

Ness News

Community News & Events

December 2019



Remembrance Sunday



Lest We Forget

Queen's District Nurse



Taekwon-Do





Thank you for picking up the latest issue of Ness News which this year is being funded by FERN (Beinneun Windfarm). We have increased the number of published copies as it has been very popular in all three villages and can be picked up at the Great Glen Trading Centre, the Service Point, Glenmoriston Stores and Glengarry Filling Station.

There are quite a few announcements this time; mainly graduations and sadly a few very recent bereavements. In the last issue, we mentioned the passing of Molly Veitch and since then a colleague of hers has written to tell me more about her life and work which is included in this issue.

As of last week, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council begin a new four-year term but mainly consists of the same members as before other than a few have been elected instead of co-opted.

Carol Pritchard from Invermoriston has stood down and we would like to thank her for her time and energy on board as a valued member and Chair over the last few years. We would also like to welcome Robert MacDonald who you will all know from the West End Garage. The other elected members are Iain MacKnocher as Vice-Chair; Helen Clay as Secretary; Jeff Dymond who is also the Community Council's representative director on the Community Company and is Chair of the Auchterawe Liaison Group; Rachel Hayes; Mike Anderson and Stuart Findlay who is a co-opted member and the Treasurer.

Work on the extension has started at the top of the main car park in Fort Augustus so hopefully extra parking spaces are in place for next summer. There are also 4 new parking spaces available beside the Police House for residents to use so please use them to ease congestion at the top of Abertarff Place.

The 3 Glens Community Group are meeting with Highland Hospice and NHS this week to help get set up formally and go forward.

The Christmas lighting will be switched on this week and the Christmas trees will be up in both villages so I wish you all a happy Christmas and all the best for the coming New Year which will be another eventful time for me personally as the last couple of months have been.



The content and photographs in Ness News have been obtained by authorised contributors and any local news, stories or photos can be sent to nessnews-paper@outlook.com

Regards
Deirdre MacKinnon

Editors
Deirdre MacKinnon
Seonaid MacDonald
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Remembrance Sunday



The Fort Augustus parade was well attended and it was good to see so many children take part as well as 5 ex service personnel - 3 Army, 1 Royal Navy and 1 RAF and members of the cadets, police, fire brigade and other groups.



Invermoriston was attended by several members of the Kintail and Affric mountain rescue service as well as members of the community including two uniformed members of the services - one serving in the Royal Navy (Duncan Greer) and an ex commando.



Lest We Forget

Loch Ness TaeKwon-Do



Loch Ness TaeKwon-Do has been running two classes each week since March 2019 and continues to run a small family-oriented club in Fort Augustus village hall. Classes are light-hearted and fun while focussed on learning, growing and strengthening.

LN-TKD now has ten fully enrolled members; four members have in this year alone graded up to yellow belt and are working hard towards their next grading in December. The successful candidates will be awarded their yellow belt green tags.

Lucy Burnett, Stevie White, Ben White and Josh White have earned their yellow belts. Robert Jackson, Leon Jackson, and Leah Klinova have all been awarded their white belt yellow tags.

LN-TKD is a small but hard-working club. In September of this year, LN-TKD hosted its first technical seminar conducted by Master Claire Crosbie VII Degree, who is the only female TaeKwon-Do master in Scotland. There was an overall turnout of 37 TaeKwon-Do students from Fort Augustus and Inverness.

Next year will see LN-TKD gearing up for national competitions and hopefully travelling around some parts of Scotland.

Although LN-TKD has been largely family oriented, instructor Simon Canning is keen to move the club forward and states that TaeKwon-Do is for everyone from 6 years of age and all abilities.

The class runs every Wednesday and Friday from 7pm to 8pm and an extra half hour training is available until 8.30pm.

Prices are £2 for under 16s, £3 for adults – for the additional half hour add on £1 per student. Family rates available.

TaeKwon-Do helps improve confidence, builds strength and stamina and teaches self-defence.

For more info, contact Simon Canning on 07375 890572 or on canningsimon@rocketmail.com

Blast From The Past

Fort Augustus Village Council History

The Fort Augustus & Glenmoriston Community Council would like to share extracts of the original minute book covering the years 1949 to 1978 when the Fort Augustus Village Council was first established.

The first recorded minute in the book is of a Public Meeting in the Public Hall Fort Augustus on Friday 10th June 1949 convened by Rev. H M Gillies County Councillor and Mr J B Nelson District Councillor. The public meeting agreed by public consent that the Village Council be known as Fort Augustus Village Council. Then followed the appointment of Officers and District Representatives and those districts areas represented are as listed; Markethill including Culachy and Kytra. West End area, Glendoe, Bunoich, BlairConard, Port Clair and Auchterawe.

Then the Constitution was given and fully approved by the Public. (signed)

See the copy of the original hand written minute of the meeting .

