

Kilmacolm Community Council

Minute of ordinary meeting held on 27th June 2023

Present:

Morven Armour – Chair
Mike Jefferis – Vice Chair
Chris Kay – Secretary
David Goddard – Treasurer
Carol Breslin
Helen Cook – attending via Zoom
Johanne Davis
John Spence

Cllr Stephen McCabe – Ex Officio

Attending:

Patricia Urquhart – CLD, Inverclyde Council
Sgt Scott Clark – Police Scotland
Margaret Cathcart

Apologies:

Carol Breslin
Andrew Brewer
Ronnie Cowan MP – Ex Officio
Cllr Christopher Curley – Ex Officio
Cllr David Wilson – Ex Officio

1. Welcome

The chair opened the June 2023 meeting of Kilmacolm Community Council and welcomed all those in attendance.

2. Minute of Kilmacolm Community Council AGM on 30th May 2023

Some minor errors in the minute were pointed out and corrected. The amended minute was approved.

3. Minute of the Kilmacolm Community Council meeting of 30th May 2023

The minute of the above meeting was approved.

4. Police Scotland

Two new sergeants have been appointed to the community policing team; Scott Clark and Gordon Devlin.

Sgt. Clark attended the meeting to introduce himself and the two new community officers who will cover Ward 1 – constables James Rennie and Christopher McPherson. The officers are rostered for day shift today and thus unable to attend the meeting.

Kilmacolm Community Council

Minute of ordinary meeting held on 27th June 2023

The need to police a number of serious incidents across Inverclyde recently has necessitated the redeployment of our local community officers and has led to a reduction of police presence in Kilmacolm.

The main policing concerns raised by members were: speeding in the new 20 mph area and young drivers speeding in the early hours, recent fires being set in the cycle track area, Knockbuckle Road and Balrossie, general anti-social behaviour in the centre of Kilmacolm and at Birkmyre Park.

Sgt. Scott reported that community PC's visited Birkmyre on two evenings recently and that maintaining a presence and being visible in the community will be their focus in the coming weeks.

5. Inverclyde Council Community Wardens Services Report

No report. A report from the service was received after the end of the meeting.

6. Kilmacolm Community Council Finances

The treasurer presented key items from the June 2023 Budget vs Actual vs Forecast report. This year's administrative grant will be £434.27. Following submission of an approved AGM minute to Inverclyde Council an interim payment of £220 from the administrative grant will be made.

Budgeted administration costs are based on what has currently been spent and estimates of future spending using last year's data. So far this year we have spent £1683.

Currently there is no budget for travelling costs but councillors who travel out with Kilmacolm to attend meetings may claim if they wish.

Last year's defibrillator costs are included with this year's.

Predicted expenditure during the remainder of the financial year include £50 for the scarecrow trail in October, £10 prize for the elf competition and our £100 donation to the Kilmacolm Show.

We will need to review the operation of Christmas raffle in August to ensure we are in compliance with small lotteries legislation.

We were invited, on a very short timescale, to apply for Capital Funding from the Scottish Government and have asked for support for a project in the wild area bordering the playground on West Glen Road. If successful we will encourage participation from the Eco Group and Colourful Kilmacolm.

If SG funding is unsuccessful we can approach Royal Bank Regenerate Fund which provides funding support with rewilding and regeneration projects.

At the meeting of February 28th we agreed to fund a dog poop bag dispenser in two locations as a trial to see if it reduced dog fouling. Dispenser cost has increased to £180 from the original estimate of £100. The plan is to place the

Kilmacolm Community Council

Minute of ordinary meeting held on 27th June 2023

dispenser at the community centre for a few weeks and then at Birkmyre Park for a similar period. We will then evaluate the impact. The council voted in favour of going ahead with this project.

