

Ardentinny Community Council Ordinary Meeting

Date & Venue

Meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 2nd June 2026 at Ardentinny Village Hall.

Present

Public

Jeannie Urquhart, Jim Urquhart, Robert Devine, Anne Wood, Linda Naismith, Robbie Lawrence, Sandra Davidson, Neil Bennett, Sophie Jaquet Bennett

ACC councillors

John Brint (Convener), Brian Hillesdon (Secretary), Keith Wood (Treasurer), Bill Tierney (Member)

1. Welcome and introductions

John welcomed all to the meeting

2. Apologies received from:

Julie McAlpine FLS, Gill Walker FLS, Steve Gillen FLS, Michael Cunningham (Police), Neil & Dee Robinson, Elsbeth Brint, Mark and Helen Rowthorn

3. Declaration of Interest

none

4. Matters arising not covered on the agenda

Weeding at the Centre beach – Linda Naismith

5. Minutes of last meeting (3rd March 2026)

Update on actions from the previous minutes:

- a. Funding for roads has increased from approx £8M last year to £24M over the next 2 years. WS asked ACC to write to him formally with our requests for the road department and WS undertook to personally push this as one of his priorities. ACTION: ACC (DONE). This topic is being progressed by Councillor Sinclair.
- b. Bill Williamson asked what the reserve funds of £121M will be spent on. WS explained that these reserve funds are already almost entirely allocated to upcoming major projects leaving only a very small amount yet to be allocated. WS agreed to provide ACC with a list of the already allocated funding for projects. ACTION WILLIAM SINCLAIR (outstanding)
- c. Beach Toilets - We were informed via residents that human faeces were present around the back of the beach toilet block. ACTION: ACC to approach Forestry and Land Scotland to clarify the current status of the toilet block (closed/open?) and how to avoid such future disgusting occurrences. ACTION DONE – FLS confirmed toilets are open 24/7 all year round. They too are appalled at this behaviour, but aren't able to monitor the site all the time.
- d. Ardentinny Conservation and Heritage Group – Recently no reports have been received. ACTION ACC: contact Marian Norris to see what is the way forward for this group. Many of their action items are contained in the new Local Place Plan. ACTION TAKEN – email written to Marian asking for her for information, follow up meeting held and Marian handed over AHCG documents to ACC. ACC in conjunction with ACT aim to progress AHCG ideas.

- e. Work in Ross MacArthur's field - David McDowell asked if anyone knew what was being constructed in Ross MacArthur's field. ACC to follow up with Ross MacArthur. ACTION: ACC. Point clarified that the field was being used as the site office/hardcore/plant storage for the passing place.
- f. Rotting sign board David McDowell noted that the sign board opposite the church car park is rotting ACTION: ACC. ACC found out that the sign was financed by Scottish Power, but there is nobody who is now responsible for its upkeep. So, ACC will consider approaching ART for funds to help fix the information board and use a local contractor for the job.
- g. Bus Stop timetable error: Stuart Gray sent in a request that the bus timetable at the Church Car Park bus stop be updated to the correct one. ACTION: ACC to request A&BC to insert correct timetable, initial review showed that the timetable to Glenfinart is correct (DONE), but there is no timetable going South - awaiting update from Roads Department.

Minutes were proposed by Keith Wood, seconded by Brian Hillesdon

6. Treasurers Report

Presented by Keith Wood:

Financial Activity From 1st March 26 to 31st May 26

• Opening balance	£2602.94
• Money Credited to account	
ART Defib Contribution	£880.00
Loch Lomond National Park LPP Refund	£1071.00
Total credits	£1951.00
• Money Debited from the account	
1 Payment to Andrew Deptford Defib & Pads	£1080.00
3 payments to Out Of Your Hands toilet cleaning	£432.00
1 Payment Data Protection Registration	£52.00
1 Payment Argyll Print & Design for LPP Posters	£1071.00
1 Payment to village hall hire	£20.00
3 Payment Lloyds Bank Service Charges	£13.87
1 payment McCuaig Hygiene Services sanitary disposal	£150.00
1 Payment Amazon for Laminator & Sheets	£33.56
1 Payment Community Council Print Cartridges	£50.42
Total debits	£2902.85
• Closing balance on 31st May 26	£1651.09

7. Police Report

PC Cunningham sent a report. For this period there have been 5 incidents (calls to police) and zero crime reports.

