**NOTES of the Garve & District Community Council non-quorate meeting**

**held on Monday 10 June 2024 on webcam**

**Community Council elected members present on webcam**: Kenny Maclean (Chairman & Secretary), Bob Moir (Vice Chairman) and Sadie-Michaela Harris.

**Also present on webcam**: Anthony Palmer (Field Corriemoillie from 8pm until 8.40pm).

**Apologies**: Caroline Gamble (Treasurer), Tina Hartley (Community Engagement and Development Officer, TG&DDC and Community Council associate member), Cllr Liz Kraft and Sue Tarr (public).

The Chairman opened the meeting at 8.00pm. He confirmed that this meeting would be recorded as per the agenda and will be archived and available for viewing for twelve months thereafter. He explained that due to not enough Community Council members being able to attend tonight, the 2024 Annual General Meeting would be postponed and this non-quote meeting would provide general updates to help keep the community informed. He noted this is our first non-quorate meeting since May 2023. The Highland Council have already been informed of the tonight’s circumstances.

We were sad to learn that Ilsa Jack of Strathgarve passed away yesterday afternoon. Ilsa was a real character who enjoyed living in this community and attended various community events and groups over the years, her beady eye never missed a trick! Community Council elected member Sadie-Michaela Harris recalled Ilsa as a force for good who would march around Strathgarve Farm talking to everyone. The Vice Chairman was sorry to hear the news. Our thoughts are with Caroline our Treasurer and the family.

Our Chairman wished to thank everyone for their kind wishes following his recent birthday and those from Garve & District who recently attended the celebratory ceilidh held in Lochcarron in his honour marking his many years as a Community Council member (nearly 21 years) and his many years doing the day job (20 years). He was delighted to attend yesterday’s D-day afternoon tea in Garve Public Hall along with Community Council elected member Sadie-Michaela Harris which was very well attended. *(Post meeting note - £726.17 raised at the afternoon tea.)*

**Declarations of Interest** – the Vice Chairman is a Garve Public Hall Trustee and a Friend of Garve War Memorial. The Vice Chairman and Community Council elected member Sadie-Michaela Harris are both members of the traffic calming group. Community Council members confirmed that they had read all documents due to be discussed tonight before the start of this meeting.

**Approval of draft minutes** of the ordinary meeting held on Monday 6 May 2024 will be considered at our next quorate meeting.

**Matters arising** – **Local Place Plan –** we note <https://garve.org/final-review-cpd-may24> where 20 projects have been completed, 32 are ongoing and 17 have been discontinued. The natural follow up are these new local place plans which feed into the planning process and setting departmental budgets. Tina Hartley has updated us as follows … *“****May 2024 –*** *A draft list of Garve and District businesses was shared with the G&DCC in the hope that between the Development Company and the Community Council we will have captured all businesses known to us and based in the area. The final list will be used during the Local Place Plan engagement process. May saw the final review of the Community Development Plan which identified what has been achieved over the past 5 years and what priorities are on-going. On-going priorities have influenced work on the Local Place Plan template and resulted in a change of headings which will now be used: - Our Community, Our Places, Our Environment and Our Infrastructure. Given the change in headings further work on garve.org is taking place to amend new pages and images etc. It was hoped that a community survey would be issued before the end of May 2024, but due to the amount of work surrounding the development of the plan this has been postponed until June 2024.*

