

KILMUN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Facebook - @shoresweepersandKCC

Website - www.kilmuncc.co.uk

MINUTES OF MEETING
11th February 2025 @ 7.30PM.
Blairmore Hall Blairmore
Meeting Start -7.35pm

The secretary asked the audience if there were any last-minute items to be added within the agenda. None were submitted.

PRESENT: Diane Nicholson (Convenor), Mark Borland (Vice Convenor) Peter Hunter Douglas, Lachlan Macquarie (arrived later in the meeting).

ALSO PRESENT: Malcolm Bird, Bruce Marshall.

APOLOGIES: Janet Holm (Secretary), Mandy Grout, Graham Revill, Kerris Bone. Lyndsey Greer, Russell Humphreys (Treasurer), Councillor G. Blair, Councillor W Sinclair, Councillor Y McNeilly, Steve Abbott (Defibrillators), Iain Shonny Paterson (LLTNP Representative), Gordon Holm (Geology). Graham Thompson, Jean Thompson, and Fraser Macdonald (Forestry Land Scotland).

This session was recorded for the minutes.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

The 11th December 2024 minutes were:

Proposed: Diane Nicholson

Seconded: Mark Borland ***Carried***

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Carried forward £2165.05.

Income

Expenditure

Kilmun Hall	100.00
Blairmore Hall	20.00
Bank charges	1.40
	70
ICO	35.00
Spinglefish	78.00
Totals.	
General fund	£2463.30

Funding from Highgate Hall trust for Shore Sweepers (Ring fenced)

Available £99.40

Funding for defibrillator maintenance (ring-fenced)

Donations for defibrillator maintenance £52.50

Donations for defibrillator maintenance. £75.00

Overall total £2690.20

5. POLICE REPORT

No Police report was submitted

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No Planning Applications submitted

7. COMMUNITY MATTERS

The Shore Sweepers / Graham's Point

No additional updates except for the bulbs at the Shore Villages Sign are showing signs of growth and the Willow Tunnel at Graham's Point has been pruned.

Hole in right of way path / Flooding issues

MB identified that the heading should be changed to Flooding Issues, as the flooding issues are now wider given problems experienced at the Tea Caddy Houses. DN identified that an email had been received from Carol McGinnes (Regional Manager FLS), which states that the flooding issue has now been logged as a formal complaint under stage 2 of FLS complaint process which means Ms McGinnes will carry out a full investigation into this complaint. FLS will respond in writing to the complainant. It will be for the complainant to share any further correspondence with KCC.

DN also identified that the hole in the right of way ownership issue is still with Argyll & Bute Council.

Defibrillator(s) / Training

No update was received in time for the meeting.

Community Support for adverse events

Thoughts and discussion of how to support the community at time for adverse events will be continued to the next meeting. A short discussion ensued with regard to communication received from Cllr. Blair hoping to engage in a postmortem on how things went with the storm. Unfortunately, the possible warm places, such as the community halls were unavailable. There was poor communication to the residents apart from a patchwork of information on social media, which is was not available to all. The reconnection within the Kilmun Council Communities for both electricity and phone connection were equally patchwork and ranged from overnight to 5 plus days. It was identified at the meeting that the part of Blairmore and Ardentinnny had been reconnected but on a temporary basis. MB identified where there was social media connection many people of the community, through the Shore Social, opened their doors on an ad-hoc basis to provide a warm space if they had the provision of a gas stove or wood burner.

8. DISCUSSIONS A&BC LOCAL COUNCILLOR AND NATIONAL PARK REPRESENTATIVE,

Argyll & Bute Council

No update submitted.

Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Representative

LMacQ identified that Iain Shonny Paterson (LLTNP Representative) will be present at the next KCC meeting 11 March 2025. LLTNP has suggested a joint meeting with the local area community councils (not a public forum) on 26th or 27th March potentially utilising the Strachur Hall. KCC representatives will be present.

Forestry and Land Scotland – Fraser MacDonald

I have attached the previous email I sent regarding storm damage at Blairmore.(On KCC website.

We have completed removing trees off bottom road to allow SSE in to work on clearing OHPL wayleave. I understand that this work should be finished in next couple of weeks.