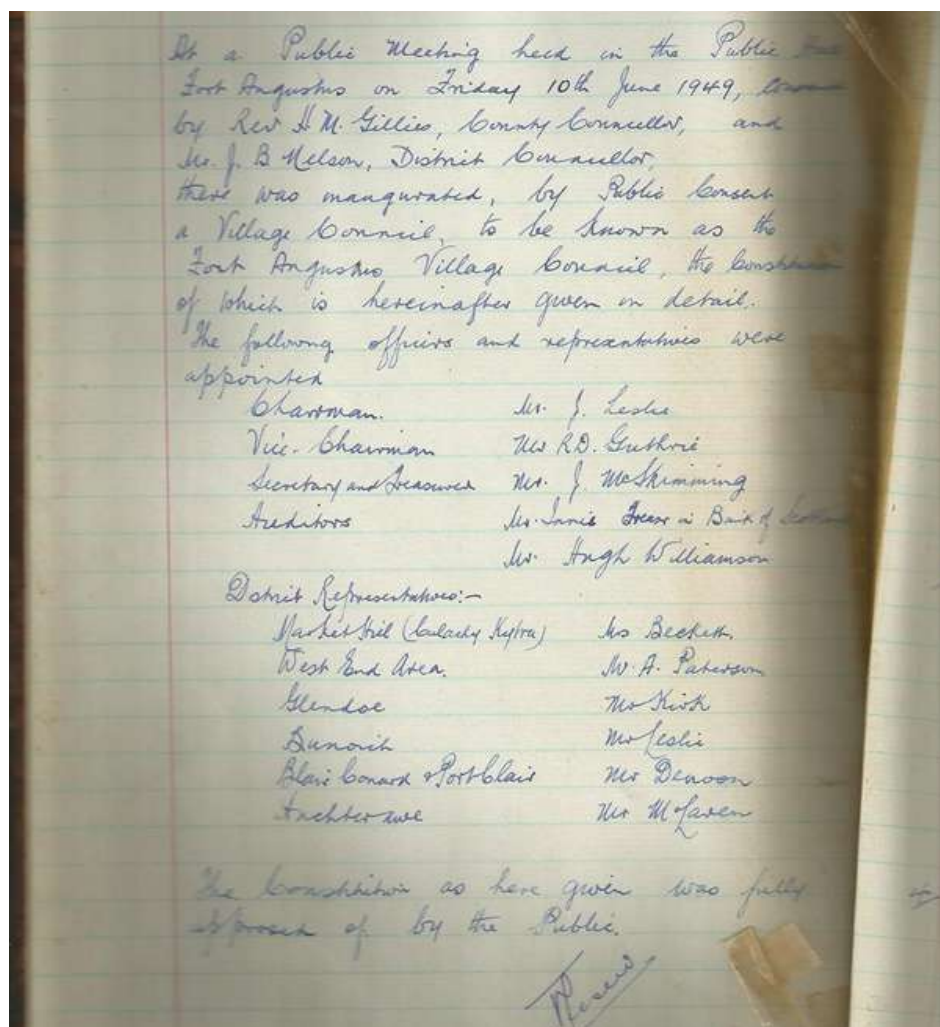
Extract from the first constitution

The constitution from that meeting stated the objects of the council;

a) To promote the general good of the vilage by the provision and improvements of amenities.

b) To promote and organise co-operation in the village and to bring together in Council representatives of all local organisations.

c) To seek to perpetrate all that is best in the village including a due regard for observance of Sunday. Organisations which the Council hope to have a representative. WRI, Village Hall Trustees, Girl Guides, Memorial Hall and Library, Shinty Club, British Legion, Football Club, Forestry Commission (local), Badminton Club, Ministry of Transport (canal). This constitution was in use by the Council until it was amended in 1966. (continuing to read contents of the minute book so there could be more)



Mary Veitch RGN. SCM. HV. QDNS



Mary Veitch, affectionately known as Molly shared her birthplace with Robbie Burns in Alloway in Ayrshire. Molly trained in General Nursing at Perth Royal Infirmary in the 1950's followed by Midwifery Studies in Edinburgh in 1957. She then took up training at the Queen's District Nursing Institute also in in Edinburgh in 1959. This was followed by further studies in Health Visiting in Castle Terrace in 1962.

Molly was now a Triple Duty Queen's District Nursing Sister starting her practise in Auchinleck and surrounding areas in Ayrshire before taking up a post in Broadford on the Isle of Skye.

In 1982, Molly became the nurse manager of the area which carried a huge responsibility and merit. For a short period, Molly nursed in Speyside prior to taking up her post in Invergarry in 1989 where she worked closely with her colleague in Fort Augustus, Mary Ann MacDonald (QDN).

Throughout her life, training and studies, Molly earned and received the highest regard from her colleagues for her kindness, efficiency and professionalism to her patients, mothers and babies and their families. This was also tempered by her Christian faith and for me, it was a privilege and honour to have known Queen's District Nursing Sister Molly Veitch.

Angela MacDonald
Fortrose

Aunt Molly was a very independent individual - strong-minded, determined and successful which was very much a product of her upbringing. She gained the prestigious title of Queen's District Nursing Sister of which she was very proud and rightly so. Not to be stuck in a rut and demonstrating that independent streak, she applied for and was successful in gaining a post in Skye which was a bold move for a lowlander in the 1960's.

Molly loved Skye, was very happy there and became an integral part of the local community especially around Broadford and often talked about her time there. In the mid- 1970's, she moved to Aberlour as a Health Visitor before making the decision to move Invergarry. Again, she clearly felt at home here, sharing many happy years with her mother, living in the district nurse's cottage before choosing to remain in Invergarry on her retirement and moving to Garrybank.

William Veitch (her nephew)

Golf View Restaurant

In the late 1930's, the west end of the village looked very different to what it is now. There was a large field where the houses at Abertarff Place are now and the Golf Course and the clubhouse were east of where they are now.

The Golf View Tearoom was once the Railway Wages Office which was at the entrance of where Kilchuimen Academy is now. The wooden sections were carried by willing helpers and erected on the site at the corner of Fort William road across from the field. The site was quite small and part of the rear of the building was to be suspended on stilts. There was also a raised wooden walkway to the back door.

In 1958, the two-storey cedar wood Golf View Restaurant was opened, and it had large windows to view the scenery. It was erected on the same site with some extra land which was available at the time. Parking spaces were still not adequate and in the busiest part of the summer, vehicles parked on both sides of the road.

Inevitably, yellow lines and "No Parking" signs appeared and kept the traffic moving. Several locals were employed in the restaurant and during July and August each year, four students from the Isle of Lewis came to work as waitresses. Most days, touring coaches were booked for morning coffee or afternoon tea and once a week, two coach loads of English tourists came for lunch. On the busiest day, two hundred were served but that was exceptional.

Cathie and Hughie Fraser worked tirelessly and were helped by family as much as possible. Mrs. Fraser continued to run the business until her mid seventies and when she died in 1984, the Golf View Restaurant was sold, and it was the end of an era for the Fraser family.

The new owner had the large windows removed and the cedar wood covered over. An extension on the west gable end completed the demise of the Golf View.

The old camping site was purchased and became a large parking area and the grant of a liquor licence brought locals to the downstairs bar. The revamped building was called "The Gondolier".

Thanks to Mamie Brady for this lovely story of her parents' very enterprising business and to Maureen Ferguson for sending it.





Carmelita Aiston (Fraser) and Helen Matheson outside the Golf View Restaurant



Cathie Fraser and Marjory MacIntosh (MacKenzie)



Cathie Fraser

Glen Albyn Football Team

Bottom Left - Jamie Paterson, Hughie Gibson (Drumnadrochit), Davie MacEwan, Ronald Ferguson (Pinkie), Alexander MacDonald

2nd Row - Neil Robertson and Duncan MacCormick

3rd Row - Willie Sutherland, David Paterson, Bobo Morrison (Drumnadrochit), Stuart Morrison

Top Left - John Ferguson, James MacDonell, Neil MacKinnon, William Smeaton



Trees For Life



"Thanks to everyone who came to our bat walk at Dundreggan in October. Inverness Bat Group delivered a fascinating presentation on bat ecology and brought their bat detectors along for us to try out. We had a great turnout with over 30 people of all ages attending. We will definitely be running a similar event again when the weather warms up so keep an eye on Ness News, local noticeboards and the Trees for Life Facebook page to stay updated! As always, if you have any ideas or questions about community engagement and education with Trees for Life, please get in touch with katherine@treesforlife.org.uk."

Katherine Murphy



After 12 exciting months based at Dundreggan the first five Trees for Life trainees graduated from the Skills for Rewilding programme. One of them has been retained as a full time employee and two of the others have already found work within the sector. There are now another five trainees, all under the age of 26, learning practical skills and joining in with conservation work. Activities have included learning about and participating in - the reintroduction of red squirrels to parts of Sutherland, and - collecting local tree seeds and growing them on to become the next generation of the Caledonian forest. We look forward to the rest of their time with us whilst also preparing to recruit the next group of trainees to start in July. This project is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Paul Greaves



Craft Fayre

2nd NOV.

Glenmoriston Craft Club held its annual Christmas Fayre on Saturday in Invermoriston. This was one of two events we run each year as fundraising for our Club. The day got off to a slow start but picked up considerably around eleven and lunch time. The home baking and soup seems to be popular with all that venture in, keeping our Kitchen hands very busy.

Our CHARITY RAFFLE was greatly participated in, raising a FANTASTIC TOTAL of £299.00 which goes to the "HIGHLAND HOSPICE". We had prizes donated by many of our local businesses so to those we send a huge thank you. This total will be added to monies raised at our Charity Raffle held at June's event. Which brings a GRAND TOTAL to £401.50.

Cherry Duncan knitted another of her Favourite "Red Nose" characters by the name of "BINKY BUNKER" who raised £50.00 for the "POPPY APPEAL". Well done all you lucky winners.

Thank you to our vendors for turning out and setting up such wonderful fully laden stalls and to all who ventured in and found some lovely gifts for your families and friends or maybe just a treat to yourselves. Club members and helpers we couldn't do it without you.

Treasurer Jean Curley

Fort Augustus Senior Citizen Association

Once a month, usually a Tuesday, we hire a coach from Shiel buses and organise a shopping trip to Fort William.

The bus leaves Fort Augustus car park around 09.45 and on the way uplifts passengers from Abertarff, Newton and Invergarry. We leave Fort William at 1.30. Unfortunately, due to these buses being used for school travel and restricted time schedules, we can't do uplift from Invermoriston and Glenmoriston.

This year we received sponsorship from Fort Augustus & Glenmoriston Community Company and The Glengarry Trust. The Committee thank Glengarry Trust for their recent grant of £300.

If you live in the Invergarry area and would like to join us, please contact our Shopping Bus Coordinator, Judy Webster, on 01320 366304 to book a seat.

Please see our posters for dates.



Announcements

Marriages



Donny Kennedy and Rachel MacKinnon married on the 11th October 2019 at the Grecian Park Hotel, Protaras in Cyprus, followed by a home reception at the Village Hall on the 26th October.



Martin Cameron, Balmglaster and Emma MacKinnon from Skye married on the 15th of November at the Greyfriars Church, Inverness with a reception at the Drumossie Hotel.

Births



Kirsty MacLennan welcomed her second daughter, Willow Ivy who was born 11.15am on 20th November weighing 9lb 4oz.

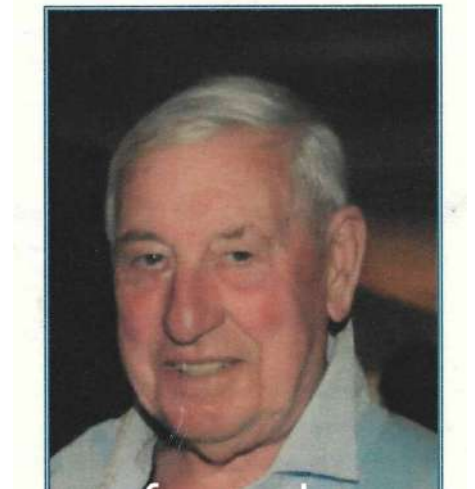
Deaths



Kenneth Cameron 30th December 1957 - 13th November 2019 died at his home in Livingston after a brave battle against cancer.



