

Glenfinnan Community Council

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Minutes of meeting held on 21st November 2007

Present: Duncan Gibson, Eileen O'Rua, Joan Robertson, Grahaeme Young, Ingrid Henderson

Also present: John Barnes

1.0 Minutes circulated and agreed

2.0 Business Arising

2.1 Glenfinnan 07

This programme of events will be coming to an end shortly. The Beginners Gaelic class and the music lessons are finishing early December. Eileen has approached Feis nan Garbh Criochan about continuing the music lessons and they will discuss it at their committee meeting. The ceardall còmhradh will continue until March and the photography project will be completed by next spring. There has been great support from within and outwith the village. We have had some very well attended events such as the family ceilidh in February; Glenfinnan's Big Paint; Gaelic for gamekeepers, poachers and hillwalkers; the family ceilidh dance in July and An evening with Charlie MacFarlane. On 8th December we are hosting a Grand Finale family ceilidh in the Princes House Hotel.

2.2 Vacancy in Community Council

Ingrid Henderson has joined the community council. This vacancy is now filled.

2.3 Railway Station plans

John Barnes presented plans for improvement of the Railway Station as per the current detailed planning application. Grahaeme Young will write to the planners in support of the application and request that a bus shelter be considered at the Road End. Duncan Gibson will contact BT re the phone box light and maintenance.

3.0 Correspondence

- Programme for Highland Council tourism seminar 5th December, Inverness. Action: pass to Visit Glenfinnan
- NHS Highland Cancer Information Group leaflets on local support information
- HIE Annual Report and Accounts
- NHS Highland Review of Visiting Hours. Action: Eileen O'Rua to reply

4.0 AOCB

- Ingrid Henderson raised the issue of phones – landlines and mobiles. The BT junction boxes are in a bad state and the lines are poor e.g. many people sound very distant to people phoning them. Broadband speeds are slow and at times people cannot get online because they are so slow. There are new houses being built and new businesses in the village. Ingrid declared her vested interest. The main point is that BT will not upgrade the exchange unless everyone complains. Re mobile phones there are problems with 'network busy' so people cannot make or receive calls and lengthy delays in text deliveries. The seriousness of this issue was apparent recently when communication problems hampered a rescue operation involving people stranded on the loch. Ingrid volunteered to write a letter to the village asking everyone to complain in the hope that these problems will then be resolved.
- The Fireworks display was a success as usual. Thank you to Alisdair Gibson and Glenfinnan Estate for hosting bonfire night and for tidying up after us.
- J. Robertson raised an issue on behalf of a member of the public. The new bridge is excellent and enjoyed by many however the lack of handrails at the far side of the bridge is a concern and also the slippiness. Grahaeme Young will contact Donald Donnelly.
- AGM Sunday 2nd December at 3pm in Princes House Hotel. Tea / Coffee available. (Confirmed following meeting) John Barnes will organise a financial report and produce a statement on community facility funds.
- Children's Christmas Party 22nd December 3pm – 5pm.
- Senior Citizens Party Sunday 16th December 6.30 for 7pm at Princes House Hotel. (confirmed following meeting)

Date of next meeting, 16th January 7pm at Glenfinnan House Hotel.