8. Councillor's Report

No councillors attended the meeting and no reports were submitted.

9. Forestry & Land Scotland Report (FLS)

Phase two of the Ardentinny borehole works is currently being planned for early June, which will connect the new borehole water supply to the toilet block along with upgrading the pump and filtration system and installing a new, fenced off water tank to the left-hand side of the building. The toilets will be closed for the duration of this work and they are expected to be completed in approximately 4 days.

Linda N observed that the bins at the beach are regularly overflowing and which looks unsightly and potentially causes a health risk. Either more / bigger bins or more regular pickups are required. ACC agreed to again ask FLS/ABC for more bins. Action ACC

Bill T asked if the water from the borehole is potable. John B responded that FLS have said it is of good quality but do not advertise it as potable to visitors at the beach. It was noted that the feed to the bowling club has further treatment within the bowling club.

Neil B asked if we had a response from FLS on how much money the park for night and parking makes for them and whether this money could be used to help fund better bins. John B explained that we FLS did not give us a figure but that ACC will again ask the question of FLS.

Action ACC

Bill T noted that the Argyll & Bute Council web site shows the Church car park as a campervan site, yet there are signs stating no overnight stays for campervans allowed. ACC to ask ABC to change their website. Action ACC

Jeannie U asked if the ACC could provide more signs asking dog owners to clean up after their dogs as there is regular fouling for the verges by their house. ACC agreed to this. Action ACC

10. National Park Report

No report received

11. Ongoing village items

a. Local Place Plan way forward

John B summarised some of the ideas and actions from the Place Plan which ACC, in coordination with the Ardentinny Community Trust (ACT) plan to address initially. These include:

- a. Coronation Wood – tree care, general clean up, new benches
- b. Church car park – tidy up, ask ABC again for more bins including dog waste bins, and replacement glass recycling bins
- c. Approach BT, Openreach, Council and Mobile service providers to address lack of (very poor) signal in Glen Finart
- d. If anyone has a specific interest in progressing any of the other items in the Plan, please get in touch with us.
- e. In response to a question from Linda N, ACC agreed to include weeding at the Ardentinny Centre Beach, possibly using a paid contractor to complete the work

b. Roads

ABC Roads Dept still plan to put in red panels with SLOW signs at Rock Cottage corner, but no date given for the work to commence.

Discussion was held on the overall state of the road with all agreeing that filling potholes is not the answer in light of the heavy traffic associated to the harvesting of the timber and future work on the overhead Lines. The concept of developing a petition that residents could sign, which could be sent to the Roads Department and the Ward Councillors was supported by those at this meeting. ACC will progress this idea in the hope it may help encourage work to be done and support Councillor Sinclair who is pushing for the resurfacing.

Action ACC

c. Beach picnic site

A National Park 'day of action' is planned for Ardentinny for July 11th which will be a mix of National Park Ranger service, FLS, Police Scotland and possibly SFRS focussing on visitor engagement, responsible behaviour, water and fire safety.

There was some general discussion regarding the problems encountered at the beach and potential solutions. John B asked that people send photos to the ACC of problems they observe at the beach which will help us persuade FLS to take action.

d. Replacement "Explore Ardentinny" sign opposite church car park

None of the organisations we have spoken to will accept ownership of this sign so ACC will have it repaired / replaced.

Linda N suggested we speak with Steve Petty for corrections to some technically inaccurate information on the sign.

Action ACC

e. Fallen trees at Swedish Houses

ABC was approached but said as the trees are not immediately adjacent to the road it is not in their remit to remove them. ACC will approach FLS to see if they will tidy up the fallen trees.

