**Minutes of the Garve & District Community Council ordinary meeting**

**held on 6 December 2016 in Garve Village Hall**

**Community Council members present:** Kenny Maclean (Chairman), Jennifer Haslam (Secretary), Caroline Gamble and co-opted member Joe Stewart. **Also present:** Cllr Dr Ian Cockburn, Isobel Grant (Marybank, Scatwell & Strathconon Community Council Chairperson), Rory Dutton (Development Trust Association Scotland) and 6 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Eliza Leslie Melville (Treasurer), Community Council member Bob Moir, Fiona Milligan (Infinergy), Val MacIver (Platform PR), Graham West (EDF), Andy Russell (EDF) and PC Craig Rose.

**The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.00pm** and welcomed everyone.

**Declarations of Interest:** none. Community Council members confirmed that they had read all draft minutes, consultations and planning applications due to be discussed tonight before the start of this meeting.

**Chairman’s Comments:** All G&DCC agendas, minutes and dates of future meetings are available on the Community Council website [www.community-council.org.uk/garveanddistrict](http://www.community-council.org.uk/garveanddistrict) or by contacting the Secretary on gdccc@fsmail.net or at Broadoaks, Grudie Bridge, IV23 2QB. They are also available on the Achnasheen Village notice board and via the Community Council emailing list. Additional copies are available in Garve Post Office so members of the community can take them away with them. The Community Council website receives around 150 hits per month and we now have 60 people on the emailing list. As promised at the October ordinary meeting, the old minute books going back to April 1994 are available to view at tonight’s meeting.

**Approval of minutes** of the last ordinary meeting held on 2 November 2016 were proposed by Caroline Gamble and seconded by Kenny Maclean following the correction of two typos spotted by Bob Moir. We thank him for bringing them to our attention.

**Co-option** – Since the last ordinary meeting, one name has come forward for consideration by elected members – Toni Macartney from Garve. As only elected members have a vote in this matter, the item could not be considered tonight as a quorum of any Community Council meeting is four and only three elected members were in attendance. It was agreed the item would need to be deferred until the next ordinary meeting.