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*The community survey (paper and digital formats) is currently in draft and has been shared with the Community Council for comment. Tina contacted Nick Wright of Nick Wright Planning who was happy to share his experience and best practices with regards to the collection of information in support of the plan – this proved most helpful. Tina attended a “pre-learning event meeting” with other communities which was aimed at planning The Highland Council Local Place Plan Learning Event on 28 May 2024. However, Tina was unable to attend the actual Learning Event due to Wi-Fi difficulties. She had been asked to report on how the Company and the Community Council were working together in support of the plan – specifically in relation to accessing mapping software. Fiona Richardson from The Highland Council had assured Tina that this would be shared at the event in her absence. It was noted that Sue Tarr, Chair of The Garve & District Development Company and Kenny Maclean, Chair of the Garve & District Community Council were both in attendance. The Company continue to receive Local Place Plan updates from The Highland Council and Garve & District Community Council continue to share any relevant information it receives which is appreciated.* ***Next steps*** *– during June the community will begin to see information about the plan being shared on all communication channels which will hopefully be shared by the Community Council and Lochluichart Community Trust too. Supporting pages on garve.org will go live. A paper copy of the survey will be sent to every household and business in the area. A digital copy of the survey will be available on-line. Development Company members will be contacted directly via email too. Tina and other Board Directors will be available to answer any questions face to face on office days, via zoom, via telephone and of course will answer all messages and correspondence received. The main face to face drop-in event will be held at Garve Public Hall during June.”* Our thanks to Tina for her regular updates and for her many hours working on this project. Our Chairman was able to thank Tina in person yesterday. Our Chairman attended the learning event <https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/178/development_plans/1043/local_place_plans> and explained how we helped Tina access mapping software. Over 90 people from various community organisations attended the online meeting though he felt it would have been a more useful meeting had it been held six months ago. The Development Company and Community Council have also looked at local business lists and how to engage with the local primary school. The survey is now live [LINK](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeVXgNKSNjgGrJjPMnCLLXvvfrbUUrafh3_TfRjJsCqpjZcPA/viewform) and in the library section of our website. Also see <https://garve.org/local-place-plan> A paper copy of the survey will be delivered to every household in due course for return. A community drop-in session is planned for Saturday 22 June 2024 at Garve Public Hall from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Community Council members hope to attend if possible. The deadline for responses to the survey is Sunday 30 June 2024. This update has already been shared through our online channels and with those local residents on our emailing list.

**Boralex** – <https://www.boralex.com> – no updates received.

**Kirkan Windfarm** – <http://www.kirkanwindfarm.co.uk> - Trevor Hunter has been in touch to say they are still in the phase of considering options for Kirkan and working through the various planning conditions. Community Benefit is something Kirkan would like to give the community but those discussions will take place much later once everything else is known. We thank Trevor for his update.

**Proposed Tarvie windfarm** – <https://tarviewindfarm.com> – no news. *(Post meeting note – a scoping opinion request for this proposal has been received by the Energy Consents Unit in Edinburgh.)*

**Proposed SSE Fairburn extension** – <https://www.sserenewables.com/onshore-wind/in-development/fairburn-extension> - no news.

**SSEN Spittal – Beauly 400kV project** - <https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/project-map/spittal--loch-buidhe--beauly-400kv-connection> Further consultation events are due to be held in Garve, Contin, Marybank and Strathpeffer later this week. More details at <https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/news/news--views/2024/5/ssen-transmission-announces-next-phase-of-public-engagement-for-pathway-to-2030-infrastructure-in-the-north-of-scotland/> This update has already been posted online and did appear as a post meeting note in the minutes of the last meeting. (*Post meeting note – our Chairman attended the Garve event on Thursday 13 June 2024. Only one other person was in, a Strathpeffer resident. SSEN informed him turnout was also low at other venues so far but SSEN are still not looking at bringing the new powerline near to Loch Garve. An exact route should be known by the end of this year. Our Chairman has asked that the Community Council be kept informed.)*

**SSEN underground cable** from the Western Isles to Beauly – <https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/projects/project-map/western-isles/> SSEN Transmission have started Ground Investigation works along the underground cable route for the Western Isles HVDC for approximately the next 12 weeks along the A835. There will be between 3 to 4 squads working along the route at any one time and a shift pattern of 12-day fortnight from 08:00 -18:00 or till daylight hours allow. The duration of time at each location along the route will be dependent on how deep the trial pit/borehole is, but a rough estimation is between half a day and up to three days. Properties 200 metres either side of the route will be contacted directly by SSEN with updates. **In slightly related news**, SSE Renewables are proud of their hydro heritage which has been vital to bringing clean energy to the north of Scotland for over 80 years. They recognise the hydro infrastructure plays an important role in communities and want to ensure that they continue to support the local communities for the next generation so are launching a new £10 million community fund which will be open to projects that support the community council areas which proudly host hydro assets. To support the launch of the fund in autumn 2024, SSE Renewable need to undertake work in summer 2024 to understand how this new fund can best support local communities across Scotland. Consultation – SSE Renewables have secured the services of IBP Consultants to complete a consultation with local residents to ensure that the new fund focuses on the themes which are most important to the local area, SSE Renewables would appreciate help in raising awareness of this consultation so that the views of as many residents as possible will be heard. Local Panel – SSE Renewables will establish a panel of community representatives from across Scotland to make independent funding decisions for the new fund. The panel will meet online three times a year and will review applications from all hydro communities across Scotland. SSE Renewables would particularly appreciate any interest from residents aged 18-30 to increase community representation of younger people on the panel. Applications – the fund will open for applications in autumn 2024. *(Post meeting note - the survey is now available online at*[*www.ibp.eu.com/hydrofund*](http://www.ibp.eu.com/hydrofund)*and will remain open until Monday 19 August 2024.)*

