

**Kilmacolm Community Council Meeting**

**Tuesday 28 May 2013 at 7.30pm in Room 101 Kilmacolm Community Centre**

**Present:**

Stephen Hampson – Chair  
Helen Cook – Vice Chair  
David Goddard – Secretary  
John Watson – Treasurer  
Alda Clark  
Jan Johnston  
Helen MacConnacher  
David Madden  
Jon Ventham

Cllr Stephen McCabe - Ex Officio Member  
Cllr James McColgan - Ex Officio Member  
Cllr David Wilson – Ex Officio Member

**Attending:**

Gillian Conway, Bill Crookston, Valerie Crookston, Nicol Cameron – Kilmacolm Civic Trust,  
Sergeant Robin Gardner – Police Scotland, Ann Kennedy – Save Your Regional Park, Margie  
McCallum, Mark McLaren – Scottish Water, Thomas Reid, Jill Russell – Old Kirk

**Apologies:**

Cllr Jim MacLeod – Ex Officio Member

**1. Welcome**

The Chair opened the May 2013 meeting of the Kilmacolm Community Council and welcomed the attendees.

**2. Minute of the Kilmacolm Community Council Meeting – 30 April 2013**

The draft minute of the Kilmacolm Community Council meeting held on 30 April 2013 was approved.

**3. Community Police Report**

Sergeant Gardner presented the community police report for the Kilmacolm/Quarriers Village area for the four week period 16 April to 13 May 2013. There were eighty recorded incidents and ten reported crimes which represented 1.7 percent of the total reported crimes across Inverclyde. The breakdown of the reported crimes was given as two crimes of dishonesty, one crime of malicious mischief, six domestic housebreakings and one miscellaneous offence. Two crimes had been detected. The housebreaking crimes were not break-ins to homes but to outbuildings and thefts from gardens. There were two road traffic crashes – including one relatively minor hit and run incident – and two speeding tickets had been issued in the area.

It was thought likely that the housebreakings and garden thefts were carried out by the same group or individual.

A community notice will be posted on the KCC website alerting householders to secure garden sheds and other outbuildings and put identity marking on bicycles, garden furniture and equipment.

#### **4. Kilmacolm Community Council Finances**

Prior to the meeting the Treasurer had circulated to the community councillors copies of the 2013/2014 Cash Book which showed the items of expenditure for the 2013/2014 year to date amounting to £75.17 and a balance of £1319.63. He had also circulated a copy of redrafted 2013/2014 KCC budget which showed a proposed expenditure of £1675 and a forecast income of £1293 and a consequential reduction in reserves. After discussion the proposed budget was accepted.

#### **5. Scottish Water Improving Services**

In a very brief update Mark Maclaren – Scottish Water Regional Community Manager – confirmed that the improving services work in Kilmacolm village was now complete and the work in the vicinity of Stepends Bridge on the Lochwinnoch Road would commence in mid – June for a period of two to three months. The Lochwinnoch Road would not be closed – but temporary traffic lights would be in operation - during this period. It was planned that there would be no interruption to water supplies whilst the work was being carried out. Mark agreed to inform Kilmacolm householders of the completion of the work within the village and of the work still to be undertaken outwith the village.

#### **6. Planning/Licensing**

The Chair informed the meeting that the proposed Inverclyde Local Development Plan would be available on Friday 31 May for public consultation for an eight week period. Copies were to be forwarded to community councils and proposals could be viewed online at <http://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/ldp>. It was agreed that the Secretary would invite Stuart Jamieson - Head of Regeneration and Planning - to the next meeting of the KCC to outline those aspects of the proposed Local Development Plan which affected Kilmacolm.

The local planning applications validated by Inverclyde Council in the weeks since the last meeting on 30 April 2013 were considered. The KCC members were not opposed to the following applications nor did they feel they required any comment.

- *13/0115/IC - Cottage 33 (Rivendell) Peace Avenue, Quarriers Village PA11 3TH - Erection of a single storey extension*
- *13/0125/IC – Greenslates, Blacksholm Road Kilmacolm PA13 4SX - Demolition of existing rear extension and conservatory together with construction of new rear extension*
- *13/0103/IC - Flat 1-2 And Flat 2-2 1 Stewart Place, Bridge Of Weir Road Kilmacolm PA13 4AF - Change of use to class 2 office*
- *13/0117/IC - Nether Knockbuckle Lodge, Hazelmere Road Kilmacolm PA13 4JW - Renewal of planning application 10/0136/IC for the erection of house*

At the start of the discussion on the application 13/0116/IC - Corlic Hill Greenock - Erection of a 70 metre meteorological mast David Madden declared that he was a member of the Inverclyde

*Renewable Energy Forum* but this did not constitute a conflict of interest in his consideration of the application. Concerns were expressed that it was not possible to determine the exact location of the proposed mast from the drawings that accompany the application and that the construction of the mast could possibly disturb items of archaeological interest in the area. With these concerns and on the understanding that the meteorological mast was to be a permanent structure the KCC were opposed to the application. The Chair would lodge the KCC's opposition to the application.