**Community Needs Survey & setting up a Development Company** – we now have a breakdown of the figures which show how many residents from each area took part in the survey. 27/64 residents took part in the survey from Achnasheen & Achanalt (42%). 30/61 residents took part from Grudie, Fannich, Lochluichart & Corriemoillie (49%). 19/42 residents took part from Gorstan, Little Garve & Strathgarve (45%). 17/68 residents took part from Garve Village (25%). 10/18 residents took part from Silverbridge, Achnaclerach & Garbat (55%). 15/30 residents took part from Inchbae, Blackbridge, Strathvaich & Aultguish (50%). Full analysis of the turnout is on the Community Council website. The member of public who asked for the information has been informed. On Thursday 3 November, the Chairman spoke to Alison Macleod on the telephone. Alison is the Development Officer in Applecross.  She felt that as we are in a better financial position than them, their situation didn’t really compare.  Their Community Company board is made up of twelve Directors elected by members. Membership is similar to the LCT’s membership but they also have youth members (aged 12-18) and can co-opt onto the board if necessary.  When they conducted a Community Needs Survey, turnout was around 46%.  She felt Rory Dutton at Development Trust Association Scotland (DTAS) was worth talking too as did Robbie Bain. Robbie suggested a free-standing, postcode defined Development Company may be the way forward but Robbie also issued his usual caveat that he is not legally trained! We thank both Robbie Bain and Alison Macleod for their time and for sharing their thoughts with us. We wrote to two other Community Companies for their thoughts but we did not receive a reply. Further analysis from our own Community Needs Survey indicates 73/107 (68%) respondents felt we should set up our own Development Company, with 71/79 (89%) respondents agreeing it should employ a Development Officer. 76/79 (96%) respondents felt the new Development Company should have as broad a remit as possible to enable it to respond to opportunities as they arise. 105/108 (97%) respondents felt that funds from the LCT should only be spent within the Garve & District Community area. Perhaps the new Development Company should bear this in mind. Further analysis on what the Development Company should be able to do is available on page’s ten and eleven of the full survey report. An invite was extended to the LCT to attend tonight’s meeting. We note that at their last Director’s meeting on 21 November, the LCT Directors were encouraged to see the pace at which the Community Council were acting on the Community Needs Survey and were supportive but wished to remain separate from the process. The Chairman then turned to Rory Dutton from DTAS ([www.dtas.org.uk](http://www.dtas.org.uk)) and welcomed him back to our meetings. Rory last attended one of our meetings in October 2015 and since then we have completed the Community Needs Survey. Rory confirmed he had read all 30 pages of the full survey report! Rory went on to explain that DTAS was established in 2003, is funded by the Scottish Government and works with 240 different Development Companies and Trusts across Scotland. Most are private limited companies where Directors are locally elected, independent of other local groups, bodies or Estates and usually take a lead from a Community Needs Survey. As they are companies limited by guarantee, there are no large shareholders or profits, all money is used to further the objectives in their articles. They are not always charitable. This very much depends what they want to do in their own communities. Some development companies come from a need identified by a local Community Council as Community Councils are not the best vehicle to be able to do legacy projects, hold assets etc … The Development Company on the Isle of Cana has 100% of residents as members, but there are only 20 residents on the island! As a general rule, the rural development companies tend to have more residents as members than city development companies as per population. At this stage, it is easier to set up a Development Company without charitable status, this can be changed later if the new board wished to do so. Draft articles are available which have been checked by DTAS’s lawyers Burness & Paul legal practice. Rory also advised that it would be beneficial to set up a Development Company that is able to take advantage of new laws coming into force such as the Empowerment Act. This would let a Development Company request property or land that they could make better use of. They would be in a position to own or lease the asset. The Community Right to Buy scheme would require the articles of the Development Company to be postcode based, to have members, minutes available etc … Other new laws coming in over the next two years could also open up options to a Development Company such as Asset Transfer. The Chairman asked about the old Filling Station in Achnasheen. It was also highlighted in our Community Needs Survey. He learnt recently that a potential buyer was put off buying the site due to the cost of decontaminating the site. Is there anything a Development Company could have done to help? Rory commented that the Scottish Land Fund may have been an option. They fund legal fees and feasibility studies. Perhaps the Rural & Island Housing fund could have been approached. A question was also asked about employment – could a Development Company employ a local handyman as well as a Development Officer? Rory thought yes but HIE can part fund a development officer depending on the exact project the Development Company had in mind. A question about HIE was asked – does it still exist following recent press reports? HIE will continue, only the local board has been disbanded. An invite had been extended to the local energy steering group but a reply had not been received however, Sue Tarr was able to inform the meeting that the group were supportive of this process. They may have to become a constituted group themselves if this process takes a long time to enable them to progress further. Could the Development Company have other projects? Yes, the project could be wholly owned or be an arm’s length organisation. How would LCT and the Development company work together? There could be a Memorandum of Understanding or just be another applicant for funding. It was felt our Community Needs Survey showed support for broad objectives in the articles of the new Development Company. It was felt this was key to help respond as new issues arose. Community Council members present felt that we were on the right path though there was some work to do yet. The Chairman suggested a working name of *“The Garve & District Development Company”* and recognised that the articles would evolve in time just like the documents governing the LCT have done. The Chairman didn’t see a problem in a resident being a member of both the LCT and the new Development Company though being a Director on both boards might not be advisable. Joe Stewart agreed with this latter point. The Chairman suggested a public consultation of the new articles take place once they had been written up. Once agreed, perhaps two Community Council members could be the founding Directors until the first board was elected. The board could consist of perhaps eight Directors, quorum four, elections every three years. He felt a board could be in place in 3-4 months’ time but that would be dependent on the public consultation. Community Council members agreed to consult the whole community once the document had been written up. Rory left some useful resources of information for Community Council members.

Rory Dutton was thanked for attending and left the meeting along with Isobel Grant at 8.20pm.

**Matters arising -** **EDF –** we note the EDF press release thanking drivers for their patience during the last few months while turbine transport took place between Invergordon and the site. A report from Andy Russell is attached at the end of these minutes. The Secretary attended a meeting with Tom Black from Foundation Scotland on 21 November to explain how this Community Council set up the LCT. She was also able to talk to Tom about her time as Chairperson of the LCT. The Secretary also attended a meeting with other Community representatives yesterday organised by Foundation Scotland to discuss EDF’s education and training fund. The Secretary reported that she felt the fund (around £50,000 per year) would not cover everything that those in attendance wanted. The Secretary felt there were too many big business’s present. Apart from Cromarty Firth Port Authority, none offered anything practical such as apprenticeships or help with transport or driving lessons. It was felt the parameters of the meeting were too narrow. The Secretary felt short courses and re-training with in the areas due to receive funding would be better. She also noted others sat at the same table as her had reservations. The Secretary felt it would be unlikely she would wish to attend a future meeting based on her experience yesterday. Cllr Cockburn also attended the meeting and fully agreed with our Secretary. He felt £500,000 would not cover what was expected by some in attendance. He felt matters were not helped by asking people to attend the Pavilion instead of the Community Centre in Strathpeffer! Community Council members were concerned to hear this report. They will await the notes from the meeting before commenting further.

