

Seil and Easdale Community Council

Notes of Annual General Meeting Tuesday 24th May 2011 – Seil Island Hall

1. Present:

- **Community Councillors:** Seumas Anderson (Chair), Mike Shaw, Martin Waddell, Heather Chaplin, Alan MacFadyen, Anne-Marie Robin, Charles Struthers, Chris Dugdale.
- **Council members:** Cllr Neil MacKay,
- **Members of the public:** 9 plus Jane Nichols (Sec), Police Constable Jeremy Moore, Chief Inspector Brian Auld

2. Apologies for absence: Cllr Donald MacDonald, Cllr Elaine Robertson, Cllr Duncan MacIntyre, Robert Rae,

3. Minutes of last meeting: Proposed: Charles Struthers Seconded: Mike Shaw

4. Matters arising:

None

5. Convener's Report

Welcome everyone to Seil and Easdale Community Council Annual General Meeting. Since our last AGM the Community Council has not been idle, holding our usual six public meetings, and now we meet monthly to keep on top of issues. I would like to thank them all for their commitment and support.

These are some of the main matters addressed:

Health Services

Tina Jordan, as a result of moving out of the area, resigned as representative on the various health and public partnership forums. Many thanks for all her hard work for the Community Council. Of some concern when preparing these notes was that at last year's AGM I reported that emergency evacuation procedures for Easdale Island were being discussed at Health Board level. A second year on this is still not concluded to the complete satisfaction of all concerned.

Thanks to Dr Hannah for his input to health matters through regular attendance at Community Council meetings.

Local Roads

Last year I reported on the deplorable state of our roads, a result of Scottish Water activity and lack of proper and timely repairs. It is most pleasing to report the vast improvements of late, although not as yet fully completed. Our thanks go to the Council

roads department. This is not to say we will not continue our efforts to have the roads network within and leading to our area maintained and improved.

Planning

The Community Council involvement as statutory consultees mean all planning applications are seen by the Community Council and at our discretion we comment in favour or against, or with recommendations on those that we believe have an impact on the community. The Community Council take care to ensure our decisions are unbiased and impartial and believe our knowledge of the community and its infrastructure can enable us to make considered decisions. We continue this line with submission as appropriate, such as Raera wind farm and the Easdale Island Wind Turbine.

Scottish Water

Two years ago I reported the start of the snagging and restitution stage of the project. This, over 2 years later, can be described as ongoing. Last year we decided to start at the top and work down, by contacting the Chairman of Scottish Water directly. This provided encouraging responses which we pursued with vigour, and this finally seems to have paid off with the resolution of many outstanding issues. Thanks to Charles Struthers for his persistence with Scottish Water. Keep on till the end.

Windfarms

Last year we were in the late stages of one Windfarm, Raera, on which we commented at a planning hearing. It was unanimously rejected and will not be appealed in its present form. Now there is a second wind farm on the horizon. Although both are outwith our Community Council area, they both impinge on our environs.

The Clachan Farm project is likely to go to the planning stage soon, with the public consultation to follow. We will be making representation on the community's behalf, but please talk to your Community Councillors and make your own representations if you feel strongly one way or another. The Community Council will be circulating a questionnaire to everyone on the edited electoral roll.

These have been some of the main issues dealt with on your behalf. We have also been involved with core path planning and now the main issues report. More of this in the ordinary meeting.

We also participated in several other consultations over the year. Our administration grant of £400 remains static. Luckily, none of the members has taken any sort of expenses for travel to the many meetings we attend on your behalf throughout Argyll.

Once again, thanks to Community Council members and their long-suffering spouses, and to Argyll & Bute Councillors Duncan MacIntyre, Donald MacDonald, Neil Mackay and Elaine Robertson. Thanks also for Police Constable Jeremy Moore's attendance and participation, particularly when not on duty. Special thanks to Jim Cunningham for putting together the newsletter, printing and distributing it, and for the collation of the local telephone directory.

Last big thank you to our secretary Jane Nichols, without whom none of this would be possible.

Thanks to the Convener

Martin Waddell thanked Seumas for his efficient, cheery and firm chairing of meetings this year.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented a statement of accounts covering the period 1st April 2010 to 31st March 2011. This showed the amount carried forward at bank was £2,270.63, plus £41.47 petty cash. There was income of £776.42 and expenditure of £189.50, giving total cash carried forward of £2,899.02.

Copies of the accounts were circulated and questions invited. It was noted that the coastal erosion statement bore incorrect dates, and should read 2010 to 2011 rather than 2009 to 2010.

The Treasurer commented that the largest single expense was £98 for the production of local telephone directories. The unit sale price of these was increased this year, which perversely resulted in a huge demand and an income of £374.

7. Election of Officers

None

8. Date of Next Annual General Meeting

The next AGM will be **Tuesday 22nd May 2012**.

Chairman Signed:

Date:

Secretary Signed:

Date: