**Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council**

Minutes of the Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council Meeting held at the Millennium Hall, Invermoriston on Wednesday 30th November 2016 @ 7.30 p.m.

**Members Present:**

Carol Pritchard - Chairperson (CP)

Iain MacKnocher - Vice-Chair (IM)

Johnny MacDonald - Treasurer (JM)

Deirdre MacKinnon - Secretary (DM)

Helen Clay (HC)

Peter Yair (PY)

Steven Smith (SS)

Margaret Davidson - Councillor (MD)

**Apologies:**

Rachel Hayes (RH)

Jean Davis - Councillor (JD)

**Note taker:** Samantha Cornelius

1. **Previous Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 26th October 2016 were agreed to be an accurate and true reflection. Proposed by IM and seconded by HC.

1. **Matters Arising**

**Shooting Club**: CP to arrange a date in the New Year to visit the site.

1. **Police Report**

Monthly report read by PC N746 MacDonald. Road Traffic - two minor road traffic accidents. One high risk missing person safely found. Two threatening and abusive language incidents one of which was reported to the Procurator Fiscal. One fly tipping offence. The card fraud enquiries are still ongoing.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

The account balance as at 2 October was £5,826.52.

The British Legion has supplied details of their invoice for 14 wreaths for £372 and asked for a contribution towards costs. Agreed a donation of £100 would be made.

Letter received from Rachel Hayes asking for a contribution towards the Children’s Christmas Party in Glenmoriston on 18th December. There was also a letter from Liz Proudlock for the Fort Augustus Christmas Party. £100 to be made available for both parties.

The Youth Club in Fort Augustus to be contacted with a view to them making an application for the release of funds held by the Community Council for young people.

Invoice received from Forte PC for £95 with regard to Community Council web page, consisting of: 12 months hosting £90, domain name £10 minus refund for system downtime -£5.

1. **Community Amenity Issues**

Grand Tour: Letter received enquiring about CC’s view of putting sign on Scottish Canals property (old MacVeans) saying “Go Home Clarkson” in relation to the Grand Tour which is filming around Loch Ness on 1st, 2nd and 3rd of December. Sign to be removed 30 minutes after filming finishes. CC believed the statement could be misinterpreted or misrepresented so declined to comment. Not a decision for the CC as the property belongs to Scottish Canals who would ultimately give or not give consent.

Dog Fouling: DM and the local dog warden inspected numerous sites in and around Fort Augustus but no fouling was detected (The Riggs, Abertarff, Jenkins Park, the Convent Wood and the cemetery). New notices are to be displayed with the new fine of £80 from the original £40. People are advised that if as an individual they witness fouling and know the address of the owner and can provide a description of the dog, they can anonymously report the matter and the dog warden can attend the address and issue a warning. If there are two or people who witness an incident and they are prepared to give statements the matter can be dealt with more formally and the owner can be fined.

Abandoned Vehicles: There will be a sweep of the village to remove abandoned cars or those without tax and MOT in accordance with the Police and DVLA.

Toilets: Reports have been received that the toilets at Fort Augustus are an absolute disgrace. There is also an issue with random opening times and the fact that they are closing at 6 p.m. although the last bus in arrives at 9 p.m.

1. **Renewable Energy Projects**

**Consented Projects:**

Beinneun Windfarm: 25 turbines 75 - 85MW. No update.

Bhlaraidh Windfarm: 108MW. The crane will be leaving the Bhlaraidh site this w/e, it will take 26 lorries to remove.

Millennium Windfarm: Harry Whiteside has been written to regarding the reduced income to the Community due to downtime of the windfarm so a connection could be completed. The unit was down between Aug and the end of Oct (approx. 14 weeks). CC understands that the windfarm should get compensation.

Stronelairg Windfarm: It has been requested that local police undertake traffic control during the construction element. The aim is for the site to be concluded and construction teams off site by Oct 18.

The path by the Abbey is nearly complete, yet to start work on constructing the footpath by the golf course and fire station. On Friday between 12 - 5 p.m. there will be a Meet the Buyer opportunity in the village hall.

Auchterawe Substation: Last CLG meeting on 9th November. Agreed it was better in the Memorial Hall as much easier to hear and have conversations. Efforts have been made to remove mud from the road by the bund. DM to check with Lorraine Doolan to ascertain reason for further meeting on 14th December and if due to landscaping then to cancel and instead issue that by way of separate update. Review of junction with Jenkins Park undertaken on Monday 28th concluded that signage was poor and white lining required as currently hardly visible. Proposals for alternative layout to be put forward in due course.

RJ MacLeod intends to resurface Invermoriston car park Feb/Mar 17. The car park will be closed for two days to facilitate resurfacing, advance signage has been requested. Hall Committee to be consulted.

1. **Planning & Licensing**

Applications:

* 1. Land 100M SE Of Corrie Liath Fort Augustus. Erection of house -16/04306/FUL
  2. Land 405M NW Of Whitebridge Cottage Auchterawe Fort Augustus. Construction of run of river hydro-electric scheme - 16/04957/FUL
  3. Land West Of Former Dalchreichart Primary School Dalchreichart Glenmoriston. Erection of house - 16/04981/FUL
  4. 8 Glendale Park Invermoriston Inverness IV63 7AB. Erect house and detached double garage - 16/04783/FUL
  5. Culachy Steading Fort Augustus PH32 4BY. Garage space in existing steading to be converted and extended to form new house - 16/05296/FUL

The CC has no comment in relation to any of the above applications.

Pre-Planning Application:

* 1. Erection of 60 foot mast at Lovat Hotel, Fort Augustus to provide 4G to Fort Augustus. The CC sent an e-mail to the developers Galliford Try enquiring as to how site was determined and what other options were considered. An invitation was also made for them to attend a CC meeting to provide further information. A reply was received indicating some other sites that were considered and declining the invitation as the company does not attend public meetings. DM to reply and suggest alternative sites for their consideration including but not limited to the golf course, Battery Rock, and behind the School hall. Correspondence to be cc’d to Simon Hindson at THC.

Refusal:

* 1. Caravan Park, Fort William Road - 16/02988/FUL: Appeal lodged against refusal to extend the site to permit 3 additional Holiday Lodges.

Discussion following concerns which have been raised about the content of the advertising being undertaken by the owner as well as concerns about waste water and sewage disposal on site. The chalets are currently being advertised as having 12 month occupancy which is contrary to existing planning permission which prohibits residential use. CC unable to seek enforcement of above application until the conclusion of any appeal. However, CC to seek enforcement of the 1986 planning permission as the layout of the park is not in accordance with that permission nor is the residential nature of the chalets. CC to further seek advice and assistance of Environmental Health with regard to the sites current sewage systems. MD to liaise with Keith Gibson.

1. **Correspondence**

Letter received from Aberchalder Woodlands advising of Long Term Forest Plan Scoping.

1. **AOB**

Query received concerning heating and options available from Council for local properties. MD aware and dealing.

The meeting was then closed. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 25th January at the Memorial Hall, Fort Augustus at 7.30 p.m.