**Field Corriemoillie** - [www.fieldcorriemoillie.co.uk](http://www.fieldcorriemoillie.co.uk)  Field builds and operates large battery storage facilities which store energy to help create a greener, more stable electricity grid.  They would like to build one of these facilities, Field Corriemoillie, on land north of the A832 and east of Corriemoillie Substation.  Field Corriemoillie would connect directly to the Corriemoillie substation by an underground cable and would be capable of storing up to 200 MW of electricity.  A public drop in event is planned for Tuesday 20 August 2024 from 2.00pm until 7.00pm in Garve Public Hall.  Field have already sent leaflets out to local households.  This update has already appeared on our online channels.  Our Chairman attended the first public event on Wednesday 29 May 2024 and felt the project was well advanced and was not surprised to hear Field plan to apply for planning permission in the Autumn 2024.  He has asked Field to attend these meetings and keep us and therefore the community informed.  Anthony Palmer from Field Corriemoillie updated this meeting that 14 people attended the public drop in event on 29 May 2024 and 1 formal feedback form had been received since.  This, he felt, was not untypical as most people wait until the plans are submitted to the planning authority but Field does welcome feedback anytime.  There is ongoing survey work on site including ecology studies.  More details on exact site layout will be known by the August public drop in event.  Potential noise from the site was raised at the drop in event and this is a common concern.  The cooling fans make the most noise but better inbuilt safety should also be noted.  Existing background noise checks are already taking place over a week but the existing trees and hills will hide/break any noise.   WSP engineering have been consulted on noise.  They are an engineering company but have departments for other matters such as noise monitoring – see - <https://www.wsp.com/en-gb>.  Landscaping/visual impart?  The site will be surrounded by existing dense forestry and the site will be slightly cut into the hillside which will help hide it.  It will be unlikely to be seen from the A832.  In answer to questions from Community Council elected members, Antony noted it was felt three days of noise monitoring was short, leaflets advertising the first drop in were sent out with far too short notice (three days) and posters displayed at the first exhibition were just a repeat of the leaflets.  Size of equipment?  Battery units currently between 20-40ft, with transformers potentially up to around 75ft but small low loaders can take them to site.  Access to site?  Existing forestry roads.  40-80 shipping container size of equipment might be possible but more exact details will be known by the time of the next drop in event in August as highly caveated on existing technology.  More details/images can and will be sent to the Community Council.  Grid capacity?  SSET have agreed a connection date of 2029 into the Corriemoillie Substation.

Anthony Palmer was thanked for attending and left the meeting at 8.40pm.

**Proposed Carn Fearna windfarm** – <https://projects.statkraft.co.uk/Carn-Fearna/> our Chairman attended the public exhibition in Strathpeffer on Thursday 16 May 2024, he was the only one in at 5.00pm.  He stayed an hour and in that time only two other people visited. *(Post meeting note – we have now received the following update from Scott Vallance, Principal Project Manager at Statkraft …*

***Public Exhibitions – May 2024***

*Firstly, we wanted to provide an update on our recent exhibitions which we held in May. We are still in the midst of analysing data and will shortly be in a position to provide a copy of the full Consultation Report (which shall also be available on the project website) but wanted to provide attendance data:*

* *In total, 23 people attended the in-person exhibitions across the three separate events. This included the attendance of some community councillors. The number of attendees is based on those who signed in at the welcome desk of the exhibition (which was optional).*

