

Minutes of Meeting held at 19:15 on Wednesday 21st August 2013, at Kilmallie Hall

Present

- **Kilmallie Community Council**
- Christine Hutchison
- Mandy Ketchin
- Russell Leaper
- Maggie Mackenzie (Chair)
- **Highland Councillors**
- Eddie Hunter
- John Stafford (Scottish Canals)
- Andy Bilton (Northern Constabulary)
- Richard Haddock (Oban Times)
- **Apologies**
- Allan Henderson
- Bill Clark
- Kshama Wilmington
- Jan MacLugash

1. Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of 19/06/2012 were approved.

2. Treasurer's report

Current monies available are £3464

3. Vegetation beside Corpach railway crossing

It was noted that there was considerable growth of vegetation along the railway line close to the new level crossing at Corpach. It was agreed to write to Network Rail requesting that this be cut back between the crossing and Kilmallie House. (Action MM)

4. Pedestrian access at Moy Bridge

John Stafford reported that a sign discouraging pedestrian access at Moy Bridge which was considered to be in breach of the Access Code had been taken down. However, Moy Bridge is often left in the open position to allow boat traffic and so there is no guarantee that it will be possible for pedestrians to cross the canal.

5. Updates from the police

Andy Bilton reported that the police had responded to the issue of anti-social behaviour associated with cars in Hillview Drive and hoped that the problems would not recur. The police have powers to confiscate vehicles after a second warning and have adopted a zero tolerance approach.

The police had also been requested to investigate a complaint about noise from vessels' machinery running overnight in the Banavie basin. There is a local bylaw prohibiting the use of engines and generators after 22:00. John Stafford noted that Scottish Canals do all they can to provide vessels with shore power so that there is no need to run generators. In exceptional circumstances, vessels may need to run machinery overnight and then all possible efforts are made to berth them in a location that will not cause disturbance.

6. Use of Highland Council owned recreational areas for camping/events

Residents in Corpach had contacted KCC with concerns that the use of the Council owned play park at Drumfada Terrace by the Bethany Gospel Hall had prevented local children from being able to play there during part of the school holidays. It is also not clear whether the group breached the terms of their agreement with Highland Council by camping on the site

overnight. It was agreed that there were areas locally where such groups could have held their events without preventing use of recreational areas. In the first instance groups wishing to hold such events could contact Kilmallie Community Centre or Scottish Canals to discuss possible use of their land. In addition, it was agreed to write to Highland Council to recommend that recreational areas should not be used in this way in the future. (Action RL)

7. Planning for micro-hydro schemes

A number of micro-hydro schemes have recently applied for or been granted planning permission within the Kilmallie area. KCC has not made any representations on specific applications but noted concerns about the overall impacts across the area of a number of schemes combined and the lack of an overall planning strategy for considering multiple schemes. It was agreed to write to the planning department recommending identifying potential sites for micro-hydro (or potential sites which would be considered unsuitable) within future revisions of the Local Development Plan in a similar way to what has been done for potential wind turbine sites. (Action RL)

8. Speed limits on A830

KCC had been informed by Bob Mitchell the Area Manager North that there was no support from Transport Scotland for reducing the speed limit at Annat from 40 to 30mph. However KCC will write to confirm that we are still expecting reduced speed limits on the Blar (30mph from the High School to the new roundabout and 40mph from the new roundabout to the 30mph sign at Badabrie). In addition we are still expecting responsive 'smiley face' signs warning speeding drivers as they come in to Corpach. (Action MM)

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on 18th September at Kilmallie Community Centre

Distribution

By email to all KCC members, Cllr Bill Clark, Prov Allan Henderson, Cllr Eddie Hunter, Elizabeth Toal (HC), Lochaber Archive Centre, Maureen McColl (ALCC)

Paper copy to Corpach, Banavie notice boards