

SCCC MEETING 14 May 2025**1. Present**

Linda Murry, Michael Breslin, Joyce McEwan, Moira MacInnes, Ian McEwan, Cathy Fagan, Alan Stewart, Glenda McLaren, Jack Hutcheon

2 Apologies

Jan McCormack, Eleanor Stevenson, Moira McInnes, Liz Seabrook, Cllrs Audrey Forrest and Ross Moreland.

3 In attendance

Kyle Armstrong, Alistair Lennie, Margie MacDonald-Atkin, Cllr Daniel Hampsey.

4 Declarations of interest.

None at start of meeting

5 Police Report

No report was provided.

6 Minutes of last meeting held on 9 April 2025

These were proposed by Joyce and seconded by Cathy.

7 Matters arising

- a. Battery Packs @ £20 available from Amazon
- b. Footpath in Toward triangle not yet completed. Most of the area is not affected by the farmer's fence that is falling on the pavement.
- c. White line is there but being ignored. This needs handled with care as any parking enforcement ban here would impact the bus service.
- d. Speed signs at Toward Primary: no reply to Alistair. Request was that they are mains powered.
- e. Road at Port Lamont has still to be repaired.
- f. Live Argyll: the chief executive has been written to asking why Live Argyll made a major decision on libraries, which are a statutory service. She has not replied.

8 Treasurer's report inc Hydro Funds

- a. Bank balances are approximately £7,402.
- b. Update on Accounts to end March 25 was given. Receipt needed from village hall for £250.

9 Planning Matters

- a. Application for ground based solar PV at Cluniter. No issues with this.

10 Community Council Elections 2026

This was noted.

11 South Cowal Trust update

Michael updated the meeting on the trust which has now been formed and which has a bank account with Cooperative Bank. Key need now is to enrol people as members. Those attending who wish to be members should email Michael saying so, with their full contact details. The interim trustees are Alan Stewart, Michael Breslin, Alasdair Finlay, Martin Anstess and Mike Geraghty. As soon as there are sufficient members, a General Meeting can be called to elect trustees to the board.

12 Glenda and Jack are now formally co-opted members of the community council.

13 Roads and Amenity Services

Parking on North Campbell Road Michael updated the meeting on the situation and the fact that the reply from the officer didn't address the key issue. It was agreed to reply to him on behalf of SCCC and to ask the council to review what has been done as a matter of urgency.

14 AOCB

A Cowal Community Energy: Alan updated the meeting on the formation of the company and on the bid for the Glendaruel re-powering. Community Energy Scotland and Community Land Scotland are supportive of what CCE wanted to do. At the moment, the earnings from this and other windfarms leaves Scotland, due to foreign ownership. There is the potential for millions of pounds per annum to come to the community, all going well.

B Transport Scotland and CMAL: Alan gave details of the meeting arranged by Jenni Minto.

C Margie told of the issues during the storm when trees above her land fell. She has never been able to get the matter resolved. Advice from the meeting was to handle the matter via Margie's insurers and/or ask Citizens Advice for help. They are based in Lochgilphead.

D Pingo Bus: Alistair gave a verbal update on use and costs. £115k net loss, met by the council. Cllr Hamspey agreed to speak to the public transport officer about this service.

E Cathy told of a situation that day about a person visiting houses at Toward. It felt somewhat odd, so was the person checking out empty houses? Advice was to tell the police.