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| --- | --- | --- |
| ***DATE*** | ***LOCATION*** | ***NUMBER*** |
| *15th May 2024* | *Contin Community Hall* | *8* |
| *15th May 2024* | *Garve Public Hall* | *9* |
| *16th May 2024* | *Strathpeffer Community Centre* | *5* |

***Noise Monitoring***

*With regards to noise monitoring, there is currently one Sodar and four separate noise monitoring devices have been set up in properties in the area.*

***What is the size of a noise kit?***

*The noise monitoring equipment consists of a small briefcase, pole and wind shield that will be securely installed at the monitoring location (usually with the garden of a residential property), approximate dimensions L30cm x W50cm x H150cm (11" x 20" x 60").*

***What is recorded by a noise kit?***

*The equipment does not record any sound, it only measures the level of background noise (i.e. it cannot tell what you are doing but it can tell how loud you are doing it). The results of this noise monitoring campaign will be fed into our final design iteration process and ultimately in the relevant environmental assessment.*

***Temporary Meteorological Mast Application***

*Finally, my colleague Shannon has lodged an application with The Highland Council for a temporary meteorological mast. We are not in receipt of the planning application reference number yet but once we are, we shall share this with the Community Council as we have promised verbally.)* Our thanks to Scott for the update.

**A UK Westminster General Election has been called for Thursday 4 July 2024.** Lochbroom Community Council is holding a Hustings meeting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 12 June 2024 at the Ferry Terminal, in the run-up to the General Election on the 4 July 2024. All 7 candidates, standing to be the Westminster MP for this constituency of Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross have been invited. The candidates will be taking questions from the audience, (which should be on matters reserved to Westminster such as energy, defence, broadcasting and postal services, Europe, economic and currency matters, social security, transport, the constitution, immigration, employment rights, pensions, import and export control, and foreign policy.) This update has already been posted on our online channels and shared with neighbouring Community Councils. It should also be noted that when attending a Polling Station on election day, you will need Photographic ID. The deadline for registering to vote is Tuesday 18 June 2024.

**Community Council logo** is in hand.

**The Highland Council updates** – [www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk) – we note The Cairngorm Group have been fitting **new doors and windows in local authority properties** in Garve village over the last couple of weeks.

**Replanting Trees in The Avenue** – following our input regarding tendering/appointing a contractor, The Highland Council has confirmed that they met with a local contractor on site to discuss options recently and they plan to progress the work this coming winter. Our thanks to all for their help in this matter. A full list of the monthly updates since February 2022 is available in the library section of our website. This update has already appeared on our online channels.

**Wooden fencing and Wyvis Natural Playpark sign, nearest toilet signs** **and hedge cut backs** are all still outstanding. Cllr Kraft continues to make enquiries.

**Future of Achnasheen Public Toilets** – the toilets re-opened on Friday 10 May 2024 but closed again about 12 days later. We presume it is plumbing problems again, the third time is as many months.  At our last ordinary meeting on Monday 6 May 2024, we wondered if chemical toilets being emptied there could be the cause of these repeat problems?  Would a sign pointing people to Silverbridge Public Toilets be an option?  The toilets reopened on Thursday 23 May 2024 and remain open today. The Highland Council has confirmed that they are awaiting the results of a drainage survey to see what is causing the issue, it could be something like tree roots for instance. Chemical toilet waste can be left at Kinlochewe, Gairloch and Lochcarron. Cllr Kraft wondered if <https://www.waterlesstoilets.co.uk/> could be a solution? Costs would need to be investigated and as Skye residents complain when Achnasheen toilets are closed, perhaps their ward could part fund a solution in Achnasheen, maybe coastal funds could also be used? A long-term solution to Achnasheen toilets may then help resolve the **Future of Achnasheen Village Hall** – Steve Jones at Achnasheen Amenities Association has asked if we can help determine the future of the Hall building following the two community surveys. He feels it would be beneficial to the community to have the Community Council pushing The Highland Council for a quick resolution. It is Steve’s understanding that the hall is being put up for sale but that the Amenities can continue to use it for now. We have already asked for a progress report on the future of the building and are awaiting a reply. Community Council elected members at this meeting felt matters were already in hand. The toilets were a high priority in the survey so Highland Council are trying to find a way of keeping them open before selling the building or has something changed? We will ask Cllr Kraft, The Highland Council and Achnasheen Amenities Association for their views before taking any further action.

