

## Helensburgh Community Council



**"Helensburgh – Be Better : Be Excellent"**

### **Minutes of a Meeting of the Helensburgh Community Council Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

**Present:** Sonja Aitken, Karen Brabender, Elizabeth Buist, Henry Deane, George Douglas, Ian Fraser, Geoff Holliman, Ian MacQuire, Nigel Millar (Convener), Kathleen Siddle, David Sinclair, John Tacchi, Richard Trail and Sheila Wilson.

**Councillors:** Vivien Dance and James Robb.

**Helensburgh Advertiser:** Fiona Howard.

**Public:** Ruth Anderson, Tony Dance and Doug Walker.

**Apologies:** Tariq Durrani, Marion Gillies, Councillors Ellen Morton and Andrew Nisbet, Stewart Noble and David Williams.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Minute</b>	<b>Decision / Action</b>
<b>1. Welcome and Recognition</b>	The Convener welcomed the members present. He expressed his appreciation of A+BC for the effective continued clearance of the carriageways during the recent cold snowy weather.	
<b>2. Licensing</b>	The Convener welcomed Eric Dearie, the A+BC Licensing Standards Officer, who gave us a talk on the way the new legislation operates in relation to licensed premises and their relations with neighbours. There followed a useful and informative question and answer session. The Convener thanked Eric Dearie for his visit.	
<b>3. Helensburgh Youth Action Group</b>	The Convener welcomed Kirsteen Fraser who spoke on the needs of some young people and the need for a <i>youth café</i> in a central location (to avoid territorial association) which could be a focus for the provision of services, including education, to young people.	

[www.helensburghcommunitycouncil.co.uk](http://www.helensburghcommunitycouncil.co.uk)

Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Topic	Minute	Decision / Action
	<p>There followed a discussion. The Convener thanked Kirsteen for her presentation.</p>	
<p><b>4. Public Session</b></p>	<p>Ruth Anderson spoke on her concerns about dog fouling and recycling. The Convener thanked he for her contribution. Doug Walker spoke about a suggested way of recording and monitoring progress on the repair of street defects; he also sought clarification of the location of the boundary between the Helensburgh and Cardross community councils. He was shown a plan indicating this. The Convener thanked him for his contribution.</p>	
<p><b>5. Minutes of Previous Meetings</b></p>	<p>The minutes of the meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> December were considered. It was noted that the name of David Williams should have appeared in the membership of the Planning Group in Section 5. Proposed Richard Trail; seconded Ian McQuire.</p>	<p>The Minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> December were <b>approved</b> with the amendment noted.</p>
<p><b>6. Matters Arising</b></p>	<p><b>6.1 – 3.4 Hermitage Academy</b> It was reported that David Williams recommends that a way of communicating with youngsters would be via the web. In the ensuing discussion it was pointed out that there may be issues of child protection involved and that perhaps <i>bebo</i> might be a more suitable vehicle.</p> <p><b>6.2 – 3.6 Common Good Fund</b> A means of providing some finance for the benefit of the community may be available through the concept of community wind farms. (See item 7.1 – Community Wind Farm, below.)</p> <p><b>6.3 – 4 Model Constitution</b> John Tacchi brought forward proposals to the meeting, See Appendix I.</p>	<p>It was <b>agreed</b> that Richard Trail would set up <i>a group facebook</i> for HCC.</p> <p>It was <b>agreed</b> to continue discussion and consider this at the next meeting.</p>
<p><b>7. Town Issues</b></p>	<p><b>7.1 – Community Wind Farm</b> Ian Fraser spoke about the possibility of establishing a community wind farm, possible sites are located above the Blackhill Plantation or on Ben Bouie. Such a farm could generate income for the community. There followed a lengthy discussion.</p> <p><b>7.2 – Other Issues</b> There was no time available to consider other issues.</p>	<p>It was <b>agreed</b> that Ian Fraser should ask Scottish &amp; Southern Energy for a no commitment feasibility study of such a concept.</p>

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Minute</b>	<b>Decision / Action</b>
<b>8. Planning</b>	Ian Fraser reported on the activities of the Planning Group. See Appendix II.	The report was <b>noted</b> .
<b>9. Group reports</b>	No reports.	
<b>10. Correspondence</b>	See Appendix III.	
<b>6. Treasurer's report</b>	No report.	
<b>9. Next Meeting</b>	The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2010 at 19.00 hours in the Victoria Halls.	