7. Planning/Licensing

The following planning applications were reviewed at the meeting:

- **Ref. No: 23/0124/IC.** Englewood, Lochwinnoch Road, Kilmacolm. PA13 4DU. Construction of rear balcony at first floor with stair access to lower patio.
- **Ref.No: 23/0019/TRE.** 9 West Glan Gardens, Kilmacolm. PA13 4PX. Fell lime tree (T1) and Beech Tree (T2); Crown lift of Sycamore Tree (T3).
- **Ref. No: 23/0118/IC.** Carnmhor, Port Glasgow Road, Kilmacolm. PA13 4QQ. Construction of single story rear extension.
- **Ref. No: 23/0126/IC.** Land at Blacksholm Road (north of Slates Farm), Kilmacolm. PA13 4SX
Erection of dwelling house with detached garage and erection of livery stables.
- **Ref. No: 23/0021/TRE.** The Ridge, Barclaven Road, Kilmacolm. PA13 4DQ
Re-pollard Sycamore tree (T3); remove conflicting branches with telephone line from Silver Birch tree (T11); reduce overhanging branches by 1.5m from Silver Birch tree (T14); and maintain clearance height of Common Holly tree (T15) to adjacent terrace.
- **Ref. No: 23/0135/IC.** Slioch, Gryffe Road, Kilmacolm. PA13 4AB. Alteration of vehicular access to improve safe entry and exit by moving gates away from boundary line and widening entrance to increase visibility splay.

Morven Armour (Chair) declared an interest in application **Ref.No: 23/0126/IC** and did not participate in consideration of that application.

There were no objections raised about any of the above planning applications.

Cllr McCabe informed the meeting that there will be a special meeting of the Regeneration Committee tomorrow. Council owned land at Wateryetts Drive will be discussed. It is likely a community consultation will be launched to seek views on disposal of the land. The consultation period will probably begin in the Autumn.

8. Roads, Pavements, Street Lighting, Parks and Open Spaces

Chair has been approached by members of the community with concerns about possible staining of the new pavement by rusty bins and chewing gum. Cllr McCabe offered to contact Environment and Regeneration to inquire about their cleaning plans for the new pavements.

New planters for the centre of Kilmacolm can be progressed by Colourful Kilmacolm if they think it is a good idea. If they wish to seek financial support they can approach KCC with costings.

Kilmacolm Community Council

Minute of ordinary meeting held on 27th June 2023

The charging points in the car park remain offline. There have been problems acquiring replacement parts. Cllr McCabe will make enquiries about progress of repairs.

Cleaning of the time capsule and memorial fountain will be undertaken by Inverclyde Council this year but has not happened yet. Chair will contact Lee MacDonald to progress.

A number of residents have reported that the pavement at the corner of Broomknowe and Whitelea Road is in a poor state of repair. Cllr McCabe will check whether the council have adopted the pavement and so are responsible for its upkeep.

9. Kilmacolm Community Clean Up

The next community clean-up will take place on Saturday 11th November 2023.

10. Any Other competent Business

RBS emailed regarding a charging point in the centre of Kilmacolm to allow them to use an electric vehicle for the mobile bank. Chair has replied saying we are happy to engage with them. Cllr McCabe asked for his contact details to be passed to the RBS contact.

John Spence and Morven Armour attended the Association of Community Councils meeting last week. A draft of training materials for community councillors has been produced and will be circulated for review.

There are strong objections from some areas to the community council boundary changes proposed. This is a consultation and any feedback should be made in writing to Peter MacDonald – email to CommunityCouncils@inverclyde.gov.uk.

There was a lengthy and detailed discussion covering the difficulties in developing community councils in the areas of Inverclyde which currently do not have them. These areas are the most deprived in Inverclyde and are perhaps most in need of the support provided by a community council.

11. Dates of future meetings.

29th August 2023
26th September 2023
31st October 2023
28th November 2023
30th January 2024

Kilmacolm Community Council

Minute of ordinary meeting held on 27th June 2023

27th February 2024

26th March 2024

30th April 2024

28th May 2024

AGM 28th May 2024