GARVE AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes

of the meeting held at Garve on Tuesday 20th February 2001 (Postponed from 6.2.01 due to adverse weather conditions)

Present:

Doug Winship (Chairman), Brian Denoon (Vice Chairman), Einir Hughes Winship (Secretary), Pat Campbell, George Gamble, Sheree Grant, Alec Mackenzie, Marie Mackenzie, Dena Ross, Neveille Macdonald-Rolfe, Councillor Ewen Mackinnon and 2 members of the public.

Apologies:

Lady Eliza Leslie Melville

Chairman Doug Winship opened the meeting, welcoming everyone. Mr John Mackenzie, Corran, made a short speech thanking the Community Council and everyone else concerned for a most enjoyable Senior Citizens' Christmas Party.

Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting was proposed by Sheree Grant and seconded by George Gamble.

Matters Arising

Garve Water. The quality now appears to be much improved, "crystal clear". Pat Campbell stated that she has had no more stomach problems. Pressure does seem to require adjustment, it is low within the villages but houses outside are experiencing too high pressure. It was agreed that a letter be sent to NOSWA telling them of the satisfactory improvement, and adding that Achnasheen is now looking forward to a similar improvement in the supply.

Garve TV. Alec Mackenzie thanked Councillor Ewen Mackinnon for his assistance in getting the system working well again.

Railway Fences. Work has been carried out cutting bushes beside the line and some parts of the fencing between track and road has been renewed. However, at the dangerous checkrail corner, on the A835 trunk road, fears are expressed that there is not enough protection to prevent a vehicle ending up on the railway line. Letters to be sent to Highland Council Roads Department, Scottish Executive, etc.

Achnasheen Primary School. The drains alongside the school road have been cleaned. The Head Teacher and School Board to be contacted about safety concerns.

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Any Other Business

Briefing notes had been received from Highland Council about trunk road maintenance and management, which will be taken over by a private consortium on 1st April. The meeting agreed we are disappointed that contractors will deal with trunk roads, thus losing the integrated system, which has worked well.

Deer on roads. On the A835 trunk road in particular, deer congregating on the road has been an ongoing problem. Brian Denoon told the meeting that, in an effort to prevent deer getting onto the road, Lochluichart Estate propose to join up forestry blocks from Aultguish to Torrin Dubh with an 8 mile fence. It is hoped to begin this work at the end of March. This news was well received by the meeting.

Achnasheen - dog fouling. This has become a major problem, so "pooper-scoopers" are being issued. Any owner who is caught allowing their dog to foul and doesn't clean up afterwards, will be liable to a £500 fine.

Achnasheen. During the bitterly cold weather, the toilets became frozen for 3 weeks, then with the thaw the tank, which is situated in the Community Hall, burst, causing considerable flooding and damage. The stopcock couldn't be located, although it was eventually found in a locked cupboard in the Gents. Dena Ross will contact Protective Services.

Disused Quarry. Neveille Macdonald-Rolfe raised the subject of the old quarry at Strathgarve. There are no gates, so it is a dumping ground, there are a number of burnt out vehicles, in summer it is a considerable fire hazard. Forestry Commission to be contacted.

Date of Next Meeting.

Tuesday 3rd April at 8pm in Achnasheen Community Hall.