

Chairperson

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**Secretary**

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Minutes of meeting held on October 2nd 2008 at Aberfoyle Memorial Hall

1. **Sederunt:** Ros Dingwall, Fiona McEwan, John Clow, Sue Russell, Scott Provan, Ralph Wolfe, Owen McKee, Cllr Paul Owens, Duncan Cameron
2. **Apologies:** Andre Goulancourt, Geraint Short, Maureen Campbell
3. **Minutes:** Agreed.
4. **Matters Arising:** None.
5. **Correspondence:**
 - Community Partnership** – Trossachs Area Network Meetings questionnaire. TAN is helpful as a support for small communities, and a good opportunity to network, but generally felt that there are too many meetings – Sue to circulate questionnaire & collate responses.
 - Stirling Council** – B829 temporary closure order for work on road close to the school. Understood that £40k is still earmarked for work in the Milton area. Again requested work be carried out on road at Loch Chon, but budgets are tight and cost of materials increasing.
 - Anne McGuire MP** – Constituency Advice Surgeries.
 - Stirling Council** – Councillors Surgeries.
 - Digital UK** – presentations re switchover to digital television.
 - Arthur Jones** – letter to Cllr Wood re proposed traffic calming measures.
 - Stirling Enterprise (STEP)** – workshop on funding for Forth Valley farmers – Weds 22nd Oct, 7-9pm.
 - Stirling Council** – meeting of Planning Panel - 25th Sept.
 - Stirling Council** – meeting of Executive - 25th Sept.
 - LLTNP** – response from Tim Edwards re outdoor drinking byelaws.
 - Procurator Fiscal, Stirling** – response re outdoor drinking byelaws.
 - LLTNP** – ‘Decision Making for Sustainability’ seminar - 30th Sept.
 - LLTNP** – informal buffet supper for community council representatives – 22nd Sept.
 - Moir Robertson** – minutes of ACC meeting 22nd Sept.
 - Stirling Council** – Community Pride Fund, for small community funding requests. Possibility raised of requesting a generator to run Christmas lights or other displays/events in the Baillie garden area. Fiona will liaise with the appropriate people to investigate further.
 - Rural Stirling Housing Association** – Community Briefing.
 - Kate Thomas** – letter raising concerns over proposed Ard Park developments.
 - Stirling Community Health Partnership, Public Partnership Forum** – ‘Primary Care Services for Stirling City’ meeting – 24th Sept.
 - Scottish Health Council Forth Valley** – contact database update.
 - Stirling Council** – request for schedule of meetings 2009.
 - LLTNP** – consultation on National Park Biodiversity Action Plan, 15th Sept – 27th Oct.
 - Postwatch Scotland** – final issue.
 - ASCC Conference** – Sat 22nd November at Scottish Parliament.
 - Rob Robinson, Heritage Consulting** – asking about issues relating to the Great Trossachs Forest project – Ros to forward email to all.
 - Fiona McLean** – expressing concerns re Lochs & Glens buses, and frequency & use of the B829. The issue of signage was then discussed, and the need to communicate more prominently the fact that the B829 is a no-through road. Also the white lines at the Baillie junction need re-doing.
6. **Traffic Calming, Lochard Road:** Ros summarised the plans and discussions that have taken place so far, particularly the views of the children themselves, who all expressed concerns about the road, and speed & size of vehicles. The public meeting was very well attended and only one individual spoke against the proposals. In addition to school start and finish times, the school is busy at nursery finish times (middle of the day), PE classes, after school care and various other after school activities. Various items of correspondence received relating to the proposals: Arthur Jones against proposals; Morna Ferguson (Lochard Rd resident), and Glynis Houghton

(Stoneypark) both in favour; John Epps favouring speed traps over what is proposed; Darren Ryan, Stirling Council, explaining the speed nibs; and Sgt Gregor Macfarlane, explaining that speed bumps don't damage vehicles - he will refer to Sgt McLean and other colleagues on the subject of flashing signs. Discussions followed on various questions: is a 20mph limit legal on a national speed limit road?, how is 20mph going to be enforced when 30mph rarely is just now?, could there be traffic lights installed at the school? (apparently not permitted on a B road). Generally felt that parents need educating on where and how to park & turn (the kids will leaflet parents parking on zigzags); kids on use of footballs etc near the road; and road users on showing consideration to teachers crossing kids over the road. If 2 people witness and take note of offending car registrations, the police will speak to the owners, though they are not able to charge them. Generally felt that even if it is disregarded by drivers, the 20mph limit will at least have the effect of reducing speed to nearer 30mph rather than 40mph, but it is strongly felt that there should be increased police presence and action.