Ann Kennedy – *Save Your Regional Park* – asked that the KCC consider adopting a policy opposing the erection of wind turbines in the Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park. After discussion it was agreed that the KCC would not adopt such a policy but would continue to review planning applications on a case by case basis.

An estate agent's publication of an architect's impression of the building to be developed on the site of the 'Old' Community Centre and Library had caused concern in the village. The Chair clarified that this impression was part of a speculative advert to generate interest for the letting of part of a new building on the site. Cllr McCabe confirmed that there were no planning pre-conditions attached to the agreed sale of the site and that the normal planning application processes would be followed for the construction of any buildings on the site. It was noted that the site was considered to be of great significance to the village and that the planning officials should be aware of the public interest in the development of the site.

The Secretary had clarified with Inverclyde Council the licensing matters on which the KCC would be consulted.

## **7. Roads, Pavements, Street Lighting**

Margie McCallum expressed the view that any enforcement of parking restrictions in Kilmacolm would mean fewer people shopping in the village and an adverse affect on the shopkeepers. The Chair clarified the situation in regard to the decriminalising of parking in Inverclyde and explained that the parking problems in Kilmacolm were a consequence of insufficient parking spaces and inconsiderate parking. Inverclyde Council were developing parking strategies for Inverclyde centres and would be consulting with the KCC. The group set up to consider the future of the village had been asked to give consideration to the inadequate car parking facilities in Kilmacolm.

Cllr McCabe confirmed that the recent installation of drop curbs at sites on Port Glasgow Road had been undertaken at the request and expense of the landowners for access to the properties and were not an indication that planning applications for buildings on the sites were to be submitted

Consideration was being given to the KCC request that parking restrictions be extended to include the access road to the Cargill Centre car park. In the meantime the 'No Parking' cones, which appeared to be reducing the incidence of inconsiderate and unsafe parking, would continue to be placed along side the curb outside the Kilmacolm Community Centre.

#### **8. Parks/Open Spaces**

The flooding at the bottom of Birkmyre Park required attention. The Secretary would contact the Inverclyde Council to request that the problem be rectified.

#### **9. Colourful Kilmacolm**

The Chair had attended the inaugural meeting of the *Colourful Kilmacolm* group at which their constitution was formally adopted and the members of their executive committee were elected. The group was seeking funding and a place in the village centre to store equipment.

#### **10. Kilmacolm Twinning with Méridiennes**

The Chair reported that some members of the Twinning Steering Group – including himself - were to visit Méridiennes over the weekend of 22/23 June in order to confirm whether there was a firm basis on which to proceed with a Twinning partnership.

#### **11. Community Council Training**

Most community councillors had met with Siobhan McCready – Senior Community Worker Community Learning and Development – to discuss the available community councillor training opportunities. It had been agreed that there would be two evening training sessions specifically for the KCC to be held during the summer months. There was preference for the sessions to be conducted on a Monday evening. The Secretary would relay this to Siobhan who would then propose the dates of the training sessions.

#### **12. Doors Open Days in Inverclyde – Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 September 2013**

The organisers of the Doors Open Days are seeking to add some new venues and interesting buildings in Inverclyde where members of the public can gain free access on Doors Open Days – 14 and 15 September 2013. The KCC been requested to suggest local buildings or venues that could be included in the Doors Open scheme. The Secretary would suggest to the organisers that they contact the Old Kirk, St Columba's School and Quarriers to establish whether they would wish to participate.

#### **13. Future of the Kilmacolm Village Centre**

David Madden and Jon Ventham had attended two meetings of the 'Future of the Village Centre' steering group which was set up to clarify what would be incorporated in the 'future vision' of the Kilmacolm village centre. There was concern about a survey which was conducted at the Agricultural show on the 11th of May by the Kilmacolm Civic Trust. The Survey was conducted in the names of both the Kilmacolm Community council and the Kilmacolm Civic Trust without prior knowledge or agreement of the Kilmacolm Community Council or its representatives on the steering group.

#### **14. Kirkin' of the Inverclyde Council**

Helen Cook will represent the KCC at the Kirkin' of the Inverclyde Council on Sunday 9 June 2013.

#### **15. Dates of Next Meetings of the Kilmacolm Community Council**

- Tuesday 25 June 2013 – 7:30pm
- Tuesday 27 August May 2013 – 7:30pm