

~~Draft~~ Minutes of Garve & District Community Council Meeting  
held 3rd Dec 2013 in Garve Village Hall

Present: Kenny MacLean (Chairman), Jean Hollingdale (Secretary), Jean Bailey (Treasurer), Eliza Leslie Melville, Jennifer Haslam, Sue Tarr (Minute Sec), Bob Moir, Alex Mackenzie; Cllr Cockburn; Darren Lucas, Mo MacDougall and Shona Horn (SSE); Martin Macphee (Eneco), no members of public.

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

Apologies: Darrin Rooney (PI Renewables).

Declarations of Interest: none.

Mo MacDougall and Shona Horn of SSE gave a presentation on "Community Resilience". SSE are able to help people in preparing to look after themselves in an emergency. This includes identifying vulnerable customers and adding them to the priority services register, e.g. households with medical needs, disabled, blind or hard of hearing, pensioners, young babies. This is done by filling in a form. SSE would encourage you to do this or if you know of someone in this category, help them to do so. Leaflets are available at local Post Offices.

SSE can also help set up a Community Emergency Plan, working in partnership with Police, Fire, Highland Council, NHS, Social Work, Ambulance and others. The community can identify what they need. A template is available with ideas for an emergency plan. A local risk assessment would identify likely risks (e.g. flood, power cut), the impact these would have on the community and how best to prepare resources.

SSE also prepare resources when bad weather is forecast (e.g. storm forecast for this week, all on standby to be sent where needed.) Mo gave an example of the severe snow storm that hit Arran and Kintyre last winter.

Other ways SSE can help - advise households to have a phone which works without electricity; customers can nominate a person to talk on their behalf if they difficulty communicating; let SSE know if you are hard of hearing or have poor sight; customers can set up a security password for receiving phone calls. There is an app available called Powertrack which gives maps and information about local power cuts.

SSE have a welfare van for planned power cuts which can provide hot drinks, food, charge phones etc.

The SSE Website [www.ssepd.co.uk](http://www.ssepd.co.uk) provides 24hr updates and weather alerts.

In the event of a power cut, always report it - this helps engineers find the fault more quickly. High voltage faults are easy to detect but faults nearer the house may not show up automatically. SSE emergency phone no. for power cuts is **0800 300 999**.

Darren Lucas, Construction Manager on the Mossford - Beaulieu pylon line gave an update on works. The Corriemoillie Sub Station is now commissioned and part of the grid. There are some minor works still to be completed. The first few new towers are up so the substation could be commissioned. Site investigation for nine more towers along the pylon track running parallel to the A832 is current, with a bore hole rig drilling down at each tower site to investigate foundations. This will continue till Christmas, with the new towers starting construction in April next year. Work on the bell mouth at Killin is more or less complete; some drainage work and tarring to do. There was a holdup with a slight amendment to the drainage plan which requires approval from National Rail, but work should be finished in next couple of weeks. Then works up the hill on the track will be ongoing until Jan / Feb 2014. An invitation was extended to the Community Council to visit the new substation, which members accepted. There was a query about the edge of the road having fallen away at the bell mouth and would that be put right - the answer was yes.

Bob Moir appreciated the way the traffic lights were taken down when there was no work going on, all agreed that was very helpful.

Other SSE matters -

Deer Fence at Grudie - holes under the fence and old wire still there.

Western Isles Connector - SSE are still working on the project but the decision by Ofgem has been put back - it will be at least a year before it is known whether it will go ahead or not.

Chairman's Comments - he was unable to attend the Ross Memorial meeting; he and Eliza Leslie Melville laid wreaths at the Remembrance Service and Alex Mackenzie and Jennifer Haslam also attended. The NHS Wester Ross, Skye & Lochalsh District Partnership meeting was cancelled. He was unable to attend the Marybank, Scatwell & Strathconon CC meeting. He attended the Parent

Council meeting; interviews for the post of new head teacher are being held this week. The school is putting on a Pantomime on Wed 11th Dec in Garve Village Hall. Martin Macphee of Eneco visited the school recently to present prizes for the Eneco competition and also to gift full sports kits for each pupil; Eneco has also paid for the school trip to the pantomime.

Community Council members attended training sessions recently with three going to Ullapool and three to Dingwall. The Chairman was unable to attend the Road Seminar. Cllr Cockburn noted that since the new police force came in, there had been improvements in 24hr cover in the local area; also it is easier for police to draft in extra resources from other areas when they are needed. The Chairman was unable to attend the Think Local Food & Drink meeting. All G&DCC minutes and agendas are available at Garve PO, on Garve and Achnasheen Village notice boards, online at [www.community-council.org.uk/garveanddistrict](http://www.community-council.org.uk/garveanddistrict), in the AGNV and on the AGNV website, direct from the Secretary on [gdcc@fsmail.net](mailto:gdcc@fsmail.net), tel/fax 01997 414201 and at every G&DCC meeting.

Approval of the minutes of the meeting held 5th Nov 2013: proposed by Alex Mackenzie and seconded by Jean Hollingdale.

Matters Arising:

Our nomination for HC Quality Award was unsuccessful.

Kessock Bridge - works restart on 10th Feb 2014 for approx 20 wks.

