Dreft Minutes of Garve & District Community Council meeting held 6th Aug 2013 in Garve Village Hall

Present: Kenny MacLean (Chairman), Jean Hollingdale (Secretary), Jean Bailey (Treasurer), Jennifer Haslam, Sue Tarr (Minute Sec), Alex Mackenzie; Cllr Ian Cockburn; Val MacIver (Platform PR); Fiona Milligan (Infinergy); Dennis Kearney (Jones Bros); Michael Blake (SSE); Matilda Urie (E-On); Darrin Rooney and Simon Morton (PI Renewables); 6 members of public.

Apologies: Eliza Leslie Melville, Bob Moir, PC Beverly; Nick Sage.

Declarations of Interest: None. Cllr Cockburn will not take part in planning or licensing discussions.

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7pm.

SSE works: Michael Blake outlined progress to date. The Corriemoillie Sub Station is making good progress; all major construction works are completed. There are still electrical controls and telecoms work to do in the control building. The commissioning of the substation is on target for Oct / Nov of this year.

Overhead line work is continuing with access tracks currently being constructed for six new towers at Corriemoillie. These six towers are being built early to facilitate the connection to the sub station.

The sub station is approx 160 x 100m - the screening bund is 5m high and has now been seeded which will lessen the visual impact.

Q: There was planning permission for a bell-mouth junction at Corriemoillie which has not been made. A: It is not now required and won't be built.

Mossford - Beauly Power line - consent was received in Sept 2012. Pre-start conditions of the consent have now been discharged and the main works will start in Sept 2013. The existing pylons will be "knocked down" and new pylons rebuilt. The entrance to the access track east of Garve will be made safer and improvements made to the track up the hill. This work will be starting beginning of Sept and will involve minor traffic management on the main road (A835). The required forestry work in Garve/ Corriemoillie area is completed.

Jennifer Haslam commented on the drainage problems at the bottom of the access track at Killin and requested that proper drains be installed as part of the work.

Construction on the power line is restricted to March to October; this will continue in 2014 and 2015. The commissioning date is due Oct 2015. Once the six new towers at Corriemoillie have been completed in the current phase then work will move over to Beauly and will be jumping around the route in small sections.

Q: Will the public be allowed to use the new pylon tracks? A: Currently the whole area is designated as a construction site and general access not allowed but when works have finished then yes.

Other SSE matters: Western Isles Underground Connector cable - Michael is not involved in this project and cannot comment.

Deer Fence at Grudie - the fence has been installed but the old wire has been left behind and needs to be taken away. Also there are gaps under the fence that could allow Japanese deer to get underneath. There is no pedestrian access as the main gate is locked; it is understood that a pedestrian gate will be installed. Michael Blake to pass on concerns to relevant person at SSE.

The Chairman thanked Michael for his presentation and the meeting paused for a tea break.

Approval of minutes of meeting held 2nd July 2013: Proposed by Alex Mackenzie, seconded by Jennifer Haslam. Approval of minutes of Fundraising Sub Committee held 22nd July 2013: proposed by Jean Bailey, seconded by Jean Hollingdale.

Matters Arising:

White Lines Gorstan to Grudie - this has been done.

Tarvie Landslip - this has been repaired. Thanks to TranServ, Bear and the local MSPs for all their efforts. It was felt that the resurfacing had been left unfinished. Cllr Cockburn indicated that further work would continue after the all the turbine components had gone through.

Lochluichart Windfarm update - the trial run for turbine transport from Invergordon to the windfarm went well. The first real run went through today and will continue all week. The components are at Invergordon and will be transported as quickly as possible. Erection of turbines starts in the next few weeks. The electrical staff are now on site. Weather permitting work should be finished by the end of the year.

Corriemoillie Windfarm update - tree-felling on the site is over 50% done; all the turbine and track access areas have now been cleared. Nothing has yet been removed from the site - the trees will be chipped on site.

Infinergy update - a newsletter to the community is planned to keep residents updated.

Carn Gorm Windfarm - making good progress; the design is completed and a planning application submission has a provisional date for the end of Sept. The design has been revised and following consultation with Highland Council and SNH have arrived at 14 turbines at a reduced height of 115m. There will be no mixed heights. This height was arrived at as a best fit for the landscape. The feasibility study for the grid connection has arrived at four options but not yet in a position to confirm which option will be carried forward.

Potholes at Kinlochluichart Church - these were reported on 7th June by Alex Mackenzie and the job was allocated on 19th July but has not yet been done. The potholes at Lochluichart Station Road have been repaired and they were reported at the same time. Cllr Cockburn to chase; he advised that the potholes at the Church may have a low priority as it is not a main road.

Garve Station Footbridge - Network Rail have confirmed that this is on the list for repair and repainting and work should start in Oct. They are looking into the complaint about Lochluichart Station.

BT box at Gorstan Junction - KPL, the contractors, have returned to sort the off let but there is no improvement - water is still collecting on the road. Cllr Cockburn to look into.

Invite to Chief Superintendent Innes - no reply yet. Police representatives will be at the next Ward Forum.

Fundraising Sub Committee - agreed to hold a fundraiser in the New Year. Awaiting replies re organising Senior Citizen's Party.

Police Report - Road traffic matters are continuing to be targeted within the area. Four persons have been cautioned and charged with speeding offences and one person cautioned and charged with dangerous driving.