Peter Walker aged 81 from Invergarry, formerly of Well of the Seven Heads Store sadly passed away whilst on holiday with dear friends. Will be sadly missed by all.



Jack Sabin formerly of the Lovat Arms Hotel, 16th December 1929 - 29th October 2019.

Elizabeth Jean Biggs, Lower Culachy, Fort Augustus aged 77 years died peacefully on Wednesday 20th November 2019. Much loved wife of Graham and mum to Mandy.

Graduates



Megan MacKillop, Borlum Farm, Glendoe Estate, Fort Augustus graduated on the 4th of July from Abertay University with First Class Honours Degree in Food, Nutrition and Health.



Emily - May graduated from Perth UHI on the 3rd of October. Presentation made by HRH The Princess Royal, Chancellor of the University of the Highlands and Islands. Emily - May studied Early Education and Childcare and was awarded a BA Hons.



Tessa Campbell graduated on the 30th of October with a Masters International Marketing & Tourism & Events with Distinction.



Emma MacKillop, Borlum Farm, Glendoe Estate, Fort Augustus, graduated with a Masters of Education from The University of the Highland and Islands on 4th October 2019. Emma is a Classroom Teacher of Music in Inverness.



Shaina Archibald received a Full Sporting Blues award for representing the UHI playing shinty over in Ireland.



Tierney Lloyd graduated with a 1st class honours degree in (BA) Marine and Natural History Photography from Falmouth University. Dawn French is the Chancellor.



Kilchuimen - Academy, Primary & Nursery



Glasgow Science Centre Trip:

The day started very early but the early start meant that the bus arrived at the Science Centre by 11am which allowed plenty of time to see and do everything planned. The children, as always, were very well behaved and were a credit to us all. There were lots of activities and the Imax Cinema was a favourite. The Planetarium and the activities in the Science Mall also went down very well. The staff in the McDonalds at Dumbarton were very good with the children and a member of the public came over to complement the children on their good behaviour.

Many thanks to Beinneun Community Benefit Fund for generously funding the trip; we were able to provide it free of charge for all the pupils. Thank you to the Parent Council, in particular Debi, for applying for the funding and for doing a lot of information gathering and ensuring that everything was going to go to plan. Finally, big, BIG thanks must go to Miss Sandham who organised the trip so well.



Hallowe'en:

On Thursday 31st October the P1-3s made their annual visit to the Telford Centre. They sang spooky songs and told (terrible) jokes. They were made very welcome by the residents and staff and they came back to the school with a mountain of juice and sweeties.



Nature Notes

Birds in the garden and feeding – nest box

Well, here we are again – the beginning of winter. It's been cold and quite dry, and no doubt there will be snow to come. It's the time to put out some food for the birds in your garden if you have space. The sight of our common garden birds feeding close up and personal is one that brings joy to most people, and you never know, you might find something exceptional occasionally. Last year an "eruption" of hawfinches resulted in one on my feeder in Glenmoriston, and bramblings or waxwings are always possible from now onwards. But just watching a humble blue tit at the kitchen window can give you a real lift. Of course, small garden birds crowding round a feeding table is an open invitation for a sparrowhawk to whizz by and pick off the unwary. All part of Nature's rich tapestry!

With a fresh fall of snow, it is always interesting to take a walk in the woods to look for tracks. Deer tracks are usually the most common and it can be great fun to follow a set to get a glimpse into where an individual deer is heading and what it does – a window into their secret lives, if you will. Less commonly seen are fox and pine marten tracks, as well as squirrels and smaller animals like voles and mice. With a bit of practice you can tell the prints of half a dozen or so animals. I always find it astonishing that there is so much normally invisible activity going on by these nocturnal animals that we only see after snow. There are some animals that you won't see hide nor hair of in deep winter – those that hibernate. Animals that eat insects have a stark choice at this time of year. With no food around they must either move away south, as most insectivorous birds do (swallows, willow warblers and the like), or stay put and starve. By hibernating, animals like bats and hedgehogs reduce their body temperatures and energy requirements to a much lower state than normal, allowing them to survive the winter with no food. Shrews are the exception as, being so small, they cannot store enough food as fat to really hibernate throughout the winter. They have to eat around twice their own body weight in prey every day to stay warm and so must remain active. They do shrink, however! In order to reduce the energy requirements, they reduce the size of their own liver and brain to get through the winter! Badgers, foxes, squirrels and pine martens don't hibernate though they may slow down and spend a lot of time denning up keeping warm. Sounds a lot like many humans!!

This is the time of year when tawny owls (also called Bodach-oidhche, "the old man of the night") get frisky with each other. You can hear them hooting (that's the male) and "keeyick"-ing (that's the female answering) at each other after dark. They are quite early breeders and will be laying eggs by mid-March. They become strongly territorial now so that they have enough hunting territory to see them through the winter. If you would like to find out more about wildlife in winter and try out your tracking skills, why not join Trees for Life on our Winter Family Day on December 14th at Dundreggan in Glenmoriston – see this edition of Ness News for details.

Doug Gilbert
Trees for Life at Dundreggan

Newsletter for December 2019

We want to keep you up to date with what we are working on, so here are a few things that may be of interest. Do let us know if there is anything you would particularly like to hear about another time.

