

~~Draft Minutes of Garve & District Community Council Meeting
held 7th Jan 2014 in Garve Village Hall~~

Present: Kenny MacLean (Chairman), Jean Hollingdale (Secretary), Jean Bailey (Treasurer), Jennifer Haslam, Sue Tarr (Minute Sec), Alex Mackenzie, Darrin Rooney and Simon Morton (P.I. Renewables); Tracey Shaw (Reshaping Care for Older People); Fiona Milligan (Infinergy).

Apologies: Bob Moir, Eliza Leslie Melville, Cllr Ian Cockburn, Martin Macphee.

Declarations of Interest: none.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7pm and invited Tracey Shaw to talk about her work with Reshaping Care for Older People. She represents Mid Ross which includes Garve; Achnasheen is in the Wester Ross area. They are keen to support volunteers and community groups which help look after older people or organise social events; and can help establish local groups which meet the needs of local older people (roughly speaking over 65's). Funding is available - £5000 per group, which must be constituted in order to receive the money. The first step is to find out what people actually want - e.g. are there transportation difficulties for older people wanting to get out to social events. Tracey suggested organising a community event, maybe a soup lunch, in the hall for people to come along and talk about what they would like. The Chairman proposed that members think of some ideas and revisit the subject at the next meeting, and thanked Tracey Shaw for attending.

Darrin Rooney of P.I. Renewables gave an update on the Carn Gorm Windfarm process. The planning application has been submitted in Dec but due to the holidays consultation effectively does not start until Jan. G&DCC has received a hard copy of the application; it is also available on CD.

There are 14 turbines, some of which have been "micro sited" to improve the design. All turbines are a similar scale to Lochluichart but not as high - the max ht is 115m.

The proposed access to the windfarm has been changed to a new access off the A835 about 300m further north from the Silver Bridge existing access due to the steep gradient, visibility splays and sharp bends on the track. The new access will then join onto the existing track within about 50m.

There are some points where bends or gradient means the existing track will be realigned slightly and it will also be widened. The new entrance can accept normal traffic (vans, trucks, ordinary HGV's) from either direction; the abnormal loads carrying turbine components will use a turning facility at Inchbae in order to access the entrance from the north. The existing track takes access up to the windfarm site where there will be a network of tracks installed for the turbines. 4 borrow pits on site are proposed to cut down the number of lorries carrying stone on local roads.

The planning decision will probably be in early summer of this year. The turbine make has not been decided yet; there are not many options at this size of turbine but it is an evolving market.

Grid connection options - it is intended to avoid pylons and wooden poles. There will be a small substation (16 x12m approx) built near the entrance off the A835. There is surrounding tree cover which will help hide it from view. This will be part of the internal network; it will be connected by underground cable which will follow the route of the track up the hill to the wind farm site.

From the substation to the national grid will be up to SSE but it will most likely be connected to the grid at either Grudie or Corriemoillie. Options to connect to the national grid can be severely constrained. From Silver Bridge to Grudie / Corriemoillie will probably be by underground cable following the road. SSE have delegated powers which means they may not need planning permission for the grid connection. The output of the windfarm (42MW) means that one cable will be needed. The planning decision will be with the Highland Council; it does not have to go on the Scottish Government. The planning application is on display at Dingwall Service Point; there is not going to be another public drop in locally.

Q: Are you planning to extend the wind farm in the future? A: All the constraints

covering the site have already been taken into consideration and the current design is the most number of turbines suitable for the site so no future plans for extension.

The Chairman thanked Darrin Rooney and Simon Morton for attending.

Chairman's Comments: The new Head Teacher for Strathgarve Primary, Kerrie Anne Lambert, has been appointed and interviews for the Nursery Teacher are to be held soon.

The Chairman attended the last Marybank, Scatwell & Strathconon CC 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, in the AGNV and on the

AGNV website, direct from the Secretary on gdcc@fsmail.net, tel/fax 01997 414201 and at every G&DCC meeting.

Approval of the minutes of the meeting held 3rd Dec 2013: proposed by Alex Mackenzie and seconded by Jean Hollingdale.

Matters Arising:

SSE Community Resilience Emergency Plan - members felt there was little need. The Chairman proposed that G&DCC leave it for now but can revisit.

Eneco - no update.

E-On - no update.

Infinergy - Fiona Milligan reported they are finalising arrangements between Eneco and Green Energy for rebates and also payment of surplus money into LCT.

Offlets at Grudie Bridge and Gorstan Junction - work has been done at Gorstan.

Garve Railway Footbridge - still waiting for work to start.

Railway Fence at Killin - the job has been listed and work is expected to start Jan unless priority jobs come up.

Deer Fence at Grudie - SSE was tidying up the old fence wire earlier today.

Potholes - have been reported; in hand.

Police Report - none. The Chairman noted from the Lochcarron CC minutes that there had been a breach of the peace at Ledgowan Hotel.

Treasurer's Report:

Total balance b/f	2,309.58	
Senior Citizens Fund	543.37	
Add proceeds from S/Citizens Dinner Raffle	140.00	683.37
Bench Fund - no change	50.00	50.00
War Memorial - no change	140.86	140.86
Treasurer's Account	1575.35	
Less Hall hire Oct, Nov, Dec	55.00	1520.35
Carried Forward		<u>£2,394.58</u>

Bingo Night: Arrangements progressing well. Jeanette Dickinson has offered the use of the bingo machine and has donated bingo books.

Garden Produce Show: This will be held in Sept in Garve Village Hall. Jennifer Haslam distributed copies of the proposed schedule for entries including Vegetables, Fruit, Flowers and Children's Section. Members agreed it looked excellent. Copies will be available on G&DCC website www.community-council.org.uk/garveanddistrict or from the Secretary on gdcc@fsmail.net for all interested and who wish to start sowing seeds!

Correspondence: By email, Census Profile; Network Rail Ref No; Bob Moir, Street Light Ref No; Robbie Bain, Flood Guidance Statement; Ross-shire Journal reply to K MacLean; Christmas Greeting, Infinergy; Policy - Rural Parliament for Scotland Info; Lochcarron CC mins; Scottish Rural Development Programme consultation; Customer forum - Strategic Review of Water Charges; Advice notice to CC members re planning. By post, Christmas cards from Eneco and Charles Kennedy MP, Thank you card - Senior Citizens dinner, Public Entertainment Licensing amendment to License Activities.

AOB: Jennifer Haslam mentioned water on the road at Hazelbrae and at Garve Hall. Bear is aware and looking into the problem. Also there is an ongoing issue of water running across the road at Corriemoillie where works on two wooden poles seem to have disturbed the water course. Kenny MacLean to contact HC.

There is a loose kerb stone at Garve Hall - it has been reported.

Kenny MacLean reported that he had contacted the Ross-shire Journal following an article in which a member of the public had stated he had written to G&DCC and had not received a reply. G&DCC had not received any communication and requested clarification.

Consultations:

Highland Council Public Entertainment Licenses proposed amendments - no comments.

Customer Forum Review of Water Charges 2015 - 2021 - no comments.

Scottish Government Scottish Rural Development Programme 2014 - 2020 final proposals - no comments.

Planning Applications: there are two new planning applications.

Additional pole on existing overhead line, land north west of Tigh Tioram Corriemoillie. No Comments.

Additional poles on existing overhead line, land north west of Strathbran Lodge Achanalt. No Comments.

Dates of future meetings: Tues 4th Feb 2014 7pm Garve Village Hall; Tues 4th Mar 2014 7pm Achnasheen Village Hall; Tues 1st Apr 2014 7pm Garve Village Hall.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

4 2014

Page 10 of 10