

May 2021- Convenor Annual Report

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for putting up with me over the last year in my role as Convenor. I am still learning and appreciate everyone's support.

It has been a difficult and challenging year and the pandemic meant that we couldn't have our meetings in the usual places and Zoom has been our host over the last year and no doubt will be for some time.

I was appointed convenor last year with Jim Malcolm vice-convenor, Di Roberts as Treasurer and Hazel Fuller started as Secretary December 2020. In our September 2020 meeting we had the Community Council By-elections where we congratulated Joanne McGregor and Sue MacLean and appointed them full members of the council. Helen Mackie also remains an active member.

We have been involved in various topics, agenda points, discussions, and consultations over the last year and look forward to what lies ahead as 2021 hopefully sees more social interaction, businesses re-opening or starting up and communities being able to integrate again.

Our closed agenda items include the funding that we secured last year to help families during the pandemic, with the help and support of the Dunadd Community Enterprise. This fund was available to Dunadd residents and was paid out in £60 handouts to help families with items such as food and essentials. This was extremely successful with 15 families receiving support and ended at the end of December 2020.

Our active agenda items include – Speeding in Kilmartin. Jim Smith attended the meeting on the 29th September to give an update on the roads. Concern has been raised over the speed of cars passing through Kilmartin. Jim Smith has made a commitment to carry out traffic surveys in Kilmartin once traffic returns to a normal level with the view to erecting slow down signs in the village. Traffic surveys were carried out towards the end of last year, but traffic was a third of what it usually is. I would like to thank Dougie Philand and Sandy Taylor who have been extremely helpful and supportive in pursuing this matter.

Kilmartin Quarry has been a hot topic at meetings over the last year. Concern was raised over noise levels, additional traffic and where the extension was going. The council along with Sandy Taylor have expressed these concerns at various meetings with the next one being held on the 28th June.

Kilmartin Museum is also a regular topic with updates given at each meeting. The contractors TSL are now on site at Kilmartin. Kilmartin Museum hold regular Zoom meetings for the public where they give updates on progress and estimated completion dates.

We are looking for volunteers to set up a steering group to devise a document that will advise what to do in the event of an emergency or disaster. This is being led by myself and is in the early stages of design and development.

Residents in Kilmichael have asked for "No Parking" signs to be placed in the passing places along the C38 following the number of motorhomes and caravans parking in them last year. Argyll and Bute council have confirmed they will erect signs at the start and end of the C38 and ensure all passing places have a passing place sign in them. Date of completion to be confirmed.

Dunadd Community Council has sent some feedback and concerns to Scottish Woodlands following the e-mail in February 2020 for the Cnoc na H-Eilde consultation. Scottish Woodlands have

confirmed that once all the public responses have been received, then a call will be set up for members of the public to attend.

Hazel is attending the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Community Planning Group meeting which is held every three months. Minutes of these meetings can be found on the Argyll and Bute website with the next meeting taking place in August. The meetings are good as updates are given from the Community Councils in the area.

I enjoy our regular updates at each meeting which include- The police reports, these have been similar with no direct crime reported in the area however reports of people being in the area acting suspiciously- reminders have been placed on Facebook to ensure people secure their outbuildings and report any suspicious activity to the police.

The treasurer reports every 2nd month and the accounts stay pretty much the same. We have had a few micro-grant funding requests this year. The accounts are now available on the website.

Dunadd Community Enterprise also give updates at our meetings. They secured £8000 earlier this year from the Princes Countryside Fund. Some of this money will go towards the front green in Kilmartin. Stretch Tents have been purchased. The DCE were heavily involved with getting Kilmartin Toilets re-opened before Argyll and Bute Council decided to open the majority of toilets in Argyll and Bute. DCE are also involved in a Wildflower Seeding Project. The planting is taking place as I type this report and updates can be viewed on the Dunadd Community Enterprise's Facebook Profile.

We have had some quick wins this last year which include Joanne McGregor asking for a picnic table for Ford Village, this was approved and I look forward to going for a long cycle and being able to stop for my lunch!

A grit bin has been requested in Kilmartin where the sewage works are- this has been approved by Argyll and Bute Council and will be installed later this year.

I finish my report again by re-iterating my gratitude to each and every one of you. Let's see what 2021 brings.

Yours,

David Smart

Convenor

Dunadd Community Council