Community Caretakers

Community waste update: The day to day tourist waste volume has dramatically dropped as expected, however, we are still carrying out a daily litter run throughout the week and have decided to remove our 1100 litre waste bins from the main car park at the moment. This is really down to many taking advantage of an easy option and we are finding a vast amount of trade, garden, commercial and building waste which is not the purpose of the village community waste bins. Many of these items could be recycled or composted instead of just heading to landfill; we already provide clothing banks, a shoe bank and numerous bottle banks and we encourage everyone to use these more. **School Wildlife Garden:** The team have been granted access to a little chunk of ground down in the deep south of the old convent land. We have been collaborating with the local school children who have come up with excellent detailed plans on what would be good to have in the garden; so we are turning their plans into reality and getting our hands dirty. We have many more projects in the pipe line to establish in the garden but it just takes time, resources and labour. If any community member has burning ideas, wildlife friendly plants to donate or would like to be involved then once again please just get in touch with the community company team. Recent wildlife sightings have included numerous Red Squirrels, regular flocks of Long – tailed tits, Great spotted woodpecker, Redwings, Little Grebes and a Woodcock.

Medical Centre

Good news we now have an NHS chiropody clinic once a month and from the New Year an optician will also be visiting. Frances Jamieson of Black Isle Opticians is planning a monthly visit. Frances will be offering NHS eye examinations with up to date technology, including retinal photography. A range of frames and quality lenses will be available. All ages will be welcome, including babies!

Old Convent land

Many of you will be aware that the wall is in need of repair and has gaps in it at several points. We have now got the results of a survey we commissioned on the wall. Whilst the wall is generally stable, the surveyor has made various recommendations for us to consider, including reducing the wall in height down to 1.25m. This would improve the stability of the wall and make it easier to maintain but needs some careful planning and we are also looking at options for funding it. We are also in discussions with the Highland Council regarding use of a piece of community land to allow them to build 6 properties next to the Telford Centre. The piece of land needed is

bigger than we expected so we will be discussing with them how we retain community benefit from the development.

New Housing

Plans for the new housing are now well progressed. Planning was submitted early September followed by the documents for building control. Tenders will be out shortly with a return date in January. There are still other permissions to secure so there is still plenty of work ongoing behind the scenes. If all goes to plan we hope to be on site in early Spring.

One other issue we are considering is whether to fell the big Douglas fir tree, adjacent to the A82 before works start.

We are really pleased to have secured 970k from the Rural Housing Fund but we are still looking to secure funds from other sources to minimise the need for loans to fill the funding gap. The development includes 4 flats, 2 bungalows and 6 houses. If you weren't able to make it to the AGM and you want to see copies of the plans, call into the office. We anticipate we will be advertising for prospective tenants in November 2020 but if you want to flag up your interest before then, please write to the office.

AGM and new directors

This year's AGM was held on Tuesday 19th November 2019. 3 Directors stepped down – Richard Gray, Julia Latif and Reay MacKay we would like to thank them for their work. 3 new directors have been appointed these are Lorn MacKay, Chris Nelson and Derek Sumner we are looking forward to them joining us and helping to direct the future of the Company.

The chair, Harry Whiteside gave a full report covering the grants scheme, apprenticeships, and importantly the financials among other things.

The Chief Officer, Angela Williams, also gave a report updating people on her role and plans for the future. The architect then gave an update on the plans for the housing development. There was also a display available with plans and drawings to bring the whole thing to life. Angela also asked people to come up suggestions of a name for the new housing so do put your thinking caps on. Whilst the Highland Council may not accept our suggestions it would be nice if we can find one that works for both the community and the Council.

Key dates...

- Next Grants deadline – 14th February 2020

Contact us:

Telephone: 01320 366800

Angela, Chief Officer chiefofficer@communitycompany.co.uk

Karen, Administrator contact@communitycompany.co.uk

Please feel free to call into the office or contact us if you have any queries.

In the New Year we hope to hold a monthly sessions in Glenmoriston to make it easier for people to get in touch or find out what's happening with the Community Company.



Controlling Your Dog In Public

It's against the law to let a dog be dangerously out of control anywhere, such as:
in a public place
in a private place, for example a neighbour's house or garden
in the owner's home

The law applies to all dogs.

Out of control

Your dog is considered dangerously out of control if it:

injures someone

makes someone worried that it might injure them

A court could also decide that your dog is dangerously out of control if either of the following apply:

it attacks someone's animal

the owner of an animal thinks they could be injured if they tried to stop your dog attacking their animal

A farmer is allowed to kill your dog if it's worrying their livestock.

Penalties

You can get an unlimited fine or be sent to prison for up to 6 months (or both) if your dog is dangerously out of control. You may not be allowed to own a dog in the future and your dog may be destroyed.

If you let your dog injure someone you can be sent to prison for up to 5 years or fined (or both). If you deliberately use your dog to injure someone you could be charged with 'malicious wounding'.

If you allow your dog to kill someone you can be sent to prison for up to 14 years or get an unlimited fine (or both).

If you allow your dog to injure an assistance dog (for example a guide dog) you can be sent to prison for up to 3 years or fined (or both).

Dog Identification

The Control of Dogs Order 1992

This mandates that any dog in a public place must wear a collar with the name and address of the owner engraved or written on it, or engraved on a tag. Your telephone number is optional (but advisable)

Compulsory microchipping of dogs

It is now a legal requirement to have your dog microchipped in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. All dogs must be microchipped by the time they are eight weeks of age and registered with a database compliant with the regulations, such as Petlog. All breeders will need to microchip their puppies and register themselves as the first keeper of the puppy, before they are transferred to a new keeper. The new keeper will also be responsible for updating the microchip with their details.

'Failure to comply with the regulations could result in a fine of up to £500 in England, Wales and Scotland.

Community Protection Notices and Byelaws on noisy animals

If your dog's barking causes a serious nuisance to neighbours, the local authority can serve a noise abatement notice, or Community Protection Notice, which if unheeded can result in you paying fines and legal expenses.

The Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010

In Scotland, the Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010 came into force in February 2011 and is enforced alongside the Dangerous Dogs Act to tackle irresponsible dog ownership through the introduction of Dog Control Notices. The legislation also allows for prosecutions to be made in cases where an incident has occurred on private property, as well as in public places and removes any reference to a dog's 'size and power' when determining whether or not it is out of control.



FORT AUGUSTUS &
GLENMORISTON

Draft Minutes of the Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council Meeting held at the Millennium Hall, Invermoriston at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 30th October 2019.

Members Present:

Deirdre MacKinnon - Chair (DM)

Stuart Findlay - Treasurer (SF)

Helen Clay - Secretary (HC)

Rachel Hayes (RH)

Jeff Dymond (JD)

Carol Pritchard (CP)

Mike Anderson (MA)

Margaret Davidson - Councillor (MD)

1. Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 25th September 2019 were agreed to be an accurate and true reflection. Proposed by RH and seconded by CP.

Presentations:

Graeme Ambrose from the Loch Ness Challenge Event. Over the course of three days in May 2020 there will be an Ultra Marathon, a Mountain Bike Event and three individual marathons over the 29th, 30th and 31st May around Loch Ness sponsored by SSE Renewables.

The Ultra marathon will

Fort Augustus & Glenmoriston Community Council

start at Dores at 10 pm, it is a 360 event so will end at Dores with a maximum duration of 24 hrs, so contestants must be back at Dores by 10 p.m. the following night.

Mountain Bike Event is also a 360 event leaving from Dores at 5 p.m. to 5 p.m. the next day.

Three marathons over three days with the option to do one, two or three. Stages are Dores to Drumnadrochit, Drumnadrochit to Fort Augustus and Fort Augustus to Dores.

There are 100 places available for each event with the potential to increase numbers for the running events but not for the cycling event. At time of print 82 places for the Ultra had been taken, 67 of the bike and 30 for the individual marathons.

The route is utilising the Great Glen Way and South Ness Trail so there will be no road closures. There are obvious pinch points at Drumnadrochit and Fort Augustus but there will be signage and marshals to assist. Any profits will be used to upgrade the trails.

Further information is available at LochNess360.

com or graeme@visitILN.com

2. Matters Arising

Scottish Canals: MD to write to the CEO of Scottish Canals regarding their lack of community engagement commented on at the last meeting. Scottish Canals were asked and agreed to attend a meeting well before the start of Phase 2 to provide a more detailed overview of the plans and how the works will affect the general community as well as local businesses but failed to do so.

Car Park/Parking: Shane Manning (SM) is yet to visit Fort Augustus to discuss parking in the village. The Lovat Estate intends to complete the car park extension themselves and not lease or sell the land to THC but have asked THC to put in ticket machines and oversee collections etc. MD to ask SM to remedy Canalside road: pot holes, edges and then white lining. Parking will be charged all year round, 50% of income from car parking charges will stay local - which means Inverness however MD will try to keep it local to the area. Bunoich car park will remain free. MD to ask SM to attend a CC meeting.

Speeding: Transport Scotland have advised CC to get in touch with Richard Perry (RP) (Richard.Perry@transport.gov.scot) about the speed limits in Invermoriston. DM to contact.

MD to contact RP about the 30 mph speed limit signage on the Fort William Road.

The ambulance service has asked for a box junction to be placed outside the entrance to the new doctor's surgery as it gets blocked by traffic when the bridge is closed. MD to contact David Devine.

RH to e-mail MD and DM about signage issues at Torgoyle and they will contact David Devine.

SSE - Road Improvement: No update.

Information Pod: No update.

3. Police Report

No Police report was available. DM to complain to Police.

4. Treasurer's Report

The current balance at 29 Oct is £6,064.13. The interim accounts have been prepared.

5. Community Amenity Issues

Toilets: Invermoriston. Update from CP from the GMHC minutes. THC has undertaken a feasibility study but the results won't

be available until January 2020. MD asked whether the community wanted portaloos as it was not just a GMHC matter but a community one. Neil Jaffrey is the project manager at THC who is looking at potential funding. Unknown whether the update would be within the hall or a separate new toilet block. There was a question as to ownership of the land and the site is currently subject to a land registry search in Edinburgh. The septic tank was badly installed originally and the resolution of the issue needs to be discussed with the village hall committee and with the wider community.

As the toilets would not now be opened even on a temporary basis SF stated that temporary toilets were required now. Stratherrick have designs for their new toilet block which could be reviewed also the architect's drawings from Storr on Skye. May be prudent to get a bid ready for funding from Blue Energy (Beinneun) whose next round of funding applications is at the end of Jan beginning of Feb which would make funds available in May if successful.

Invermoriston: Achnaconeran road. MD has told the roads department to look at the road in its entirety initially reviewing the drainage and then repairing/resurfacing the road.

Dalchreichart Cemetery: No update.

Buses: MD sent a representative to the school to ask why the community bus was not being used as it should be. It costs £25 a day to hire it but not being used properly. A way to utilise it needs to be found, as it is a community bus not a school bus owned by the Community Company. MD to attend the school to discuss.

A question was asked whether the bus that takes the OAP's to Fort William could collect from Invermoriston. Unfortunately, it can only collect from Fort Augustus but DM to contact Judy Webster for confirmation.

Liftshare: Liftshare are the UK's leading car share provider. Based in Norwich with a small team, Liftshare has been providing a car share platform for 20 years. Liftshare enables organised car sharing by connecting people travelling in the same direction so they can arrange to travel together and share the costs, whilst reducing congestion and pollution at the same time. Any journey you take is appropriate for sharing, whether it be one-off or a regular commute. Registration is free.

