

Chairperson

Mrs. R. Dingwall
Taobh-an-abhainn
Lochard Road,
Aberfoyle,
FK8 3SZ.

Tel: Day 01877 382 231
Eve. 01877 382 668

**Secretary**

Ms Sue Russell
Loch Dhu House
Kinlochard
FK8 3TS
Tel: 01877 387712

**Strathard Community Council
Minutes of meeting held on May 1st 2008 in Kinlochard Village Hall**

1. **Sederunt:** Ros Dingwall, Fiona McEwan, Scott Provan, Maureen Campbell, Sue Russell, Andre Goulancourt, Geraint Short, Owen McKee, Sgt Tasker, Cllr Fergus Wood
2. **Apologies:** Ralph Wolfe, John Clow
3. **Minutes:** Agreed.
4. **Matters Arising:**
 - Waste Water Treatment Plant – Continued discontent with Transorganics tankers. Scottish Water have said that work on the plant was due to be completed by the end of April – Scott will follow up. Fergus referred it to the Roads dept who will take action if damage to the road can be proved and Fiona has been in touch with Hunter Jamieson of Stirling Council, who would appreciate being informed of any issues. Damage to soft verges & new areas of subsidence on the C68 have been observed, in addition to substantial road erosion.
 - Outdoor drinking byelaw – survey held at Aberfoyle Post Office has received a number of responses and comments. Further survey to be placed at Kinlochard shop.
 - National Park Local Plan – available on NP website for comments until 12th May.
5. **Guest Speaker - Russell Lamont (Forestry Commission) re Great Trossachs Forest.** Russell gave an interesting & informative presentation on this 9600 hectare project. Part of the remit is to create an additional 2000 hectares of native woodland (both new & natural regeneration) including oaks, ash, alders, scots pine and silver birch. FC has taken on board some of the concerns expressed regarding the loss of open moorland views, and has reduced the planned planting around Loch Arklet by 10%. However, there is a strong feeling among the community that this is still far too much planting and we are still unable to give our support at this time. There is currently a grazing population of deer and it is planned to re-introduce cattle and further deer, but Scottish Water will only give permission for this once Milngavie treatment works are fully operational. The historic route will no longer pass across Arklet dam and will follow what was agreed in the feasibility study. If funding is not secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the military route will not go ahead, but FC will still aim to do some planting. It is also planned for a big focus on tracks and trails at Trossachs Pier, whilst maintaining the SSSI. Regarding timber extraction, some will come out via Stroney & the B829 and everything else down the shores of Loch Katrine.
6. **Correspondence:**
 - LLTNPA** – letter reminding us that comments are invited on the Local Plan and Draft Environmental Report by 12th May. Available on NP website.
 - Stirling Council** – inviting us to apply for Scottish Calor Gas Village of Year awards.
 - Stirling Council** – Minute Taking Class – Balfour Campus 13th May – 7.30-9.00pm.
 - Unique Events** – Trossachs Creative Workshop to discuss ideas on proposed festival to celebrate the bicentennial of Sir Walter Scott's *"The Lady of the Lake"* poem. David Marshall Lodge, 13th May 6pm.
 - Forth Valley NHS Board** – newsletter.
 - Scott Provan** – various emails regarding the Loch Katrine Community Trust and FC meeting on 1st April on the Great Trossachs Forest project.
 - Stirling Council** – meeting of Health & Safety Panel on 1st May.
 - Beautiful Scotland Neighbourhood Awards 2008** – invitation to join process.
 - Stirling Council** – Notice of councillors surgeries.
 - Anne McGuire MP** – Constituency advice surgeries.
 - Stirling Council** – information on renewals requested under Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.
 - Stirling Council** – Notice of public processions – Anthony Nolan Trust Trossachs 10k, 31st May 10.30am.

7. Planning:

- No new applications.
- Proposed Memorial Bench for Sigrid Armitage – there are no hard & fast planning rules regarding benches, although these should not cause an obstruction. Planning permission requirements depend on the proposed location. Interest was again expressed in siting it outside the Reading Room, partway up the hill. There was formerly a bench here – Fiona will query with John Clow (who is on the Reading Room committee) and Planning again.
- Community Council has joined Scotways, the organisation overseeing public rights of way.
- Letter from Archie Holmes, Kinlochard, expressing concern over informal discussions and representations being made re the possible development of land in Kinlochard owned by Ron Stewart. Mr Stewart has been advised to contact the NP planning officer to look at the rules governing the area as there is currently no scope for residential developments, and very little scope for commercial developments, though this could change with the new Local Plan. No plans have been received to date for review by the Community Council.
- Comments to be passed to Fiona regarding the Local Plan Issues Report, which reflects input from Open Days. This consultation stage will help inform the drafting of the new Local Plan.
- The park-wide Planning Forum (contact Mike Hyde) has had its initial meeting (although it was advertised in local newspapers, Community Councils were not directly informed). The issues of affordable local housing and renewable energy were discussed.
- Forest Hills Development is drawing to a conclusion, and the FH-Kinlochard footpath is still scheduled to go ahead. We now need to contact NP/Stirling Council to intervene, if we wish to try to change this. This proposed footpath idea appears to have been picked up by Planning from a Paths Group document, and found its way into the plans despite there being no intention by the Paths Group to use the planning gain funds. NP has stated that the circa £50k funding needs to be for an identifiable project – all agreed that Kinlochard Village Hall is the most suitable project (the secondary project being sewage infrastructure if funds allow).

8. Reports:

- **Treasurer** – main account £1397.07, Christmas account £608.65, and telephone book account £4808.35. The books are with the auditor.
- **Owen McKee** – advised that the Local Plan will take into account the Community Action Plan. Asked us to support the Trossachs Creative Workshop detailed in Correspondence.
- **Cllr Fergus Wood** – there are various sums (from £25k to £38k) allocated for work on the B829 at Milton and close to the school area (noted that this would be best delayed until after the school building work is complete). £65k is to be spent on work on the C68. The total Roads budget has been increased by £3 million this year, and £17 million over a 4 year period. There have been various changes within the Council and economic development and tourism are going to be far more prominent with much greater effort being made to support tourist businesses.
- **Sgt Tasker, Dunblane** – apologies from local officers who were unable to attend. A fraud incident was perpetrated on Manse Road, where a 90 year old lady lost a substantial amount of money to a bogus workman. Operation Ironworks – Sgt Greenhorn at the Callander office is co-ordinating lochside patrols. Individuals involved in the Loch Chon incident go to trial on May 2nd.
- **Meetings Attended – Community Action Plan** – this is planned to be ready for 7th June and it is hoped to get a bus to take a roadshow around to Kinlochard & Stroney. The Action Plan will be posted out to all households.

8. AOCB:

- **Sandbags** – are now defined as hazardous waste! Council workers are not allowed to uplift them. If we could get access to funds, it may be possible to store them under the planters - the council to come back to Fiona on this. Newer sandbags now apparently do not rot and are able to be stored outside, although this should not be in a public area.
- **Fuel Prices** – This is a Westminster issue – individuals/Community Councils & Trusts should be encouraged to write to Anne McGuire.
- **BT phone boxes at Inversnaid, Stroney & Kinlochard** – proposed closure (though no communication received as yet). All felt that it is very important to retain these as there is no mobile signal throughout a large part of Strathard.

Next meeting Inversnaid Primary School – 7.30pm on Thursday 5th June.