**HC/BEAR updates** – Silverbridge Toilets, Cllr Cockburn hopes these toilets will reopen to the public by Easter 2017. In the meantime, Rogie Falls toilets will remain open over the winter months. Garve bus shelters – we have written to Robbie Bain and are awaiting a reply. Depending on the reply, we may also need to write to Eneco before signing up to any agreement regarding the management of the bus shelters. Proposed speed limit extended to cover Gorstan Junction – discussion between Cllr’s Green and Cockburn and BEAR are ongoing. It would appear the local BEAR team are understanding of our concerns. Rubbish at Strathgarve and the bin at Garve burial ground has been tidied up, thanks to June Ross, Karina Taylor and their teams. A problem with a damaged drain near Gorstan was bought to the Chairman’s attention recently. Photos were passed onto Robbie Bain. Barrier damage and potholes were noted as still not fixed in the same area but the Highland Council are already aware of these issues. Cllr Cockburn noted the telephone number of the local resident who raised these issues with us and will contact them directly. The Chairman attended a meeting in Achnasheen on Friday 4 November regarding the proposed information shelters.  258 expressions of interest were received by the Highland Council from around the world.  66 designs were submitted. 6 designs were declined by the Highland Council as they did not meet the criteria. £150,000 has been set aside for this project, entirely funded by the Highland Council.  This was agreed by the Planning, Development & Infrastructure committee some time ago.  A further £75,000 has been allocated in the Town & Country program 2019/2020 plus another £75,000 in 2020/2021 to enable this project to develop further as and when more information shelters are requested or required in Wester Ross.  This money is from the revenue budget, not the capital budget. It is the capital budget that is used, for instance, to fix potholes. Cllr Cockburn questioned whether all the funding was still coming from the Highland Council. The three sites chosen by the Highland Council for these information shelters are Braemore, Lochcarron and Achnasheen as these locations are on the NC500 and are on the Wester Ross Biosphere reserve boundary area.  The new information shelter in Achnasheen will replace the existing shelter in the village centre.  It was confirmed that there will still be space for local notices such as Community Council minutes in the new shelter in Achnasheen. The top five designs have now been shortlisted and a final decision will be taken later this month on which one is the overall winner after further technical discussions about the designs have taken place.  The new information shelters will be built next year. BEAR has not contacted us about roadworks in the Rogie Falls area as this is out with our Community Council area however, media reports inform us that the roadworks involving a 10mph convoy system were due to have started last Thursday. The £135,000 investment by Transport Scotland will see the resurfacing of just over 1km near Rogie Falls. The works will last for one week. They are scheduled to take place between 7.00am and 7.00pm each day. The road will remain open throughout the improvements, however a 10mph convoy system of traffic management will be in place to allow the works to be carried out safely for the protection of the motorists as well as road workers. The convoy system will be removed outside of working hours but a temporary speed restriction of 30mph will remain as traffic will be running on a temporary surface. Community Council members noted that the raised ironworks are hazardous. Why was a cone or bright spray paint not placed on them? Also, why were roadside signs warning motorists of delays not put up weeks ago?

**Wester Ross Biosphere reserve** - This is now registered as a limited company. Eventually they hope to appoint a Development Officer. Cllr Cockburn confirmed he is now one of ten Directors on the board and £30,000 has recently been awarded to the group.

Before Cllr Cockburn left the meeting, Joe Stewart thanked Cllr Cockburn for his help in organising bushes to be cut back on the road verges down into Little Garve. Cllr Cockburn was thanked for attending and left the meeting along with two members of the public at 8.55pm.

