

Chairperson

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**Secretary**

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Strathard Community Council
Minutes of meeting held on February 7th 2007 in Kinlochard Village Hall

1. **Sederunt:** Ros Dingwall, Maureen Campbell, Sue Russell, Scott Provan, Geraint Short, Duncan Cameron, Sgt Gregor McFarlane.
2. **Apologies:** Ralph Wolfe, Fiona McEwan, Andre Goulancourt, John Clow, Cllr Fergus Wood (arrived following Council meeting).
3. **Minutes:** Agreed.
4. **Matters Arising:**
 - Possible Strathard outdoor drinking ban – Scott will put an article into Strathard News.
 - Loch Katrine Environmental Statement – Ros attended the Loch Katrine Community Trust AGM, with Peter Cook, Russell Lamont and representatives of the Sir Walter Scott Trust – many questions were asked! Ros has also sent a response to Russell reiterating our areas of concern (impact on water supplies, open-ness of landscape, cattle proposal, and no mention of sheep grazing despite promises made to the community on this). RSPB have lodged objections re the siting of fencing and proximity to existing black grouse sites.
5. **Correspondence:**
 - Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park Authority** – letter detailing 5 board appointments to be advertised.
 - LLTNP Access Forum Membership** – opportunity to apply to be on the Forum.
 - Waterwatch Scotland** – details of South West Panel meeting – subsequently cancelled.
 - Wicksteed Playscapes** – newsletter.
 - Stirling Council** – minutes of Joint Rural Roads Meeting.
 - Stirling Council** – Talkback Annual Report 2006/7 – key points.
 - Stirling Council** – Flooding Biennial Report Nov 2007 available to be viewed on website at www.stirling.gov.uk/flooding
 - Anne McGuire MP** – Details of Advice Surgeries.
 - Stirling Council** – Councillors Surgery Dates (7pm for 30 mins prior to monthly Community Council meetings).
 - Rural Stirling Housing Association** – Information & discussion on homelessness session – Feb 16th – Geraint will attend.
 - Stirling Council** – Scheme for Establishment of Community Councils – up to date code documents to be circulated to Community Councillors.
 - CAGTUS (Community Action Group of The University of Strathclyde)** – email looking to see if we have any weekend day work on environmental projects (tidying up outside village halls/clearing paths/planting trees etc) that they might take on.
6. **Planning:**
 - **Dam Managers House** – Plans agreed subject to concerns expressed relating to brickwork, bats, sewage etc (it is our understanding that the proposal includes a septic tank?) - the work must be sensitively carried out. Duncan Cameron will chase Yvonne Boles (RSPB) for a response.
 - **Altskeith Conservatory** – Discussed by Fiona & Ros to meet deadline. Planning responded to Fiona's queries, confirming that this is proposed to replace their existing conservatory, and acknowledging its prominent position, and that they will thus be looking at it carefully.
 - **David Marshall Lodge – Installation of Extraction Flue** - concerns expressed re possible size & visual impact of flue – would like to see plans or more details.
 - **The Forth Inn Coffee Shop** - would like to see plans. Concerns expressed re fire exits and flood problem in lane adjacent to building & access for public, via lane, to carpark.

- **Developments at Trossachs Pier** – LLTNP advised to contact Trossachs Community Council as no longer in our area. Proposals seem reasonable.
- **Update** – Stronachlachar Lodge subdivision – CC feedback passed to the Enforcement Officer. Satisfied with LLTNP action on this. Ardarroch – revised plans approved. 2 Lochside Cottages – revised plans still not submitted.

7. Reports:

- **Sgt Gregor McFarlane** – 3 vandalisms in January (bus shelter at Gartmore, stone through a window, and removal of coping stones) – otherwise fairly quiet. Responsibility at Callander Police Station is split, and Gregor has responsibility for out-stations from Callander, including Aberfoyle. Additional patrols are continuing following the wild camping incidents last year – working with FC & LLTNP to increase presence and awareness, and hoping for increased central funding for this. Again, encourage residents to pass on any information relating to specific problems.
- **Treasurer** – Phone account £4798, Current account £1056. A further copy of accounts are to be sent to the Council.
- **Cllr Fergus Wood** – had to attend an emergency council meeting at short notice, but arrived by the end of the meeting. Drain clearance has greatly improved flooding problems at Forest Hills, and it is hoped to extend this further down the road.
- **Duncan Cameron, RSPB** – The goat count numbers 20-23 goats, and one or two in other locations. Bad weather hampers the quality of monitoring, and this is likely to continue into April. RSPB 5 year management plan currently being put together. Following a meeting in June, this will be open to the public for discussion on issues such as grazing. Boathouse doors are fixed following storm damage. A white-tailed eagle has been spotted on the reserve, bringing the species total to 119. Duncan is looking for a volunteer to carry out butterfly transects.
- **Scottish Government Seminar on Planning Modernisation** – meeting attended by Fiona on 15th January.

8. AOCB:

- **Road issues** – Ros has contacted the Council to try to get them to improve the edges of the roads (Traffic Management state that it is a Maintenance issue, who in turn state that it is not their issue either!) Neil Campbell (and many others) would also like to push for more Passing Place and “Use Passing Places for Overtaking” signs.
- **Mobile Phone Masts** – Duncan would like to see more of these to assist with emergencies. We are unlikely to be able to use the police radio network. Could possibly look into emergency roadside phones (though funding would be required for this) or a sign at the entrance to the B829 warning visitors of no mobile reception.
- **Wastewater Treatment Plant** – Scott has contacted SEPA regarding our concerns on road wear & tear, effluent problems, & diesel leakage from vehicles. They have still to come back and provide more information, though since the conversation there has been no more diesel leakage. It appears that there is a rupture in the tank at Inversnaid (though the reverse osmosis filter is new, the tank itself is old), and Scottish Water plan to repair this. It may be a good idea to contact the Inversnaid Hotel to make guests aware of the seepage issues, and subsequently contact Environmental Health if the issues are not addressed. Maureen also contacted SEPA, and additionally highlighted the seepage at Aberfoyle and overloading of sewage facilities here.
- **Robin Dixon, Comer Estate Factor** – has provided some brief comments on the proposed hydro-electric scheme in Gleann Dubh. He is looking at pursuing a feasibility study with Leader Plus funding. This would rule out the Community apply for funding via the same vehicle if we were also interested in pursuing this. Sue to write to Robin to request more detail and invite him to come and talk to us.

Next meeting Inversnaid Primary School – 7.30pm on Thursday 6th March