Eneco update - turbine deliveries have finished and all components are now on site. Eneco have given feedback to Transport Scotland and Police on what they found to work best. They took out an advert in Ross-shire Journal thanking the community. 18 turbines are built and 5 in construction, with 3 running. The commissioning test requires all turbines to run for a set period; Eneco have special permission to run no more than 4 turbines at time in order to complete these tests. Over the coming months all turbines will run through this commissioning test. Jones Bros have a skeleton staff for the winter to maintain the site. Peat reinstatement work starts in Mar / April.

E-On update - E-On are selling the windfarm. It is known there are two bidders. Apparently E-On are selling all their land based windfarms.

Infinergy update - there will be a newsletter in the new year.

PI Renewables update - apologies for postponing their visit till next meeting as the planning application has not been submitted yet. This due to some consultants' work running late but no problems have arisen.

Gorstan & Grudie Bridge oflets - these have been reported (Ref no 731746) but haven't been cleared yet.

Drain at BT Exchange in Garve - HC and Bear are in discussion over who is responsible. Sec has reported it to Bear and we have Refs 57679 and 57680 for this job and the beech hedge needing trimmed at Killin Farm.

20mph road markings in Garve - these will be repainted next summer.

Garve Station Footbridge - work not started yet. The squad is still working on a bridge at Achnasheen.

Garve level crossing - engineers have been looking at power cable routes for installing crossing barriers. Waiting for wayleaves to be agreed before work goes ahead.

Matheson Rd - items have been tidied up.

Homecare arrangements - individual cases vary according to needs, training and carers agreements.

Garve Railway Station carpark signs - with Robbie Bain - ongoing.

Bin at Garve New Cemetery - has been emptied.

Senior Citizen's Dinner - 46 people attended the dinner. The Chairman extended thanks to Ian and Jeanette Dickinson and their staff on the night. All agreed it was very good value.

Police Report - none received; it was noted that there is a warning about a BT phone scam offering technical support for broadband problems. Members reported other scams such as emails asking for Tesco credit card / bank card details. There was a road traffic accident near Ledgowan where a vehicle collided with a deer.

# Treasurer's Report:

Total balance b/f	2,986.58	
Senior Citizens Fund	1,220.37	
Less Gift Voucher for Raffle	-10.00	
Less Garve Hotel Dinner for 46 persons	-667.00	543.37
Bench Fund - no change	50.00	50.00
War Memorial - no change	140.86	140.86
Treasurer's Acc - no change	1575.35	1575.35
Carried Forward		<b><u>£2,309.58</u></b>

Bingo Night - This will be held on Sat 15th Feb at 7pm in Garve Village Hall. There will be Soup & Sandwiches, Guess the Whisky Game, and Raffle. Bring your own bottle. Donations for Raffle prizes would be very welcome. Proceeds will go to Community Funds.

Correspondence: By Email - Scottish Govt Policy Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill Consultation; HC Quality Awards Results; Scottish Woodlands reply to consultation on Silver Bridge; Highland Licensing Board Gambling Policy statement; Queen's Baton Relay information; Review of Polling Districts; Mid Ross Community Networker re meeting community; Notice of Think Local Food & Drink meeting; Strathpeffer CC mins; Lochcarron CC mins.

AOB: Eliza Leslie Melville reported that the road down to Lochluichart Station had not been repaired yet.

Jennifer Haslam queried the tidy up at Lochluichart Station. Network Rail had tidied up their ground. Other items were on private ground.

The railway fence at Killin has not yet been repaired. Sec to contact Bear and Network Rail.

Bob Moir referred to the difficulty residents were having in obtaining flood report information and suggested they use a Freedom of Information request.

Alex Mackenzie mentioned that there was another pothole in Matheson Rd. The Strathgarve road and the Gorstan road were also in need of repair. Kenny MacLean to deal with.

There was also an incident on 16th Nov when a passing train was making a funny noise. Two residents phoned British Transport Police to report it but had difficulties in getting through. For future reference the number to use is 0800 405040.

## Consultations:

Scottish Govt Community Empowerment Bill - members had no comments.

HC Gambling Policy 2013-2016 - no comments.

HC Review of Polling Districts and Polling Stations - no comments.

The Chairman noted two building warrant applications.

## Planning:

One planning application has been determined, 2 underground cables from Corriemoillie Windfarm to Sub Station - granted.

Dates of future meetings: Venues are confirmed for meetings for 2014: 7th Jan Garve Village Hall, 4th Feb Garve Village Hall, 4th Mar Achnasheen Village Hall, 1st Apr Garve Village Hall, 6th May Achnasheen Village Hall, 3rd June AGM followed by ordinary meeting Garve Village Hall, 1st July Achnasheen Village Hall, 5th Aug Garve Village Hall, 2nd Sept Achnasheen Village Hall, 7th Oct Garve Village Hall, 4th Nov Achnasheen Village Hall, 2nd Dec Garve Village Hall. Kenny MacLean proposed dates for 2014; Jennifer Haslam seconded and all agreed.

## Date of next meeting:

Tues 7th Jan 2014 7pm in Garve Village Hall

Tues 4th Feb 2014 7pm in Garve Village Hall

Tues 4th Mar 2014 7pm in Achnasheen Village Hall

The Chairman thanked office bearers and all members for their contributions during the past year and wished everyone Season's greetings. The meeting was closed at 10pm.