**Community Ceilidh** – This will take place this Saturday from 8.00pm until 11.00pm in Garve Village Hall. Community Council members were asked to attend from 6.00pm to help set up the Hall. It should be noted that the rumour recently heard claiming the over 60’s dinner is not going ahead due to a lack of funds is incorrect. The dinners have stopped due to the poor attendance over the last three years. Also, the Community Needs Survey showed that there was interest for a community party for all ages. Feedback received directly from the over 60’s earlier this year has also been considered. All this has been reported in previous minutes. The flier recently sent to all households did have the Community Council email address on it if anyone had any questions and regular updates have appeared since the last ordinary meeting on the Community Council website and via the Community Council emailing list. 45 tickets have been given away in recent weeks and a catering order of 70 has been placed just in case more turn up on the night. Many thanks to all those who have already donated prizes for the raffle. Raffle tickets will cost £1 per strip. The Secretary has bought sweets and crisps as nibbles on the tables as well as some extra table cloths. The expected expenditure so far looks to be around £750. The Budget is £696.77 so the extra funding will come out of the community fund. Community Council members were asked to bring extension leads to help accommodate the live band.

**Defibrillators** – discussions about finding a suitable site in Achanalt are proving difficult as it has been hard to find a site with a power supply. Discussions with the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh regarding the Lochluichart Church have concluded. They will allow a Defibrillator on the shed rather than the Church building itself. Quotes are being updated accordingly. Lights over Defibrillators at nights and during power cuts has being looked into. One quote has been received for the electric work involved. Other Electricians did not respond to our request for quotes or were too busy to consider the work. Trying to get quotes has been a major factor in delaying this project from starting sooner. An application will now be made to the LCT for funding of the Defibrillators. LCT and those willing to house the Defibrillators have been kept informed of developments. If funding is successful, it is hoped the Defibrillators will be installed early next year. Discussions did note that there is no roadside sign indicating where the Lochluichart Church actually is!

**Garve Railway Station carpark, yard and gate** – Network Rail claim all works on this matter have been completed.

**Remembrance Sunday** – about 40-45 people attended on a cold wet Sunday. It was good to see so many of the younger members of the community in attendance. This was noted by the Minister. Soup and sandwiches were served afterwards which was appreciated by all.

**Benches** - Garve Coffee & Book club have purchased a bench. It has been installed in Garve New Cemetery. A picture of the bench is attached to these minutes. The bench came via an online store that offered free delivery. Although we agreed to look at this issue again in the spring, the Chairman wondered if this would be a good time to buy as there are sales on. Quotes from three companies have been researched by the Chairman. Community Council members agreed to purchase 3 x 5foot benches (£195 each) to be placed in Garve, Strathgarve and Little Garve and 2 x 5foot picnic benches (£225 each) to be placed in Achnasheen. The bench fund and the community fund would cover this expense. The Chairman will place an order with Gairloch Farm & Garden Store and the Chairman is happy for the items to be stored at the end of his house for now until they are installed in the various locations. It is hoped the benches will be in place by the spring of next year.

**Proposed Garbat Hydro schemes** – Kristy Docherty from Vento Ludens has written to say that they are putting all assessments of the Gharbh Bhaid and therefore by association the Bana-Mhorair burns on hold until further notice due to technical issues that are out with their control. It is “highly unlikely” that they will proceed any further with their plans to develop a hydro scheme. We thank Kristy for her update.

**Community Council Facebook page –** This was considered in the past but we are still awaiting a training course that was to be organised by the Highland Council before taking it further. Social media can be a double-edged sword. In the meantime, updates are available via the Community Council website - [www.community-council.org.uk/GarveandDistrict](http://www.community-council.org.uk/GarveandDistrict)

**Joint Community Council meeting** – minutes are in the process of being typed up by the Secretary of the Torridon & Kinlochewe Community Council and will be circulated shortly.

**Police report** - PC Craig Rose had hoped to join us this evening but was called away to an incident. He sent a report instead which tells us that continued speed checks are taking place at Achanalt. Over the last five-week period, there has been a minor non-reportable RTC (driver hit a Stag), railway gates failure at Garve and two stray Goats on the road at Silverbridge. There is a festive drink drive campaign on from 2 December 2016 to 3 January 2017. New legislation regarding smoking in cars with children under 18 years of age become an offence as of yesterday. The Chairman noted press reports that tell us that due to the increased levels of speeding in the Achnasheen area (especially by Loch Scaven), an increased police presence has been put in place. The Chairman has noticed they are also patrolling around Achnasheen Village which he welcomed.

**Treasurers report** – In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chairman with help from the Secretary declared the following figures, Community Ceilidh fund was £696.77 minus £400 for band = £296.77. Bench fund remains unchanged at £200.00. Community fund remains unchanged at £1,884.39. CC admin was £598.78 minus ink £25.60 and minus Achnasheen Hall hire for Nov meeting £30 = £543.18. Community Newsletter remains unchanged at £966.07. Community Needs Survey – the final balance of £1,968.53 has been returned to the LCT. Total in bank = £3,890.41. Audited accounts for the last financial period (1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016) are available on the Community Council website and at the Community Council meetings.