**Strathgarve potholes** – not filled in! Matheson Road is getting bad too, ongoing!

**Dumped mattress** – the one dumped at Little Garve is gone but another one was reported over Wades Bridge. We are not sure if it has also been collected yet.

The Highland Council notes that **residents should report issues directly to them** by calling The Highland Council’s Call Centre on 01349 886606 or via [www.highland.gov.uk/report](http://www.highland.gov.uk/report) In all cases, you will be given a reference number. The Highland Council also appreciates photos showing the actual problem.

**A835 Trunk Road issues - Killin Farm railway crossing improvements and barriers east of Garve** – works appear to be near complete, phase two is due to begin in the Autumn.

We note the damage to the **crash barrier at the “Check Rail Corner”** and the reports on social media of accidents. We have raised such concerns again with both the MSP and BEAR. Maree Todd MSP’s office has confirmed that they have written to Transport Scotland and Network Rail outlining the issues and seeking a general update (Case Ref MT15572). BEAR inform us that they arranged on Wednesday 29 May 2024 for the Traffic Management to be improved at the site, with additional signage being added on the approaches to warn road users of the traffic lights.  Faded signage have been replaced and vegetation within the road boundary has been cut back. They are liaising with Network Rail about getting vegetation within the railway boundary cut back too.  BEAR have also arranged for enhanced traffic monitoring of the site considering the now several accidents at this location. They went on to say that unfortunately, traffic management is going to be required for some time at this location. The engineering solution that is necessary to make the road safe is complex and extensive site investigation work is necessary before BEAR can progress to the detailed design. Our thanks to both the MSP and BEAR for their updates so far. This update has already been posted on our online channels as several residents have asked for updates on this matter in recent weeks. The residents have been updated directly and are grateful for our help.

**Faults on the Trunk Road (A835)** should be reported via [www.bearscot.com/report-a-defect/](http://www.bearscot.com/report-a-defect/)

**Traffic calming group** – Tina Hartley as Community Engagement and Development Officer has been trying to obtain the recording of the meeting we and the Development Company attended on this matter on Monday 29 April 2024 and an update on the several questions raised about the A832. Tina is not receiving any replies so has asked our Chairman for help. Eventually we received the following which we have already shared with the traffic calming group … *link to said meeting -*

[*Garve A832-20240429\_140117-Meeting Recording.mp4*](https://highlandcouncil1.sharepoint.com/%3Av%3A/r/sites/RST/ReferenceLibrary/Garve%20A832-20240429_140117-Meeting%20Recording.mp4?csf=1&web=1&e=eRhcyC) *The Highland Council has just received confirmation of the allocation of Scottish Government Road Safety Improvement Funding for 2024/2025, so are now able to be able to look at the Gateway Improvements that were discussed at the meeting for Lochluichart and Achnasheen.* ***Lochluichart*** *– this section has a mean average speed of 43.2 mph. The Highland Council will investigate the possibility of putting in some form of Gateway at this location.* ***Achanalt*** *- this section has a mean average of 57.9 mph.* ***Achnasheen*** *– this**section has a mean average speed of 37.7 mph. The Highland Council will investigate putting in an enhanced Gateway at this location and installing 40mph roundels as per discussion. Other points discussed …* ***Stirling Drive and Matheson Road, Garve*** *– The Highland Council have had a look at the 20mph signage installation and it looks like there are two 20’s plenty signs that require to be removed at this location.  They have also requested some additional 20mph roundels be installed as part of the wider installation programme currently under development. Full speed data for our 20mph programme can be found here*[*https://highlandcouncil.azurewebsites.net/highlandcouncil/map-full-view*](https://highlandcouncil.azurewebsites.net/highlandcouncil/map-full-view) *. The Guidance used to set local speed limits can be found here*[*untitled (nationbuilder.com)*](https://assets.nationbuilder.com/20splentyforus/legacy_url/317/dftCircular12006.pdf?1431368039)***Gorstan Junction*** *- Transport Scotland are currently undertaking a national speed limit review.  Our understanding is that part of this process will involve a public consultation so something to keep an eye out for and feed into.* Our thanks to Lisa and all at the road safety team for getting back to us with the updates. It was noted the recent case of a vehicle travelling at 143mph on the A832 near Achanalt will raise mean average speeds in that area. Community Council elected members concluded that existing documents/guidance mean it is highly unlikely a speed limit would be installed at Lochluichart but suggest those with concerns raise them through the Local Place Plan as that is what The Highland Council is listening to at this time. Regarding Gorstan, overall responsibility for the junction has always bounced between The Highland Council and Transport Scotland. It was suggested that as most accidents seem to be vehicles coming down the A832 to the junction, The Highland Council should be asked to place rumble strips on the road but the upcoming consultation above should also be used by individuals as a way of highlighting concerns. We will pass the suggestion of rumble strips onto the road safety team and this update onto the traffic calming group. It was also noted no feedback has been received from individuals in the group to recent updates we have provided.