Road Issues: Update of issues raised by MD with David Devine:

- Extending the 30 mph limit on the Fort William Road - ongoing;
- Extending 30 mph



limit by the fish factory by Torgoyle - ongoing;

- Speed limit at Invermoriston reduction from 40 to 30 mph - ongoing;
- Rupture in newly resurfaced road approximately 1 mile north of Allt-na-Criche leaking water - ongoing;
- Kerb repairs on bridge - ongoing.

No photo sorry but if you want to put a note in about Invermoriston it was attended by several members of the Kintail and Affric mountain rescue service as well as members of the community including two uniformed members of the services. Thanks.

6. Renewable Energy Projects

Cloich Windfarm:
No update.

Glenshero: Decision pending.

Dell Windfarm: Has consent. MD to mitigate entrance.

Fort Augustus Substation: SSEN advised that the Public Road Improvement works to resurface the road from the substation to the cemetery was not part of the planning consent and would therefore not be going ahead as previously advised, however, they are in discussions with THC to agree a way forward. Phase two of PRI which had consent was due to commence on 4th November for six weeks. The next meeting is on the 13th November at 7.00

p.m. at The Lovat Hotel.

7. Planning & Licensing

19/04459/FUL - Land 80m north of Tigh Na Bruach, Invermoriston. Erection of house.

The CC had no comment.
19/04442/LBC - The Old Smithy, Invermoriston, IV63 7YA. Erection of porch.
The CC had no comment.

19/03581/FUL - Land 40m south of Pinecroft, Auchterawe, Fort Augustus. Erection of house.
The CC had no comment.

19/004341/FUL - Re-opening of Muir pit, lateral extension to area of extraction, installation of mobile screening plant, restoration of borrow pit to forest.
The CC had no comment.

19/041559/FUL - Land to the north of Tullachard, Auchterawe, Fort Augustus. Erection of dwelling (Renewal of 16/03753/FUL).
The CC had no comment.

19/04039/FUL - Land 2075M East of Ceannacroc, Farm Cottage, Glenmoriston. Siting of four shepherds' huts for holiday accommodation.
The CC had no comment.

19/04749/FUL - Land East of The Lock Inn Canalside South Fort Augustus. Conversion of first floor from 2 flats to 8 guest rooms, erection of storage building, installation of ramp and canopy.

CC to comment on parking and access.

8. Correspondence
Scottish Water update received.
Thanks received from the Sheepdog Trials.
Scottish Water community event Tuesday 19th November in Inverness.
Community Company AGM to be held in Fort Augustus Village Hall on Tuesday 19th November.
The CC are backing the Leisure and Recreation Group formed from the Community Action survey.
Three Glens Social Care to support sheltered housing is to be progressed.
Karen from the Community Company will shortly be in touch with CP regarding Christmas Lights in Invermoriston.
DM to try to source Christmas trees for Fort Augustus and Invermoriston.

9. AOB
Leisure and Recreation Group meeting Tuesday 12th November from 5 - 6.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.
Abandoned car in field at Glenmoriston (following the canoe meet), owner traced and CP in correspondence with owner.
Query about ownership of land between Abertarff and the campsite in relation to trees - advised to contact the tree officer at THC.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 27th November 2019 in the Memorial Hall, Fort Augustus at 7.30 p.m.



Things to Do

- Monday
- Senior citizens meet for 12.30 lunch at the Lock Inn £5 (phone Jenny 366438 to arrange)
 - Cill Chuimein Heritage Group which meets the first Monday of every month except January, June, July and August at 2pm in the Church of Scotland hall.
 - Youth Club 7pm - 9pm All high school age children welcome

- Tuesday
- 1st Tuesday of month Ladies Group meet 2.40-4 pm in Church Hall (from Sept)
 - HIIT with Ania 6pm - 7pm Fitness class
 - Army Cadets 7.30pm - 9pm

- Tue or Wed
- Shopping bus to Fort William 9.45am, leaves main car park but picks up on way. Look for notice of day & date. Usually during last week of month £3. Phone Judy 366304 to get a seat. Plus there are other outings arranged throughout the year. Open to all ages for shopping, appointments and leisure. Returns approximately 2.40pm.

- Wednesday
- Carpet Bowls in Village Hall 2-4 pm (summer outdoor at Caledonian Hotel)
 - Ecumenical Choir meet in Church Hall 7.30 pm (new singers welcome)
 - Senior citizens meet for 12 noon Lunch at The Telford Centre £5. Phone Telford Centre 366511 to arrange.
 - 12th June 4pm Congregational Board Meeting - Church of Scotland.
 - Parent & Toddler Group 9.30am -11.30am
 - Tae Kwon Do 7pm - 8pm
 - Badminton at Kilchuimen Academy 7pm - 8pm

- Thursday
- Drop-in Café at Church Hall 10 - 11.30 am
 - British Legion Quiz - monthly - look for notice.
 - Beavers - Glenmoriston Millennium Hall - 5.30 pm
 - Scottish Country Dancing - Glenmoriston Millennium Hall - 7.30 pm Contact Cherry Duncan on 01320 351320
 - Glenmoriston lunch club, held in Glenmoriston Arms Hotel every second Thursday at 1pm. The charge for a 2 course meal plus tea/coffee is £5 per head.
 - 6th June 11.30am Monthly Prayer Service - Church of Scotland.
 - 4 July 11.30am Monthly Prayer Service - Church of Scotland.

