

Buchanan Community Council
Minutes of the meeting held on the 1st Sept. 2008 at 7.30 pm.
Visitor Centre Balmaha

Present;

J. Bannerman, J Twaddle, Sgt. Cumming, J. MacFarlane, S. Fraser,
A. MacFadyen, A. Murdoch, A. Hannan, G. Bannerman, W. Nisbet,
D. Fraser.

Apologies;

W. McAlister, J. Taggert, S. MacFarlane, S. Fraser

The minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd. June were approved.

Matters arising

The problems linked to camping, parking and behaviour were discussed at length and overlapped other items on the agenda.

A letter from Forest Enterprise highlighted the difficulties that present legislation gives and the restrictions imposed when trying to deal with the problems encountered with camping and anti-social behaviour-especially when campers arrive by car. Chief Inspector Find later had also responded to concerns about parking on corners at Lochan Maoll Dhuinne. Sgt. Cummings had also been contacted about the problems and had been involved in operation Ironworks designed to tackle the problems. He agreed to contact Forest Enterprise to see if boulders designed to restrict parking could be repositioned to make parking impossible. He agreed that cars could be moved if the presented a danger to road users. Inspector Findlater had indicated that preliminary appraisal showed that Ironworks had had some success and that problems had been displaced elsewhere—a more in depth appraisal will be done.

John Macfarlane suggested that travel by water should be increased to help alleviate the congestion on roads. This led to a discussion which concluded that the Park had spent too much time and money dealing with by-laws on water when the major problems present themselves on land and by-laws for these should be considered.

Cllr. Lambie had agreed to find out why the application for alcohol consumption in public bye-law application had stalled and would be contacted to see what progress had been made.

Concerns were raised about the commitment of the Park to the continued operation of the Balmaha Visitor Centre.

J. MacFalane was concerned that Balmaha pier was becoming more derelict but a reply from the Park, with an engineers report, confirmed that no plans nor money were available.

Police matters

Sgt. Cummings referred to Operation Ironworks and the joint actions taken with Park Wardens and Forest Enterprise. He warned of increasing fuel thefts and confirmed that speed warning signs were being rotated to agreed sites once poles were in place. He also indicated an increase in the use of hand held radar in the area.

AOCB

J. Milner informed the meeting that The CC had successfully applied for a grant to help the Hall towards a new boiler. He also confirmed his attempts to get a broadband supply to Rowardennan residents

G. Bannerman had received concerns about commemorative trees at Cashel so David Goss would be contacted.

Dates for 2009 to be set.