**Garve mains water** – no news.

**GD CORe land** – latest update at <https://garve.org/phase2-feedback-update12>

**Handyman service** - At a recent LCT board meeting, the LCT Directors discussed the concept of a handyman service. Whilst LCT wishes to support members of the community, it was agreed that as the community grant is available to those in need in the community, this existing grant could be used by individuals towards a handyman service if that is what they require. Our thanks to Carol Smith via Tina Harley for the update.

**BT has delayed plans** to force customers to switch from physical copper-based landlines to internet-based services following concerns from vulnerable people. BT, which is also responsible for EE customers, has now abandoned the timeline of completing the national switchover by the end of 2025 and will instead aim to complete the move by the end of January 2027. Our thanks to Community Council elected member Sadie-Michaela Harris for spotting this update online which we have not received directly. This update has already appeared on our online channels.

**BBC1 is looking for stories in the Highland community**.  Do you have a cherished local landmark, a personal family heirloom, or a historical artefact with a connection to the Highlands that is undergoing or in need of restoration?  Are you seeking support to preserve your local community's heritage?  The Repair Shop wants to help!  They are looking to restore historical treasures, revive personal items, and honour crafting heroes in the Highlands.  Whether you have a special item yourself, or want to nominate a project or individual, The Repair Shop want to hear from you.  Apply now on the BBC website - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/showsandtours/take-part/the-repair-shop>

Following our last ordinary meeting **where people feeling silenced** was discussed, we emailed Sue Tarr to ask her to tell us exactly when and on which topic she felt silenced. We would then be in a better position to comment. Sue replied to say if she was to summarize, it would be that the Community Council felt there was nothing to address. Sue felt there was some degree of outrage which has come across in our Facebook posts, the emails to the Traffic Calming Group, the actual Community Council meeting discussion, the minutes thereof and the email she received and declined to answer our question but was happy to attend a Community Council meeting instead. We invited her to attend tonight but Sue has sent her apologies. It was felt that until Sue tells us what this is about, we do not feel we can take the matter further.

Garve & District Community Council currently has vacancies on the Community Council.  The Community Council members consider it to be very important to have as broad a representation of our community as possible, as we cover a wide variety of community issues and to do this well, we would like members from all corners of our large area.  We usually meet on the first Tuesday of the month.  If you are aged 16 or over, live in the Community Council area and are on the electoral roll and would like to be considered for co-option onto the Community Council, please email garveanddistrictcc@yahoo.com with your name and contact details. This update has already appeared on our online channels. This update has already appeared on our online channels.

**Police update -** as reported at previous Community Council meetings, anyone who wishes to raise an issue with the police are asked to **call them directly on 101** at the time of the incident and make a witness statement.  Video, dashcam or photo evidence is also welcomed, indeed encouraged by the police. The police can also be contacted on [www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/](http://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/)

**Treasurer’s report** – in the absence of the Treasurer, our Chairman reported our total bank balance (checked online this afternoon) is £1,942.98.  The breakdown is as follows … Treasurer's account £-132.07. Reserve £1,613.45. Wreath fund (in memory of Eliza) £461.60. Ann Macrae our now retired auditor sends thanks to the elected Community Council members for the £75.00 gift voucher for Simpsons. Ann will enjoy spending it on her garden. There were no questions.

