

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 9th January 2006
at Glenfinnan House Hotel

Present:

Duncan Gibson
Eric McKenna
Eileen O'Rua
Grahaeme Young

Absent:

Joan Robertson

Also present: Allan MacKenzie, Social Development Forester, Forestry Commission

1.0 The minutes of the last meeting were circulated and agreed

2.0 Business Arising

2.1 Forestry

Alan MacKenzie, Social Development Forester with the Forestry Commission joined us. The main focus of his visit was to encourage us to consider how best to use the forest after the Callop Bridge has gone up and provided better access. We discussed the possibilities which includes (but not limited to) extending paths, creating circular walks, placing a pontoon at that side of the loch, picnic area, moving the car park. In essence, making the forest more accessible, enjoyable and a resource for visitors and creating opportunities for people to sail, cycle, walk in and out of Glenfinnan. We decided to make a presentation to the village and ask villagers for their concerns, opinions and ideas then feed back to Allan. Allan left literature which we will distribute.

Other possibilities open to us are to enter into partnership with the Forestry Commission or to buy the forest.

The quarry has been made less visible.

There will be felling at the end of February / beginning of March.

Allan also mentioned the possibility of a cycle path between Glenfinnan and Kilmallie.

2.2 Road issues

No update

2.3 War memorial renovation

No update as yet.

2.4 Recycling

E. O'Rua will place posters on the community notice boards to inform people of the new recycling facilities.

2.5 Community Council computer

Money received from D. MacFarlane to purchase computer. E. O'Rua to send receipt

2.6 Highland Year of Culture 2007

Nobody came along to join the project group. E.O'Rua will contact those who have already said they will help to arrange a meeting and apply for funding.

2.7 Train Service

Received apologies from First Scotrail for lack of information regarding suspension of train service.

2.8 Phone Box

BT has said that they are responsible for maintaining and cleaning the phone box. E. O'Rua to inspect phone box and report back to BT.

2.9 Castle

E. McKenna informed us that there is a group of people in the village who are exploring the possibility of making it a community space.

2.10 Road Closures

No reply to letter

2.11 Christmas Parties

They were well attended and greatly enjoyed. Thanks to everyone who came and to those who helped make them a success. Special thanks to the Santas, Kieron and Ina for their hospitality and to Kirsten and Emma Colman for providing entertainment.

2.12 Sewerage

No reply as yet.

2.13 Surface Water on A830

No update

3.0 Correspondence

- Christmas card from A. MacKenzie, Forestry Commission
- Thank You card from John Keith and Nancy Bacon for Senior Citizens Christmas party
- Photographs of Senior Citizens Party from Sue Vinnie

- Voluntary Action Lochaber newsletter, Annual Report and Accounts
- Lochaber Housing Association newsletter
- Channel 4's Big Art Project

4.0 AOCB

4.1 Rhododendrons on Slatlach river side of back track need cut back to enhance view of river

Date of next meeting to be arranged.