Appendix I follows on next page

## APPENDIX I

### Proposed Response to Clause 11

#### *11. Public Participation in the Work of the Community Council*

*(a) all meetings of the community council and its committees (subject to 10(h), above) shall be open to members of the public. Reasonable provision is to be made for the accommodation of members of the public and the opportunity should be afforded at each meeting to permit members of the public to address the community council,*

*under the guidance of the Convener.*

*(b) Notices calling meetings of the community council and its committees shall be posted prominently within the community council area for a minimum period of ten days before the date of any such meeting, and, where possible, be advertised by other suitable means.*

The above clause requires an amended way of running the Council. The keys are transparency and participation, to ensure that the widest views of the community are made clear to Argyll & Bute Council.

The proposed response to this is as follows

#### TRANSPARENCY

The Matrix (see following/over) will be printed and placed as follows:

- 1 The Notice Board in Colquhoun Square
- 2 The notice board on the corner of Sinclair Street and East Princes Street
- 3 The notice board inside and hopefully outside Victoria Halls
- 4 The Community Council website.
- 5 The detailed Agenda will be published monthly to the Council and as above

#### PARTICIPATION

To allow members of the public to give their views on the work of the committees the following changes will be made to the Council Meeting Format

It will start at 18:30 with a Committee Meeting of the Planning Group and that will finish at 19:30. During this period members of the Public will be able to participate under the guidance of the Convener.

Council Meeting will start at 19:30 and will include three distinct items on the Agenda Statutory Plans Group and Project Group Town and Environmental Issues Group. These will last for 20 minutes each (unless otherwise required). During these periods members of the Public will be able to participate under the guidance of the Convener.

[www.helensburghcommunitycouncil.co.uk](http://www.helensburghcommunitycouncil.co.uk)

Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010

**HELENSBURGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**THE VISION: HELENSBURGH - BE BETTER - BE EXCELLENT**  
[www.helensburghcommunitycouncil.co.uk](http://www.helensburghcommunitycouncil.co.uk)

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Community Council</b>	<b>Planning Group</b>	<b>Town Environmental Improvement Group On the Agenda of each meeting</b>	<b>Statutory Plans Group On the Agenda of each meeting</b>	<b>Projects Group On the Agenda of each meeting</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2010	1930 hours	1830 hours			
25 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2010	1930 hours				
22 <sup>nd</sup> Apr 2010	1930 hours	1830 hours			
20 <sup>th</sup> May 2010	1930 hours	1830 hours			
24 <sup>th</sup> Jun 2010	1930 hours	1830 hours			
26 <sup>th</sup> Aug 2010	1930 hours	1830 hours			
23 <sup>rd</sup> Sep 2010	1930 hours	1830 hours			
28 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2010	1930 hours	1830 hours			
25 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2010	1930 hours	1830 hours			
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2010	1930 hours	1830 hours			

Public Participation is welcomed and encouraged at ***Planning Group; Town Environmental Improvement Group; Statutory Plans Group and Project Group sessions of the Council Full Agenda of the Council Meetings are available on website.***

***Planning Group*** is to hold Public Meetings when there are objections to a planning application and the views of neighbours/ local residents are needed before HCC makes representations to ABC. These are to be held before the Council Meetings and advertised on Public Notice Board and in Helensburgh Advertiser.

If we pick from the weekly planning list the plans that we want to have a look, at all we need to do is ring Karen in Planning at Blaivadach and she will send the relevant plans to us. (Information from Beth Connelly Senior Technical Officer Central Validation, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead) We can ask for a week's deferment of response when our meeting dates are not convenient to the closing dates for comments

***Town Environmental Improvement Group*** is to hold Public Meetings where the views of the Public on particular issues are needed.

***Statutory Plans Group*** is to hold Public Meetings after preparatory work has been undertaken and presented to full council with Public present and able to contribute.

