

Garve and District Community Council - meeting 3 June

~~Draft~~ Minutes

Meeting held in Garve Village Hall on 3rd June 2008

Present: Marion Taylor, John Urquhart, Sheree Grant, Sue Tarr, Donald Northwood, Jim Ruggles Brise, Helen Grainge, Uisdean Menzies, Lady Eliza Leslie Melville.

Jean Hollingdale and 6 members of the public

Apologies: A. Mackenzie, R Matheson

Helen Grainge had asked that the Community Council members meet at 6:30 for an informal meeting arranged by Cllr Jean Urquhart and Robby Bains from the Highland Council for them to outline some procedural issues.

Unfortunately neither of them attended or sent apologies for their absence; a number of members voiced their concerns at the lack of commitment from the Highland Council and the elected council members, particularly as far back as the AGM they had promised they would be attending all our meetings and to date have missed most of them.

Whilst the Community Council members waited for the two representatives they used this to discuss proposed fund raising, this included arranging a race evening, a proposal for the community groups to work more closely together to raise funds, forming a garden group after the successes of the garden weekend and a possible event in one of the two village halls. A provisional date was also set of the senior citizens Christmas party for the 18 December 2008. It was also agreed that a sub committee meeting for the N&V be set for the 27 June in Achnasheen and a leaflet sent to each household inviting the public for their views.

The Community Council Meeting was then opened by the chair and apologies given; the Secretary stated that there had been no agenda circulated due to him being away for so long and not returning until the day before and providing there were no objections use an agenda from a previous meeting as the template; there were no objections.

Approval for the previous minutes was sought and the Secretary said that the past two sets of minutes needed approving due to the informal meeting held last time. The December minutes, were proposed by Jim Ruggles Brise and seconded by John Urquhart; February minutes proposed by Sheree Grant seconded by Marion Taylor.

Matters Arising from the last meeting: Jean Hollingdale reported that she and Sue Tarr had attended a meeting with the Contin Community Council, regarding the flooding issue and that it had been a useful meeting. A member of the community raised his concerns over the continuing worries over the potential flooding issue and felt that some of the problems may be attributed to the Forestry commission.

The caravan on the Achnasheen filling station has still not been resolved and while a meeting was held with the owners this proved to be of little or no help, with a number of the community becoming upset with the owner's attitude. The Secretary said that he had received a number of complaints including one on safety issues, several with regard the untidiness of the site and what it is doing for the village and another with regard the owner's lack of responsibility for the up keep of their properties. He had spoken with the planning department who had yet to take any action though the owner had told them that the Caravan would only be there until September. Another member of the CC was concerned that the fuel tanks had not been de-commissioned and wondered how this was viewed by Health and Safety. It was agreed that letters would be sent to the owners and the Highland Council registering the concerns.

The Bridge repairs listed in past minutes has now been completed with just a few things to be cleared away. A member of the public asked if the signs could be improved on the Strathgarve Bridge, and this would be looked into.

The Secretary reported that he had now received a letter from Scot Rail re the foot bridge at Achanalt and they had agreed that it was in need of repair, and would be undertaken later this year.

Planning Issues: There were no planning issues that affected the community. Treasurers Report: The main account has £1817.74, Senior Citizens £566.90 and the War Memorial £316.71 there was approximately a further £900 to be paid into the accounts from fund raising, i.e. the open garden weekend. Jean Bailey was congratulated for all the hard work and effort put into the organisation and running of the event. It was agreed that all the monies would for the time be paid into the War Memorial fund as new seats were to be purchased and that when that was concluded the CC would then look to allocate the remainder of the funds. There were no outstanding bills to be paid at this time.

Correspondence: There were a number of correspondence from SEPA, Highland Voice, NHS Scotland, MOD re exercises, The Highland Council re Telephone box closures and minutes from other Community Council. All were noted. The Secretary was asked to write a letter to the Highland Council

stating there disapproval of the large number of telephone boxes being closed.

Any Other Business: A number of people have complained about the pot holes in the roads in and around the community, including drain covers that are badly fitting; a letter would be sent to the Highland Council on these issues. One CC member said that theses are the type of issue that our elected Highland Council members should be dealing with and if they attended the meeting we could raise it with them. A member of the public showed the members and public a board she had done for the recycle projects and spoke about the new scheme for collecting plastic bottles. She said that the new recycle point was now complete and in use. This sparked a discussion not everyone is happy with the location, next to the school. A member of the public commented that she no longer used the recycle bins in Garve as they were now out of the way and further for her to travel, she now used the bins at Contin when she went and did her shopping.

It had been discussed previously about using the old Railway yard but to date neither the CC nor the Highland Council waste representative had received a reply from Scot Rail or Network Rail. Another suggestion was the car park by the BT exchange but a number of people rejected this due to the traffic that uses that car park area. It was agreed that we should try Network Rail again to see what could be done.

The meeting was closed and a date set for the next meeting: August 5th
Achnasheen Village Hall