

EKCC – 6th February 2025

Welcome

Ian Brodie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Present

Ian Brodie(IB), Robert Strang(RS), Jose MacKinnon(JM), Audrey Willan(AW), Trish Collins(TC), Shelagh Cameron(SC) and members of the community. Councillors Anne Horn, Alastair Redman & Dougie McFadzean via Zoom.

Apologies

Councillor John Armor

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed. Proposed by RS, seconded by SC.

Matters Arising

- Community Council Banking – AW – No progress. Hopefully update at next meeting.
- MOWI lice solutions – SC- had been in touch re Open Day etc Has looked online and notes that Carradale seems to be high on the reporting. Will find out what is happening and report back next month.
- Playpark – SC – Now signed off and certificates in hand. Park is a large improvement. There is a meeting in the next few weeks re fundraising and way ahead.
- Memorial Gardens – RS – Meeting Eva next week.
- Post in Carradale Chat re Memorial Gardens – SC – Spoken to 1 or 2 people privately. No success yet. Wanting to speak to 1-2 more prior to posting. Alasdair Bennett added that there was a budget for expenses for maintenance of the gardens available.
- Community Payback – AW – Not yet managed to connect with the person from the scheme but still working on it.
- Update on flood issue at Abbeyfield, overhanging trees and unofficial exit from Tor Mhor – IB – drains have been jetted down as far as possible to private property. Onus for further action is on the property owner. Contact council roads dept re trees – they were going to look at it but then the storm came along and issues got reprioritised. However the plan is to look from Peninver to Grogport. Re unofficial exit at Tor Mhor a road fault will be put in with the council, and we can see what the council say.
- Visitor Levy – SC – Was going to do survey but not possible to properly articulate community views that way. Sent an email instead. The response was an enquiry into the reasons, and a request for the survey to be completed. The council encouraged attendance at the Visitor Levy Information Event at the Kintyre Community Centre in Campbeltown on 17/03/2025 (4pm-7pm). SC will try to attend. TC asked councillors present from Argyll & Bute Council for

their views. Alastair Redman strongly opposes the levy. Anne Horn has no opinion at this time, and is awaiting the results of the consultation. Dougie McFadzean similarly has no opinion at this time and is awaiting the results of the consultation, although has scepticism about how the report may be presented and will look to the raw data.

Bank Balance / Treasurers Report

£1045.30 bank balance. Now have £180 cheque from playpark but not cashed yet.

Correspondence

None

Complaint Re Councillor

A complaint was received about IB from Stewart Grant. The complaint and response from IB were read in the meeting. After receiving guidance from Argyll & Bute Council the community councillors had met just prior to this meeting to determine if the complaint should be upheld.

IB was not acting within his role as an EKCC member at the time of the incident and therefore his behaviour was outside the remit of the code of conduct. It was the unanimous vote of the community council that the complaint should not be upheld. TC will write to Stewart Grant to inform him of the outcome. There will be no further action on this point.

Planning

Nothing.

Harbour

Portacabin is now on site.

Wellpark

Nothing that wasn't already covered.

LDG

SC reported a good meeting last week. Working towards open day (11-4 on 01/03/2025 in the Village Hall). There are hopes for high attendance. Invitations to relevant groups are out. Survey will also be online and there will be information in the Courier about the event. TC urged anyone with any interest to engage. Pointed out it is the whole development plan in question. Urged people to contact members of the local development group if you want to give feedback.

CCT Update

Emma Macalister Hall was present and reported that the Network Centre is progressing. Plans for resurfacing are underway and longer term plans are getting worked on with architects. CCT waiting to see what arises from open day.

EKWFT

Alasdair Bennett (AB) gave an update. Community fund is open until 06/03. There has been a change in funding priority: students can now apply for a bursary up to £1500 and up to 4 can be supported at a time. A similar scheme has been successful in West Kintyre. There was a question as to whether

this could be used for apprenticeships – Alasdair confirmed the funding had to lead to a qualification.

EKREG

AB gave an update. Lots of consent applications coming through. Unclear what the plan is as to where these will connect – Carradale substation is oversubscribed. EKREG & EKWFT have a table at open day.

West Torrisdale leaflet will have been received by most by now. EKREG has been working for years on getting community shared ownership. This current sits with ESB HQ. Most windfarms in Kintyre are down the spine. West Torrisdale is going to be east of the spine on the slope towards Kilbrennan Sound. Site will be very visible. Due to size of the development the planning decision will be made by the Scottish Government, not local authority. There was a fair amount of concern about the visibility of the site. AB pointed out that a high number of complaints or support may help sway the planning decision. Expressed the view that whether people are for it or against it is important to be heard. People can register and express their views on the energy consent units website.

AW raised that the noise of the turbines is also a consideration, not just the visual aspect.

EK Maintenance – Storm Damage

AB reminded the meeting that the EKCC have a maintenance budget for the paths etc in the village. It can be used for storm damage eg where trees have come down etc. Private landowners have been approached but generally declined, finding it easier to deal with themselves.

Amenities / Roads.

IB spoke to Alasdair Redman re pothole. He will email him again. Johnny Durnan raised the issue of the pothole at Crossaig. Acknowledges it is not in our area but impacts people who live here. Ann Horn taking this forwards to A&BC

Village Hall Toilets

Awaiting electricians and building warrant. A number of people expressed dissatisfaction about the doors not being long enough, or as long as they were told they would be. This has been raised with the Village Hall committee. SC proposed solution that she would like EKCC to put forward to the Village Hall committee. The solution was to drop the hinges on the doors so the doors are at ground level, and then fill in the gap at the top. Attendees were asked to inspect the toilets as they exited the meeting and report back if they disagreed with the solution. Members of the EKCC were the last to leave and no-one reported back to disagree.

Coastal Erosion

TC has concerns re Torrisdale & Grogport which she has raised with A&B Council. Concerned re the road washing away as it has at Southend. Has a complaint in. Tried to locate A&B Council's erosion policy / plan but has been unable to do so.

Tosh's Park Street Light

Johnny Durnan had raised in October re getting a street light reinstated at the bottom by the surgery. IB will send a fresh email and Anne Horn will chase up again.

Steps at Barncluith

Phillip Prince Brought up that McFadyens had left a hole and some barriers. Looks like the job there is not finished. IB responded that it was on private land.

Dog Poo Posters

AW brought up that she had seen good dog poo warning posters and asked if we could get some. Anne Horn will bring some next time she is in Carradale.

Next Meeting

6 March 2025.

Meeting closed.

Action items:

- AW to progress bank account
- SC to investigate MOWI live and report back
- RS to meet Eva next week
- SC to speak to individuals re memorial gardens
- AW to speak to rep from community payback scheme
- IB to log road fault with council re Tor Mhor
- TC to write to Stewart Grant re complaint
- IB to email Alistair Redman re pothole
- IB to send fresh email to Anne Horn re Toshs Park light