

South Cowal Community Council

Meeting held on 8 May 2019

Present

Michael Breslin, Eleanor Stevenson, Dot Braham, Alistair Lennie, Alan Stewart, Lisa Marle, Kyle Armstrong, Gill Judd, Joyce McEwan, Martin Anstess

In Attendance

Liz Seabrook, Claire Hendry (Police), Lorna Ahlquist

Apologies

Linda Payne, Cllr Anderson, Sophie Gillen, Helen Campbell, Cllr Forrest, Cllr Good, Helen Campbell.

Declarations of Interest

None

Police Report

17 reported incidents. (2 of quad bikes at Velvet Path; bogus callers from building trade (Gladiator Roofers) ; broken glass at old schoolhouse and traffic police have taken up the speeding issues in the 30mph zone in an unmarked car.

Minutes of last meeting

Alistair approved and Dot seconded.

Matters arising not on the agenda

Sea wall issues being attended to but not at Innellan Pier where there are large sandstone blocks missing. Bins at Sandy Beach have been replaced.

Planning matters

An objection has been lodged against the Castle Toward planning applications relating to public access. A number of other planning issues were raised but there was discussion on Inverchaolain Church. It was agreed Alan will ask for a site meeting with the planners to discuss the implications of the sewage arrangements.

Defibrillator

Village Hall Trustees will arrange for training to be carried out. It was agreed that 3 signs would be erected at suitable places pointing to the defibrillator at the village hall.

Administration Grant & Finance

Council funding was paid and balance at 10 April was £5,018. £3,200 is set aside for the trim trail, £600 for shares in the Lido and £120 for Rural Watch signs. It was agreed to pay the £50 entrance fee for Beautiful Scotland for Inspiring Innellan. There was agreement in principle to do signs for the defibrillator and donations of £100 each to the two primary schools/nursery for road safety or other outdoor issues. Free balance is around £700 but see AOCB.

Innellan War Memorial

The council did some work on the grass but made matters worse. Volunteers have tried to rectify what was done. Councillors are asked to ensure work is done to improve the war memorial land while it is still the council responsibility.

Inspiring Innellan

Volunteer input is good but more volunteers would enable more to be done. If everyone in Innellan cleared the weeds on the roadside along the frontage of their own properties that would help. Two events are being held, one at Cluniter this coming Sunday and there will be a coffee morning a week on Saturday in the hall. There will be an opportunity to sponsor planters at £10 each.

Caucus of community councils

Main issue was the hospital and what some see as closure by stealth. A member of staff from the HSCP will speak to community councils about their plans.

Rural Watch Signs

Signs have now been ordered.

Resilience Plan

Discussion on updating the plan and on the need to establish medical staff locally and those with equipment, eg chainsaws. The red bag provided by the council needs checked for anything with a use by date or with batteries. The First Aid bags have been fully replenished.

Dropped kerbs and disabled access signs

There has been no progress on this despite earlier promises to carry out the work. Councillors are asked to progress this.

Update on the Lido

There has been no acceptance of the offer of £250,000 and this has now lapsed. Funders have been informed of the current position. A survey will be carried out seeking the views of those who pledged to buy shares. It was noted that the Villagers' Royal was likely to close very soon.

Matheson and Toward churches

Matheson Church is scheduled to close but Toward will stay open.

Burnamakiman hydro scheme

No reply from the owners of the scheme so Eleanor will write again.

AGM for 2018/19 at next meeting

Next meeting will be the AGM. A new secretary needs elected at the AGM. Eleanor would be happy to do this in exchange for someone taking over as convener.

AOCB

- The roads in the area continue to deteriorate.
- Knotweed adjacent to Innellan school is re-appearing. There are other areas such as Cluniter Point and the picnic area north of the Balaclava where there is knotweed. These are all council owned land as far as is known.
- The NHS will refund patient mileage costs for hospital appointments.
- There is a fun event on 1 June at Cowal Stadium to raise funds for Smileawi. It was agreed to donate £100 to Smileawi.
- The northbound bus stop opposite the village hall has an insecure and dangerous bollard.