7. **Outdoor Drinking Byelaw:** The police are strongly in favour of the powers this would confer, enabling them to restrict and charge troublemakers/give on the spot fines before matters get hand of hand, though reservations have been expressed by some residents over the fear of criminalizing people doing no harm. Aberfoyle is having many problems just now with trouble on Main St after pub hours. Gartmore are considering a similar ban so it may be worth talking to and joining with them, to avoid displacement issues. Boundaries need to be carefully considered – Peter Farquhar, Stirling Council, has requested a map of the area we would like to consider. Loch Chon is tricky as there are many genuine fishermen/campers etc. Eilean Gorm in Loch Ard is also regularly populated by campers – worth flagging to police. Designating the B829 a clearway is a possibility (Sgt MacFarlane is referring this to Sgt McLean), but this would take a considerable time to put into place. Operation Ironworks (runs from Mar-Oct each year) is working well, and involves the NP, SNH & Forestry as well as the police – trouble has been removed from most areas. A study is ongoing relating to campers (most camp very close to their cars), and it is felt that if the car parking issue could be resolved, this would go a long way to solving the camping & drinking issues. Regarding fishermen, the Pike Fishing Association hire bailiffs to police Loch Ard (unsure about Loch Chon?). It may well be best to deal with Aberfoyle itself initially, with the lochside areas dealt with subsequently as a separate project. An Aberfoyle ban could encompass the whole 30mph area, and David Marshall Lodge. In the meantime, actions include: (a) speaking to the police & reps from Op Ironworks (b) surveying the B829 and find out who owns land/laybys adjoining the road (c) speaking to Loch Ard riparians re the island (d) publicising our SCC telephone number, inviting comments (387200) (e) trying to work out the necessary area encompassed (f) trying to get the Inversnaid Rob Roy carpark patrolled as part of Arklet & Katrine patrols.

8. **Planning:**

- **(New): FCS – David Marshall Lodge** – alterations to provide new staircase, entrance canopy & improved disabled access facility. Plans viewed, and generally felt to be positive and an improvement to the current entrance. Use of slate on the walls and wood on the roof seemed slightly back to front, some concerns over amount / use of different woods. However, the existing building is listed so should be reviewed by Historic Scotland as to suitability of design.
- **Dundarroch, Loch Ard Road** – replacement of existing stairs and patio with new staircases, patio & balustrading at the entrance to the house. Mixed feelings on whether balustrading was entirely in keeping with the house architecture. To be queried as a matter for expert review.
- **Dowally Cottage, Loch Ard Road** – erection of rear conservatory – minor application, with no further investigation considered necessary.
- **(Existing cases with updated info):**
- Garage, Montrose Road, Aberfoyle – several neighbour objections regarding parking apparently now have been lodged with Planning. Parking was an issue queried in the Community Council response per September minutes.
- Campbells Croft, Kinlochard – approved 11 Sept 08.
- Dundarroch – approved 4 Sept 08.
- 2 Lochside Cottages, Kinlochard – Some signs of activity at site 2 Oct 08 (one day prior to enforcement deadline).
- Forest Hills Hotel – info about proposed drainage scheme submitted to Planning in Sept, by Stirling Council Roads Dept.
- **(Other):** Loch Arklet planting information received from Russell Lamont, FC, confirming that “there really has been no change to the land management proposals we described in the EIA

back in 2007". Date to be set for "appeal process" meeting. Only input from NP since 2006 has been one letter.

8. Reports:

- **Community Trust** – Ian Davison-Porter has started work on a funding proposal to further some of the Action Plan priorities – a Public Realm Design Guide. Some scepticism greeted this remark as this has been tried before without much success and it is felt that it may not benefit the people of Aberfoyle. Generally felt that there needs to be better contact between the Trust and CC – Ros attended a lunch with Lesley Campbell at which this was discussed. Although we have representation at both meetings, minutes could be circulated more widely. – ideally we should update each other and communicate more closely.
- **Owen McKee** – the Community Partnership Apprenticeship Scheme has been launched, involving the lobbying of employers within the NP to take on apprentices. 9 apprenticeships started today, which is excellent news, as apprenticeship figures within the NP have historically been very low compared with Scotland as a whole.
- **Cllr Paul Owens** – the new hospital in Larbert is not going to have a sprinkler system or heliport – looking into this. More volunteers are required for the Fire & Rescue service. McLaren Leisure Centre, Callander, has been underfunded for a while and is needing repairs. The National Scottish Country Dance Championships held at Callander Indoor Arena were so successful, the International Championships are going to be held here.
- **Duncan Cameron, RSPB** – RSPB are currently drafting their 5 year planning document which will go out for consultation. The eagles have been spotted several times this week – the proposed planting should not affect their eyries.
- **Loch Katrine Community Trust** – Royal Cottage is up for sale, for residential purposes only, so the possibility of LKCT applying for funding for an interpretation centre/museum cannot now proceed.
- **Meetings Attended** – Scottish Government Consultation on town centres & local high streets.

9. AOCB:

- **Aberfoyle Motors** - the Big Lottery Funding bid is underway and looks viable this time. It is very important to prove that the community is interested and supportive, so a Big Garage Open Day has been planned for Sunday 26 Oct with activities for children, displays and consultation, opening up of garage workshops & buses, discounts on petrol for that day and other activities.

Next meeting Kinlochard Village Hall – 7.30pm on Thursday 6th November.