- Friday
- Junior Shinty at Craigard, Invergarry
 - 1st Friday of winter months senior citizens meet for board games e.g. crib, dominoes, scrabble, cards plus lots more 2-4 pm in Church Hall.
 - Senior citizens meet 2nd, 3rd, 4th Friday. Keep fit to music 2.15 - 3.30 pm
 - Senior citizens meet last Friday of each month for Whist - Church Hall 7.30

- Sunday
- Art Group - Glenmoriston Millennium Hall - 2 pm
 - HIIT with Ania 6pm - 7pm Fitness class
 - Tae Kwon Do 7pm - 8pm
 - Fort Augustus Church of Scotland worship at 12 noon
 - Fort Augustus Free Church worship at 3.30 pm
 - Fort Augustus Sts Peter and Benedict RC Church Mass at 10 am
 - Glenmoriston Millennium Hall - 1st Sunday each month

Loch Ness & Great Glen Recreational Development Group

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who came to our recent open evening. It was good to see so many people taking an interest and we always welcome any feedback and ideas

Our next meeting is 3rd December in Fort Augustus Village Hall 5pm-6pm and all are welcome

Helen Clay
 Inggrecreation@gmail.com

Previous issue's crossword answers



Puzzles

EACH WORD OR PHRASE	BELOW REPRESENTS A FLOWER. VEGETABLE, SHRUB WEED ETC
STINGS	
RUDE SOUND	
PIERROTS PARTNER	
AUTOMOBILE COUNTRY	
AZURE DING DONG	
REMEMBER	
CAN BE PLAYED	
TALL AND BLONDE	
WISE OLD MAN	
BOVINE FALL	
WED FIFTY YEARS	
MUMS PINNY	
EMBLEM FOR WALES	
MEASURE FOR GOLD	
..... BRUSH	
DUMMY STONE	
CANINE TIMBER	
CRAFTY STRANGLE	
JUMP ON ONE LEG	
FIRE IRON	
DEMON NUT	
FOGGY ADORATION	
UNHAPPY PARTY GOER	
CAN BE SMOKED	
FACIAL TIC	
EMBLEM FOR ENGLAND	
HONEYED VEGETABLE	
KITCHEN UTENSIL- OCEAN	
TRANSPORT FOR MEN	
EMOTIONAL BLOSSOM	
EDWARD'S V11'S MISTRESS	
DEFEATED TUBER	

Notice Board

FAMILY FILM SHOW

Sat 28th December Doors open 4pm

Glenmoriston Millennium Hall

Supported by:  Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company



Hogmanay Ceilidh

8pm 31st December
Millennium Hall Invermoriston



LIVE MUSIC WITH
SHIELA COMMON

Buffet supper Licensed Bar Children's Games

Tickets from Cherry: 01320 351230

Notice Board



Thursdays 5.30-6.30pm
Glenmoriston Millennium Hall

Boys & Girls aged 6-8yrs Cost £3 per week

For more info contact: Lee Cox 07810 118563



FORT AUGUSTUS PARENT & TODDLER GROUP



EVERY WEDNESDAY



9:30 - 11:30am

AT THE VILLAGE HALL



Every Wednesday 7-15pm

(Starting 18th September 2019)

Glenmoriston Millennium Hall

£4 per person

Suitable for all levels of fitness

Have fun whilst Exercising



Licensed Zumba instructor

Glenmoriston Craft Club

*1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month
At Glenmoriston Millennium Hall*

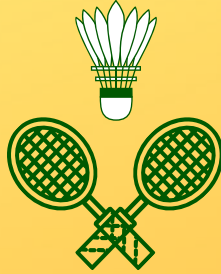
11am - 3pm

Cost only £3 per session

*Come along to our friendly group bringing
whatever craft takes your fancy.*

Notice Board

27th of February



FORT AUGUSTUS BADMINTON CLUB

 **Wednesdays 19:00 - 20:30**

 **Kilchuimen Academy**

 **2 pounds per session
Equipment provided**

CHRISTMAS CHURCH DATES

Tuesday 3rd December 'Waiting Here for You'
- Advent film presentation & discussion at
2.30pm (Manse)
also discussions on Wednesday 11th &
Tuesday 17th December (Church Hall)

Sunday 8th December at 3pm - 'Carols in the
Glen' at Tomdoun Church.

Wednesday 11th December at 7pm -
Kilchuimen Primary School Nativity
(Fort Augustus Church)

Friday 20th December at 12pm - Kilchuimen
Academy Christmas Carol Service
(Fort Augustus Church)

Tuesday 24th December at 11pm -
Christmas Eve Watchnight Service at Fort
Augustus Church.
Christmas Eve 'Christingle' Service at 6pm,-
Glengarry Church

Wednesday 25th December at 11am -
Christmas Day Family Service at Glengarry
Parish Church

YOGA CLASS

(All levels of experience including beginners)

MILLENNIUM HALL
INVERMORISTON

Starting

11th SEPTEMBER

10.00 - 11.30

£7.00 FIRST CLASS FREE

Bring mat and wear loose fitting clothes.

Yoga not only covers physical benefits. It also teaches
relaxation and stress management.



For further details

☎ 01320 351283.

Flaine

email: treatments.em@gmail.com

**Booking required in advance
(places are limited)**



Dundreggan Winter Family Day

Join us at Dundreggan for some festive activities this December!

Make a willow wreath or star to take home, have some fun with fire,
take part in tree dressing or our winter trail and go tracking with our
special guest, tracking expert Dan Puplett!

Saturday 14 December 10am - 3.30pm

event is Mince pies and other light refreshments will be available
Please wear sturdy shoes and warm clothing.



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**NEW
YEAR
CEILIDH**

FREE ENTRY DOORS 20:30 - 00:30
FORT AUGUSTUS VILLAGE HALL

FRIDAY 27TH DECEMBER
BYOB & NIBBLES - 18+



AHOOOLIGAN