Action ACC

12. Updates from village entities

a. Ardentinny Renewables Trust

No report received, but it was intimated that financial support to projects at the Walled Garden and the Bowling Club were recently made. Otherwise, it has been a quiet period.

b. Ardentinny Village Hall

No report received

c. Ardentinny Community Trust

The Walled Garden

Jeannie U sent the following update - The garden is looking truly amazing at the moment and worth a visit. This is due to our volunteers who do a wonderful job and keep the garden looking great. Payback are coming on a regular basis to cut the grass and do the heavy work.

The garden is open on regular days Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10.30 and 2.30. If you would like to visit the garden out of these times, please contact Anna 07587066682 or Linda 07946911440.

We are always looking for volunteers and have a few raised beds available.

This is a wonderful asset in Ardentiny not to be missed. Do come along and pay us a visit.

On occasion people have been accidentally locked inside the garden. Signs are to be put up on the inside of the gates with contact phone numbers of people who can come and let people out should this happen again.

The Walled Garden would like to open all weekend but is limited by lack of volunteers to allow this. A push for additional volunteers will be made, including a note in the ACC weekly update. Action ACC

Other ACT updates

The ACT Directors have met a few times to look at how to manage the Trust going forward. A meeting was held with Hannah Robinson of the Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park (LLTNP) who are looking for some of the ideas in the Local Place Plan to be acted on – the meeting was attended by ACC (John B) and ACT (Brian H). ACC and ACT are likely to work together on future projects.

The Walled Garden is currently the only active project under the ACT.

d. Ardentiny Conservation and Heritage Group

Marion Norris has decided to retire from running this group. A big thank you goes to Marion for all her good work. She has handed all her documentation over to the ACC who propose to address some of the projects via the ACC and ACT proposals coming from the Place Plan.

13. Community Council Volunteers Elections 20 August 2026

Bill Tierney has to step down from the ACC as he has served the maximum allowable period of 8 years. A huge thank you to Bill for his efforts and contributions over that time!

We therefore need at least one new volunteer to join the council to keep it live. Without the extra volunteer the council cannot continue and would have to fold.

Ardentiny Community Council is the elected body which is your voice to make contact with the elected bodies of Argyll and Bute Council and the Scottish Government as well as FLS, SSEN and other bodies. We need to have at a minimum of 4 residents on the Community Council to ensure it continues.

Hence, we would welcome new members to ensure that we can continue. Make your contribution to the community and get your voice heard by joining us. If you might consider volunteering, please contact one of the existing members for more information and we can guide you through the process. We are allowed to have up to 8 Community Councillors so there is plenty of room for those of you interested to join.

The closing date for applying is 25th June.

To become a community councillor, you must be a resident within the community council area and be on the Local Government Electoral Register.

Community Councils are voluntary bodies which exist within a statutory framework and which have been granted statutory rights of consultation. The general purpose of a Community Council is to ascertain, co-ordinate and express the wider views of the entire community within its agreed boundaries. They can complement the role of the local authority but are not part of local government. Their role is to ascertain in an active way the views of their communities in terms of local issues, needs and wishes and to convey these views to Argyll and Bute Council.

14. AOB

- a. Jeannie U asked if there was an update regarding the tree felling behind the southern end of the village. ACC have no definite update – we are in contact with FLS but they are not controlling this stage of the work and recommend we speak with Euroforest and SSEN.
Action ACC
- b. Robbie L asked if there were any plans for extra barriers along the top of the sea wall just south of Rock Cottage. He is concerned for pedestrians walking along this unprotected stretch of the wall. ACC explained that previous discussions with the council showed they did not put priority on this. Sandra D expressed concern on the lack of a barrier coming down from the private road in icy conditions. But there is some concern in the village that such a barrier would be unsightly and not required.

15. Date & venue of Next Meeting

Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Future meetings:

Tuesday 1st December 2026

Tuesday 2nd March 2027

Tuesday 1st June 2027