**Memories from 20 years ago** – as part of our Chairman’s long service to the community, we will be looking back from time to time to remember some issues from the past. Tonight he recalled June 2004 meeting held in Garve. The issues of concern raised included the future of Achnasheen Primary School as it was about to have only one pupil. The child went to another school, the school was mothballed and formally closed a few years later. Signs on the A835 east of Garve were proposed and (eventually) erected. The local newsletter was costing 30p per copy to print and these rising costs were causing concern. Eliza Leslie Melville offered to pay for the next print run personally to give those involved time to seek a permanent affordable solution. Achnasheen public toilets had plumbing problems and plumbers were seen on site most days … some things never change! All minutes covering the last 30 years of Community Council meetings are available in the library section of our website - <http://www.community-council.org.uk/garveanddistrict/library.asp>

**AOB from Community Council members** – no issues raised.

**AOB from members of the public** - no issues raised. Those who cannot attend our meetings can, as always, write to us by post or email with any issues they wish raised at garveanddistrictcc@yahoo.com

**Screening reports, scoping reports and consultations** – we have received one consultation from Scottish Fire and Rescue Service - Strategic Service Review Programme. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) has launched an [online survey](https://firescotland.citizenspace.com/planning-and-performance/shaping-our-future-service-your-say/) as they consider future changes to the emergency service. There are issues that the service must address with the ageing estate while ensuring that they are best placed to meet the changing community risk across Scotland. The survey, titled Shaping Our Future Service: Your Say, is open until Sunday 30 June 2024 and marks the first stage in engagement with communities, staff, representative bodies, partners and elected members. <https://firescotland.citizenspace.com/planning-and-performance/shaping-our-future-service-your-say/> This update has already been shared on our online channels. All Highland Council consultations are available at <http://consult.highland.gov.uk/portal> All Scottish Government consultations are available at <https://consult.gov.scot/consultation_finder>

**Building warrants, planning issues and licensing issues** - **one previous planning application** has been determined by The Highland Council since our last ordinary meeting - 23/05955/FUL, the formation of five hardstanding’s (in retrospect) on land 70M SE of The Summerhouse, Inchbae which we considered at our March 2024 ordinary meeting has been granted planning permission with one condition - within one month of the granting of permission, details of a scheme of soft landscaping shall be submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Planning Authority in order to ensure that a high standard of landscaping is achieved, appropriate to the location of the site. We also note 24/01032/PNO, an agricultural shed for estate storage on and 90M East of Fannich Lodge as noted at our May 2024 ordinary meeting has been approved. 24/01703/PNO is a Prior Notification for Forestry-related Building Works (Non-residential) on land 1660M SE of Fannich Bothy. To meet deadlines, Community Council elected members were informed by email and raised no objections. This update has already appeared on our online channels. The application has since been determined that prior approval is not required. We note an amendment to the proposed mobile phone mast in Fannich which we first considered at our October 2023 ordinary meeting. The primary operator VMO2 has amended the suitable location near Loch Fannich to a lower elevation for decreased prominence with a required slight tower height increase to maintain Line of sight to host the proposed critical infrastructure, which will be shared by Vodafone, EE, and Three UK. The Vice Chairman noted on Skye, there is demand for more of these masts for emergency cover, breakdowns etc …

**Two new Prior Notification Orders** have been received by The Highland Council since our last ordinary meeting. 24/02035/PNO, Peatland restoration work on Ledgowan Estate and 24/01999/TPNO, Erection of 20m lattice mast with 3no. shared antennas, 2no. dish antennas, associated cabinets and ancillary apparatus within a fenced compound on land 3550M NW Of Dos Mucheran. Both these updates have been posted on our online channels. A possible planning breach can be reported at <https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/180/planning_-_applications_warrants_and_certificates/170/planning_enforcement/2> All planning applications can be viewed at [www.highland.gov.uk/info/180/planning\_-\_applications\_warrants\_and\_certificates/143/planning\_permission/4](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/180/planning_-_applications_warrants_and_certificates/143/planning_permission/4)

**The date of the next ordinary meeting and the re-arranged 2024 Annual General Meeting are to be confirmed.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.  He also thanked Community Council member Sadie-Michaela Harris for hosting the webcam session.  The Chairman closed the non-quorate meeting at 9.20pm.

[www.community-council.org.uk/garveanddistrict](http://www.community-council.org.uk/garveanddistrict)

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