elections. Andy will keep in touch with Mellissa Stewart of Argyll & Bute council re the time frame for the elections.

8.     Bins Uplift – A question was raised as to the frequency of the uplifts as some bins were seen to be overflowing. The LCC felt that the new fortnightly uplift encouraged users to recycle more, it was also noted that extra green bins can be purchased and these will be uplifted by refuse collectors. The LCC will contact Argyll & Bute council re compost bins but as they face more financial constraint it was felt no further action should be taken on the uplift of bins matter.

9.     Paths at McIntyre Terrace – a complaint was received from a member of the public regarding the overgrown condition of the path,  LCC were under the opinion the Blarbuie Woodlands had agreed to keep the path in good condition after LCC had donated monies to help with costs. Ian suggested that a LCC member attend Blarbuie Woodlands AGM. Robert explained that he had been in contact with the “pay back to the community team” and that they had agreed to be at the site on Saturday 29th August where members can meet them and agree a work schedule.

10.                        Linlithgow Power Plan – It was felt by the LCC that this would be worth looking into as it would mean the Town may become self-sufficient for their electricity supply. There is to be a workshop at Kilmory, regarding community benefits and shared ownership, on the 9th September, Andy and Betty will attend this. There are further windfarm meetings planned before the September Meeting, further updates will be available then.

11.                        Mid Argyll Partnership – These meetings are proving interesting and they are working on Single Outcomes Agreements points will be discussed at LCC meetings prior to MAP meetings.

12.                        Mid Argyll Initiative – This is the new name for the Chamber of Commerce, it was felt by them that this would allow better recognition and a Constitution is currently being worked on to allow them to apply for grants and raise funds for Community Benefit etc. The next meeting is on August 28th and Andy ( with the committees approval) is happy to attend these

13.                        Wind farm Updates-

a)      Alt Rhuba – there is to be a meeting on Wednesday night, on Thursday a meeting by EON will have financial advisers re community benefit this being put forward by The Forestry Commission, Leaflets will be available.

b)      A'Cruach – Foundation Scotland will meet with West Lochfyne[Elizabeth1] [Elizabeth2] , Dunadd and Lochgilphead Community Councils to discuss the community benefit and the way forward re same.

c)       Kilmichael – There is to be a meeting in Kilmartin on Tuesday re a proposed name change for the project.

d)      Brenfield – This development may have to go to Public enquiry as it sits on the boundary, Malcolm will attend a meeting on 20th.

14.                        Boundary Changes – There was consternation at the proposals the Boundary Commission are suggesting. The LCC felt that these plans would hinder any Plans and/or Grants for the Mid Argyll area, they also felt that these schemes would increase the workload on our councillors as well as costing the council more in travel expenses. Argyll & Bute council have disagreed with these and the LCC will respond accordingly

15.                        Correspondence –

1.       Brian received a communication from “Stramash” re their Cycle initiative if Lochgilphead shows an interest then the event can come to the area.

16.                        Planning – Nothing of interest reported except the Lochgilphead Golf club house have applied for a licence to allow a smoking area, and to host fund raising events. No objections were raised.

17.                        A&B council update – Parking charges in Lochgilphead, there will consultation regarding this proposal also re service choices (with the current round of cuts being of concern). The car parking areas will have to be brought up to standard before charging can put in place.

18.                        AOCB – The old Spar shop is being negotiated to be purchased rather than leased. Andy asked Ian to write to ‘Squeak’ commending the current businesses who have repainted the frontage of their properties.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.20

19.                        DONM – Monday 14th September at 7pm