The Community Council data protection renewal is due on 1 January 2017 costing £35. The Chairman suggested we set up a direct debit, Community Council members agreed.

**Correspondences** - By Email – June Ross – Rubbish around Garve and Strathgarve; HC – planning for week ending 4 November 2016; Amanda Bryan – Analysis of returns by each area; Rory Dutton – Community Development Company; Robbie Bain – Community Development Company; Katrina Taylor – Rubbish around Garve and Strathgarve; Gill Ross – Mobile bank and Defibrillators; Carol Smith – Community Development Company; Tom Black - EDF Corriemoillie Education & Training Fund; Toni Macartney – Co-option; HC – planning for week ending 11 November 2016; Quentin Banting – Draft November Lochcarron Community Council minutes; Claire Blackwell – upcoming training events; Kristy Docherty – proposed Garbat hydro; HC – Equality outcomes consultation; HC – planning for week ending 18 November 2016; HC – Commission on Highland Democracy call for evidence; Date Protection – renewal; HC – Scottish Civic Trust awards 2017; HC – planning for week ending 25 November 2016; Claire Blackwell – Carnegie UK Trust event; HC – Onshore wind guidance; HC – planning for week ending 2 December 2016; PC Craig Rose – Police report; Andy Russell – Corriemoillie windfarm update. By Post – Christopher (Topher) Dawson – attendance at Community Council meetings and a letter from Forestry Commission Scotland regarding forestry plans for the Ledgowan Estate.

**AOB from CC members** – The Chairman noted social media reports informing us that this Friday night, 9 December 2016 at 6.30pm in Garve Village Hall they will be turning on the Christmas lights. All welcome, free hot dogs and hot chocolate will be available.

**AOB from members of the Public** – a member of the public raised concerns about rubbish being dumped on the riverbank behind the houses in Stirling Drive, Garve. It was suggested they contact the land owner.

**Screening reports, scoping reports and consultations** - We have received four consultations, the first is from the Highland Council – The Highland Council equality outcomes consultation**.** The Highland Council is seeking opinion to help its work on equality and diversity. Views gathered will be used to help refresh the Highland Council’s equality outcomes for 2017-2021. The Survey can only be viewed online and the deadline for comments is tomorrow. Community Council members had no comments. The second consultation is from The Commission on Highland Democracy. The Commission on Highland Democracy is an independent body supported by the Highland Council to examine the current state of democracy in the Highlands. The eight questions in the Call for Evidence are designed to help people have a say on the things they want and to allow the Commission to easily spot and interpret any common themes provided in the answers received. There is scope however, for people to say something quite different and a promise is provided that every response will be taken into account as the Commission moves forward. The Call for Evidence is open to everyone living, working, and studying in the Highlands. More information on the Commission and on the questionnaire, are available at [www.highlanddemocracy.wordpress.com](http://www.highlanddemocracy.wordpress.com/) Community Council members had no comments. The third consultation is from the Highland Council regarding their Onshore Wind Energy guidance. The Highland Council has adopted their Onshore Wind Energy Supplementary Guidance, which is now available online [www.highland.gov.uk/onshorewind](http://www.highland.gov.uk/onshorewind). This means that the document now carries the full weight of the Development Plan in decision making.  There is ongoing work to appraise landscape sensitivity across pressured areas in Highland, the results of which will form part of the Onshore Wind Energy Supplementary Guidance. Work for the Loch Ness study area is now adopted as part of the Guidance. A consultation is now underway for the next two study areas for The Black Isle, Surrounding Hills & Moray Firth Coast, and for Caithness. You can read and comment on both of these studies online. The deadline for comments is 12 noon on Friday 20 January 2017. [consult.highland.gov.uk/portal/landscapesensitivity](http://consult.highland.gov.uk/portal/landscapesensitivity) Community Council members had no comments. The forth consultation was only received in the last few days via the post from Forestry Commission Scotland regarding a forestry plan for Ledgowan Estate. The Chairman will pass the details onto Community Council members who will respond back to him with any comments by next Wednesday. This will enable the deadline for comments to be met.