***Project Group*** is to hold Public Meetings after preparatory work has been undertaken and presented to full council with Public present and able to contribute.

## **APPENDIX II PLANNING GROUP REPORT**

MEMBERS: Kathleen Siddle (Leader), Henry Deane (Secretary), Ian Fraser, Sheila Wilson, David Williams

### PLANNING APPLICATIONS

#### **1. Update: Proposed scrap yard at Moss Rd - Certificate of Lawful Use**

HCC Planning Group liaised with the Helensburgh Study Group and sent a letter of objection to A&BC. The proposed scrap yard is totally contrary to the A&BC Structure and Local Plans. HCC also considered that the case made by the applicant does not meet the criteria for an application of this type.

HCC does not oppose the development of a scrap yard per se and wishes to emphasise that we have long supported local businesses. But we cannot support any application which does not meet the criteria necessary to its success.

#### **2. Update: Proposed conservatory at 42 West Argyle St**

After a further site visit, it was decided that the appearance of the dwelling house had already been significantly compromised by previous changes.

Decision: No action

#### **3. Update: Proposed Ambulance Building at the Victoria Infirmary**

HCC supports a new ambulance building, but objects to this particular proposal both for its garden shed design and for its placing right opposite the original Victoria Infirmary building. HCC asked if the design could be improved and if the building could be placed elsewhere on the site.

HCC now understands that the decision of the Local Review Board in Kilmory was that there will be a Hearing about this application which will take place in Helensburgh and which will be open to the public. Date and venue not known at present.

#### **4. Proposed conservatory at 18 Millig St.**

Decision: Examine the plans in the library and make a site visit.

#### **5. Proposed extension at 15/17 West Montrose St.**

Plans examined in the library and a site visit showed that materials and design are both in accordance with the existing building. The site is large and the extension would not be visually intrusive.

Decision: No action unless neighbours contact us.

#### **6. Proposed formation of vehicular access and erection of gates at 129 Sinclair St**

A site visit showed that the proposal would not have an impact on its surroundings.

Decision: No action unless neighbours contact us.

#### **10. Proposal to extend garage and convert existing garage to make additional living accommodation at 11 West Montrose St.**

Plans examined and site visit made. Both footprint of proposal and its design seems in

accordance with existing building.

Decision: No action unless neighbours contact us.

**11. Conversion of attic space into living accommodation at 31 George St**

Plans examined and nearest neighbour contacted. Proposal is for the rear of the terrace block. The nearest neighbour has no objection to the plan.

**12. Construction of first floor at 3 Macleod Cres.**

From examination of plans and site visit, proposal is not out of keeping with surrounding area.

Decision: No action unless neighbours contact us.

*For further information on planning applications, or copies of Community Council Planning Group letters, please ask a member of the Planning Group.*

**APPENDIX III**

**HELENSBURGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE  
AS AT 28 JANUARY 2010**

1. A&BC Grab Trust Community Newsletter for January 2010 featuring the amount of rubbish on our coastline and where it comes from.
2. Dunbritton Housing Association Winter Issue Newsletter with articles on the new members of the DHA Committee, plans for new housing, and what to do if bothered by noise pollution by neighbours, etc.
3. Dunbritton Housing Association Calendar.
4. Telehealth in Argyll & Bute - leaflet describing its ability to remotely monitor patients with a long term condition e.g. diabetes or heart failure.
5. A&BC and NHS Highland joint leaflet "Mental Health in Argyll & Bute 2012 : Everyone's Business." Info on Continuing Work and Progress Reports.
6. Issue of 'Health News' produced by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde with articles including how to combat the winter vomiting bug and how to spot meningitis.
7. Issue of 'Health News' produced by NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde including the Biennial Report of the Director of Public Health 2009 - 2011.

***Kathleen Siddle (Secretary, Helensburgh Community Council).***

If anyone would like a copy of any of the correspondence, please contact Kathleen.

[www.helensburghcommunitycouncil.co.uk](http://www.helensburghcommunitycouncil.co.uk)

Minutes of Meeting of Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010