

GARVE AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 1st December 1998 at Garve

Present: Community Councillors - Uisdean Menzies, John Bedwell, Lady Eliza Leslie Melville, Eimir Hughes Winship, Andrew Allan, Pat Campbell, Brian Denoon, Sheree Grant, Dena Ross.
Highland Councillors - Roy MacIntyre, Norman Cameron, Douglas Briggs. Eight members of the public.

Apologies: Marianne Mackenzie, Pam Morrison.

Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting was proposed by Dena Ross and seconded by Pat Campbell.

Matters Arising:

Speeding - signs are now up at Lochluichart for "slow" and at each side of the Mossford houses for "adult and child". It is hoped these will help to slow traffic.

At Garve, meetings held with Bill Robins of the Roads and Transport Department concerning the extending of the 40mph speed limit to the east of Killin Farm, also the provision of a layby opposite the farm entrance, as large vehicles have considerable difficulty in manoeuvring across the railway into the farm.

No news about speed limits at Achnasheen.

The Community Council has made a grant of £100 to Garve Hall Committee to assist in keeping the toilets open through the winter. Thanks are due to Councillor Roy MacIntyre for enabling an allocation from the discretionary budget to be made to keep the Silverbridge toilets open - these are the only disabled access toilets in the area.

The Senior Citizens' evening is on 17th December at Inchbae Lodge Hotel. Tenders went out to all local hotels - Achility, Aultguish, Coul House, Craigdarroch and Inchbae, and the latter came up with the best offer.

Achnasheen Community Hall - no progress as yet on renovating the exterior but this is being followed up by Highland Councillors. The former hotel site has been tidied up by Railtrack.

Playparks - It is understood that transfer of play equipment from the park beside the school to that at Matheson Road would cost around £2,500 plus VAT - although some of the equipment is condemned. Councillor MacIntyre has written Peter Hoffman but has had no response as yet. Councillor Cameron suggested that Mr Hoffman be invited to the sites to establish the way forward. Councillor Briggs raised the question of safety implications of old equipment. Everyone agrees that any dangerous equipment should be removed immediately, especially as it appears children are still using it.

Regarding a playpark for Achnasheen, Dena Ross said that Mr Pat Wilson is awaiting formal word from the Community Council as to whether the project should go ahead. Secretary to write Mr Wilson.

Grass cutting - The arrangements for Garve will be dealt with in the spring, probably by organising an arrangement between contractors and the Community Council. Again, Mr Hoffman must be involved.

Water - Achnasheen residents are complaining about the milky look of their water as well as a strong smell of chlorine, and unacceptable taste. Occasionally the water comes through the taps as black and

peaty. Dena Ross stated that a number of people have complained to NOSWA, especially with regard to clothing being ruined in the wash. Secretary to write NOSWA.

In Garve, the water is generally considered to be better to drink, better pressure and no smell, however not everyone has yet noticed an improvement.

Councillor Douglas Briggs, who intends standing as an Independent in the new Scottish Parliament, said a few words and answered questions from the floor. It appears his view is that small is beautiful, more power should be devolved to local councils and community councils, and he hopes the Scottish Parliament will be a catalyst for better services.

Any Other Business:

Eddie Smith again raised the problem of Loch Garve flooding, and it appears that this problem has been brought up by Bill Robins when meeting with Roy MacIntyre.

Road gritting - public perception is that this is not being done when necessary. Secretary to write Mr Robins and ask for information, also for a telephone number people may ring when roads are bad.

Eddie Smith expressed concern about the spate of accidents recently on the A835 between Tarvie and Garve. Councillor Cameron pointed out that the Scottish Office had only a £5 million budget for roads. The Achmasheen to Lochcarron road is probably the last new road for some time. Councillor Briggs pointed out that Highland Council has to challenge all other local authorities for funding.

The meeting ended with the chairman thanking everyone for attending, and reminding councillors that raffle prizes were wanted for the Senior Citizens' evening. Also that the annual Ceilidh would take place on 1st January 1999 in aid of Garve Hall funds, and donations of sandwiches and raffle prizes would be appreciated.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 2nd February at Achmasheen (weather permitting).