**Building warrants, planning issues and licensing issues** - There is one new building warrant currently being shown on the Highland Council website for our area. 16/02231/DOM3 is the removal of an existing Conservatory and replaced with a new sun lounge at Railway Cottage, Lochluichart. One previous planning application has been determined by the Highland Council since our last ordinary meeting - 16/04636/FUL was for an erection of extension and re-roofing of a house at Lubmore. The Application has been permitted by the Highland Council’s Case Officer with no conditions. Four new planning applications have been received by the Highland Council since our last ordinary meeting. 16/04230/FUL is the erection of a house at Silverbridge. Community Council members had no comments. 16/04599/FUL is the installation of telecommunications equipment near Aultguish Inn. Community Council members had no comments. 16/05065/FUL is for alterations and a new garage at Achanalt House. Community Council members had no comments. 16/04785/FUL is the formation of an access track at Gorstan. Community Council members had no comments. There were no new licensing issues for us to consider.

**Dates of future meetings** – all dates, times and venues for meetings in 2017 are confirmed as follows …

Tuesday 10 January 2017, 7.00pm, Garve Village Hall

Tuesday 7 February 2017, 7.00pm, Garve Village Hall

Tuesday 7 March 2017, 7.00pm, Achnasheen Village Hall

Tuesday 4 April 2017, 7.00pm, Garve Village Hall

Tuesday 2 May 2017, 7.00pm, Achnasheen Village Hall

Tuesday 6 June 2017, **AGM** followed by an ordinary meeting, 7.00pm, Garve Village Hall

Tuesday 4 July 2017, 7.00pm, Achnasheen Village Hall

Tuesday 1 August 2017, 7.00pm, Garve Village Hall

Tuesday 5 September 2017, 7.00pm, Achnasheen Village Hall

Tuesday 3 October 2017, 7.00pm, Garve Village Hall

Tuesday 7 November 2017, 7.00pm, Achnasheen Village Hall

Tuesday 5 December 2017, 7.00pm, Garve Village Hall

Members of the public are very welcome to attend Community Council meetings and listen in to our discussions.

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming, reminded them that the Community Ceilidh takes place this Saturday, wished the Community Council members and the Community a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and closed the meeting at 10.00pm.

*Andy Russell report - Corriemoillie Windfarm monthly progress summary – 6 December 2016*

*Over the past month, wind turbine assembly was completed.  All turbines have now been connected to the electrical and communication*

*networks. Internal turbine fitting out work, commissioning and turbine testing activities are progressing. All ancillary delivery*

*equipment has been removed from site. Cranes have also been removed from site. Minor civil engineering works and final reinstatement*

*after turbine erection remain to be completed by RJMcLeod.  Tilhill Forestry continues to forward timber to temporary*

*chipping areas around the site. Chipping work commenced 14 December and chipped trees are being hauled to the biomass plant at Invergordon at a rate of around 200 tonnes per day.  Snow and ice restricted access for chip lorries during w/c 21 November*

*when general access was restricted to 4x4 and snow clearance carried out by GG Mackenzie.  The microwave comms system has recently been*

*installed.  A BT joint at the point of connection near Kessock is required to complete the commissioning of the system. Additional parts*

*of the electrical network on site have been made live.  All three cable arrays are now connected to the electrical grid. EDF continues to work*

*closely with National Grid to ensure compliance with the transmission Grid Code in order for the mandatory Operational Notifications*

*to be issued to allow full generation.  Internal Handover to Asset Management. The EDF project and construction team are working*

*closely with the asset management team to allow as smooth transition likely to take place after grid testing works in January 2017. EDF formally submitted a compensatory tree planting plan to The Highland Council (THC) on 25 September in order to discharge Planning*

*Condition 19. The total indicative restocking area has now been calculated at just under 140 hectares based on a detailed scoping report*

*produced by RDS Forestry. A draft report has previously been reviewed by THC, Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS)*

*and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and comments have been incorporated into the submitted plan. Meetings held on site in November with the Council and the Forestry Commission to view the retained Forestry on site and the quality of the woodland*

*on the adjacent and to the north allowed an agreement to be reached.  EDF now awaits a formal notification from the local authority.*

*On 6 December, the first Steering Committee workshop established to design the parameters of the Training and Education*

*Fund was held. It was attended by 18 stakeholders from educational institutes, professional bodies, local businesses and community council*

*reps, so well represented.  Foundation Scotland is now tasked with collating the useful information provided by the stakeholders to*

*contribute to the fund management plan.  There will be a series of follow up workshops in the New Year.*

Bench purchased by Garve Coffee & Book club. It has been placed in Garve New Cemetery.