Police are appealing for information after a caravan was damaged in Park Terrace, Strathpeffer between 19 July and 21 July 2013.

Should anyone have any information regarding this or wish to bring any other issue to notice, please contact Strathpeffer and Garve Community Officer (PC 406 John Beverly) Dingwall Police Station on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111

Police would like to remind the public that Dingwall Police Station is now only open to the public during the hours of 0800 and 2000 hours. There are still police on duty out with these times and they can be contacted on the new non emergency phone number of 101.

Kenny MacLean reminded the meeting of an incident earlier in the year where a Black Throated Diver had been shot at Loch Gowan. Anyone with information relating to this should contact the police.

Treasurer's Report: Total balance b/f		3056,58	
Senior Citizens Fund no change		1244.37	1244.37
War Memorial no change		140.86	140,86
Treasurers Account Less Achnasheen Hall mtg July 2013	Carried Forward	1671.35 -20.00	1651.35 £3,036.58

Correspondence: By Email, Robbie Bain - Ward Forum dates and police letter; Strathpeffer CC mins; Network Rail - reply re Garve Station Footbridge; HC Policy - Towards a Litter Free Scotland; HC Policy - Winter Resilience; HC Policy - National Planning Survey closing date; Robbie Bain - Climate Change Challenge Fund events; Lochcarron CC mins; E-On - Matilda Urie to attend next meeting; Robbie Bain - A832 road closure at Slattadale plus further update; Carn Gorm Windfarm consultation on recreation and tourism; Highland Road Safety Seminar change of dates (Kenny MacLean to attend); PC John Beverly - Police Report. By Post, SEPA re Floodline suggesting a visit to G&DCC meeting (agreed); Muir of Ord Skateboard seeking letter of support (agreed and G&DCC to request advertisement for skateboard park); SSE - booklet, Our Plain Guide to Your Future Energy Network; Ferintosh CC - request for G&DCC comments on Fairburn Windfarm Ext. Jennifer Haslam proposed no comment, Jean Bailey seconded and all agreed; HC - consultation on planning, Land at Corriemoillie Quarry for installation of two underground cables between Corriemoillie Windfarm and substation.

AOB (members):

Jean Bailey reported that there were concerns locally about the Garve water supply. Kenny MacLean had contacted Joanna Peebles at Scottish Water; she said there were no problems with the quality or the network.

Jennifer Haslam raised several items: the road sign at the Blackwater bend has been damaged and needs repairing; there is a kerb out of place in the layby opposite Killin; the railway fence has been damaged by a vehicle going off the road between Killin and Lochview. The police were there - wait and see if fence gets mended.

A seat or bench at the Gorstan lay-by and other places would be a good idea - thoughts on where to apply for some money. There is no Leader money just now. The seat in Garve Village is in need of repair - Alex Mackenzie to make enquiries about it.

Jennifer also suggested starting a Flower and Vegetable Show in the village. All agreed this would be a good community event for everyone. Kenny MacLean to mention it at the next Parent Council meeting.

Chairman's Comments: Condolences to the family of Mrs Urquhart who passed away recently. The Chairman was unable to attend the Marybank, Scatwell and Strathconon CC meeting.

The Ward Forum will be held in Garve Village Hall on 16th August. The main topic will be consultation on the Police and Fire Service.

All G&DCC minutes and agendas are available at www.community-council.org.uk/garveanddistrict; Garve PO; Garve and Achnasheen Village notice boards; in the AGNV and on the AGNV website; direct from the Secretary on gdcc@fsmail.net or tel/fax 01997 414201; and at every G&DCC meeting.

AOB (members of public):

One member of the public endorsed Jennifer Haslam's idea of having an event such as a Flower Show; they felt this would improve the community council's connection to the community.

Pam Morrison confirmed the date of the next Wester Ross District Partnership meeting in Lochcarron on 16th Sept, which she hopes to attend.

One member of the public raised an issue about the road signs for Gorstan. There is no sign which says it is a dead end, and a lot of cars seem to go down thinking the road goes somewhere. The condition of the turning circle is in a poor state and there are fears part of the road may collapse. Cllr Cockburn to see about better signage.

Consultations and Scoping Reports:

Carn Gorm Wind Farm Consultation on Recreation and Tourism baseline for Environmental Impact Assessment - G&DCC have been invited to make suggestions on what should be included in the studies of the windfarm's impact on tourist businesses and recreational areas. Local B&B's and hotels were not included. Members felt they should be added to the list.

Scottish Govt Strategy on Litter and Fly Tipping - members felt that better education and more prosecutions would have most effect. Working closely with the Highland Council had improved problems in our area. Clir Cockburn reported that TECS would now be taking a far harder line on fly tipping etc, and also working towards more local recycling.

Planning: The Chairman noted a building warrant at Black Bridge.

There is one planning application still awaiting determination, Wind Turbine at Ledgowan.

New application, 2 underground cables connecting Corriemoillie Windfarm to Corriemoillie Sub Station. Members had no comments.

Licensing: none.

Date of next meeting: Tues 3rd Sept 2013 at 7pm in Achnasheen Village Hall

Tues 1st Oct 2013 at 7pm in Garve Village Hall

Tues 5th Nov 2013 at 7pm in Achnasheen Village Hall

Tues 3rd Dec 2013 at 7pm in Garve Village Hall

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.50pm.

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