Once SSE have completed their operations FLS will look at programming in the upgrade of roads and harvesting of coupes that get approved by Scottish Forestry. I will provide more accurate information for next meeting.

With regards to storm Eowyn a couple a weekends ago Ardentiny in particular seems to have been more impacted and have quite a lot of trees down and damage to crops. We will be flying these areas with drones as soon as possible to get a clear picture of impact and again programme in roading upgrades and then felling works.

Although not part of Kilmun Community once harvesting and haulage starts this may have an impact on road use through Kilmun.

Visitor Services – attached is a copy of our trails throughout Cowal which will give an indication on the work we have ahead and again I can update better on this progress at next meeting. This is just a snapshot of impact with in KCC

Puck's Glen is likely to remain at least partially closed for a while. Kilmun Arboretum will take a fair bit of clearing, but nothing too technical I believe. I am also aware that Benmore Botanic Garden suffered severe damage. There are currently no event permissions for the near future, which will impact the KCC, but expect some to come in for later in the year.

Harvesting Operations Kilmun,

- Harvesting work now completed at Kilmun Junction 10017 – Approximately 300 tonnes at roadside, haulage to be complete and contract due to close end of February 2025.
- Windblown road clearance to provide access to Blairmore coupe, should be completed by 14/02/25 and timber removed with Kilmun Junction.

No planned harvesting until Blairmore windblown proposed coupe approved.

With regards to flooding issues at Strone Brae no further updates at present.

A site visit was carried out at Woodburn with residents and councillors and a number of action points were identified as a result a meeting is planned with Argyll and Bute Council roads department for Monday 17th February.

Strone Primary School and Strone Primary Parent Council

No update submitted.

Younger Hall

No update submitted

Blairmore Hall

No update submitted

Historic Kilmun

No update submitted

9 CURRENT ISSUES

Meteorological weather mast, Giant's Burn Wind Farm and Inverchaolain wind farm (scoping)

DN identified that the meteorological weather mast planning application has been with Argyll & Bute Council. The application was validated on 6 December 2024. The consultation expiry date for comments was 6 February 2025. The application is now awaiting decision by A&BC. It was highlighted that the main concern regarding this application are that it was not included within the Giant's Wind Farm Public Consultation, that the proposal will disturb a pristine unique peat moorland, will create a negative carbon retention (opposite to its existing function), and could potentially add to the flooding concerns and associated silt/debris within Sandbank and the Holy Loch Nature Reserve.

Malcolm Bird highlighted concern about the proposed Giant's Wind Farm about national security and problems with the advanced early warning system due to the blade rotation. In his experience as retired Royal Navy identified that the Nuclear Deterrent and Hunter Killer Submarines carry out sensitive exercises which could be adversely affected by the windfarm along Loch Long and the River Clyde.

Concern within the meeting was also shown about conflict between the windfarm and the RAF fighter jets that make low level flights along the River Clyde, the Holy Loch, through Glen Lean and Loch Long.

However, it was identified that no objections had been raised within the planning process by the MOD and Civil Aviation.

Inverchaolain Wind Farm proposal is with Energy Consents, KCC has requested an extension for submitting comments in order to have time to consult with the community. Insufficient numbers of the community were present this evening to reflect any consensus, and it will be carried over to the next meeting.

SSE power lines Dunoon 132kV Overhead Line rebuild Project.

No update has been received.

Community Councils Ferry Group

No further update, however, MB suggest a request for an update meeting with the group. DN will email Alan Stewart.

Any Other Competent Business

Malcolm Bird wished to extend heartfelt thanks to the two gentlemen employed by Ross McArthur Contractor Ltd that carried out the refurbishing works and re-pointing of the sea-face and the parapet at roadside at Blairmore. Malcolm identified that the two gentlemen could not have been more professional and worked every day except for 'red Friday' until completion. They have achieved a wonderful job and should be commended as should the A&BC engineer that oversaw the works.

Meeting End: 8.16pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday March 11th @ Younger Hall @ 7.30pm

Meetings held Second Tuesday each month alternating between Younger & Blairmore Halls.
Kilmun Hall – January, March, May, July (Recess) September, November
Blairmore Hall – February, April, June, August, October, December