

Glengarry Community Council  
Minutes of meeting 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at Invergarry Village Hall

1. Present: Catriona Menzies (CM), Lea MacNally (LMacN), Neillie Stewart (NS), Ken Brown (KB), Andrew Baldrey (AB), Cecilia Dyckhoff (CD); and Councillor Denis Rixson (DR). Apologies: Councillor Alan Henderson. Conflicts: LMcN intimated a conflict in relation to a planning matter.
2. Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> March meeting adopted  
Proposed: NS; seconded: LMcN
3. Matters arising
  - (a) Post Office door: CD has been unsuccessful in obtaining any quotations after leaving messages. LMacN will speak to John Weller.
  - (b) Presentation to Douglas Stewart: after discussion, it was agreed that AB should finalise this.
  - (c) Old Bridge: CD is hopeful that her contacts in the heritage building community may produce some suggestions about the way forward. KB raised the issue of the ownership of the river banks, and it was noted that there is more than one competing interest. There may be a question as to whether the owner would be compellable to repair the bridge. It was recalled that organisations providing community benefits might become interested in the repair project. DR suggested that CD should contact Kirsty Cameron, the archaeologist of Highland Council (HC), and Historic Environment Scotland.
4. Playpark equipment  
NS confirmed that the roundabout has been cut up by HC and taken away. This is to be regretted, as KB had sourced a replacement bearing from the manufacturers. The cost would have been between £175 and £600, depending on whether or not a connected part also had to be replaced. LMacN confirmed that GCC would have been able to meet this level of cost. As a point of information, the manufacturers had confirmed that the roundabout could have been dismantled without cutting up and would not have required a crane to take away. KB reported that he had been in contact with three organisations which had indicated that they could possibly meet the cost within this financial year. He also pointed out that the HC “Play Area Upgrades Flowchart” (produced) is incorrect, in that it makes an illegal proposal that grants made by charitable trusts to local organisations should be passed on to HC. It was noted that GCC has not received the engineer’s report that we had requested from HC. DR mentioned the HC responsibility for the safety of playpark equipment and referred to the playspace grant allocation that would be made later this year, and that HC would have to agree to the specification of any equipment. He said that he would speak to the HC official who will be dealing with this until August, to see if there is a way forward. It was also noted that issues of insurance, inspection and repair would also need to be addressed. He apologised on behalf of HC for the difficulties we have experienced.
5. Coire Glas

There is to be a public meeting about the project in the Village Hall on 25<sup>th</sup> April between 15.00 and 19.00. The temporary re-routing of the Great Glen Way path is progressing.

6. Planning applications

There have been two planning applications made: for a store building at the old railway; and for a change of use of farm steading buildings at Invergarry Home Farm. LMacN left the room for the discussion of the latter application, having noted a conflict of interest. After discussion, it was decided to make no comment on either application.

7. Treasurer's report

The report was noted. LMacN explained that £1,607.38 is paid into the account through Glengarry Shinty Club, this being a third share from the hydro scheme on Allt Coire a Bhalachan opposite Poulary; and that the grant of £2,500 from the Glengarry Trust for six skips has been approved, though it will not appear on the next financial statement.

8. Any other competent business

- (a) NS has information about Green Health Week (14<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> May) which he will pass to Glengarry Community Woodlands.
- (b) The GCC email account is not accessible at present. KB agreed to contact Tom Cooper and to look into this.
- (c) NS has received complaints about the battered appearance of the brown tourist information sign at the Faichem road end. He will report this to Visit Scotland.
- (d) NS has also received a complaint about the state of the footpaths and the presence of rubble in the Crescent. LMacN will mention this to the village officer.
- (e) It was noted the SSEN Resilience Community Fund is available to organisations with audited accounts, and that the Village Hall committee is aware of this.
- (f) CM, LMacN and NS have had a meeting with the representatives of Fred Olsen Renewables about the proposed Culachy windfarm consisting of ten turbines. It is to have a lifetime of 30 years. Only one of the turbines will be in the GCC area. DR said that the planning department should be advised of this. There is to be an open meeting about the project in the Village Hall on 20<sup>th</sup> April from 11.00 to 19.00. Some traffic disruption is to be expected when the blades and other elements are brought in.
- (g) It was noted that there has been a significant episode of fly-tipping beside Loch Garry. It was noticed on 7<sup>th</sup> March and reported to HC the following day. Apparently there may be safety issues for the HC Waste Management team accessing it. DR said he would speak to Ian Cameron, the Waste Management Officer, forthwith, and remind him if it is not cleared within two weeks.
- (h) CM reported that she had been present for a Zoom meeting about the bus link for the new Fort William hospital and medical centre. There is an issue about whether buses to Fort William should be a circular route around the medical centre.
- (i) Denise Paterson of Three Glens Community Care has invited any interested Glengarry groups to the AGM on 9<sup>th</sup> May at 14.30

9. Next meetings: 9<sup>th</sup> May and 6<sup>th</sup> June (AGM) at 19.00 in the Village Hall.