

## Chairperson

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## Secretary

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### Minutes of meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2013 in Aberfoyle Memorial Hall

1. **Sederunt:** John Clow, Andre Goulancourt, Fiona McEwan, Jimmy Quinn, Geraint Short, Owen McKee (NP), Toto McLellan (Minute Secretary), Councillor Martin Earl, 4 members of the public.
2. **Apologies:** Ros Dingwall.
3. **Minutes:** Proposed by GS, seconded by AG.
4. **Inversnaid Issues: Goats:** The invitation to comment on the goat situation throughout Strathard had resulted in significant feedback which was still being received. There had only been one reply which was from someone living outside the immediate area in favour of culling at Inversnaid, with a much higher number of non-locals against a major cull, as had happened before in 1989. An overwhelming majority was therefore in favour of retaining the Inversnaid goats at their present numbers, the feeling being that they are iconic to Inversnaid, the West Highland Way and the National Park, and a major attraction within our important tourism industry. Additional questions passed to FCS regarding the RSPB proposed cull included whether culling would be selective, taking only old or infirm beasts. Comment made included that there is too much supposed conservation going on in the area, and that the changes to deer fencing could create problems if goats moved into new areas where they previously had no interest. The possibility of re-locating the goats rather than culling is being investigated with the Feral Goat Research Group, who were experts on such goats. **School:** It was still possible that Trossachs Search & Rescue (TSART) would be moving into the School, and that the community could retain the wild garden and orchard. Stirling Council has suggested that surrounding houses could buy the land collectively, and that it would expect owners also to foot all legal bills. Question was raised as to why the Council will not lease the land, and also whether they are leasing to TSART, or asking them to absorb legal costs of a purchase. It was suggested that a query be made regarding the possibility of leasing the land while funds are sourced to progress potential future purchase and costs. **The Garrison:** A report was heard that this building is up for sale. It was agreed that a suggestion would be made to RSPB that the purchase and use of this iconic building could house the proposed visitor centre, instead of a new build in this scenic area. The exact amount of any financial input from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the proposed new build would be queried.
5. **Matters Arising from previous minutes: Flooding:** Briefings will take place on April 9<sup>th</sup> during which Stirling Council will present the results of the reports commissioned from consultants on this subject, covering Aberfoyle, Bridge of Allan and Callander. Flood management plans will also be discussed, followed by specific local meetings. Community Council representatives are welcome, FM and possibly JC will attend. Councillor Earl explained that in addition to the Forth and Teith areas, Stirling Council also has input on surveys encompassing the Clyde, Forth and Tay Estuaries' catchment areas. The specific reports will feed into larger reports, and SEPA will sign off plans. The Scottish Government financial input for flooding runs on a 6-yearly cycle, next accessed in 2016, and this work is being done in anticipation of bidding for funding. **LLTNP Charrette:** The two preliminary meetings have been completed, but neither were as well-attended as had been hoped. A final feedback display would be held in Aberfoyle in late April. **Access:** Consultation with neighbours now must take place in advance of any improvements at Aberfoyle Medical Centre. Work at Visit Scotland should have been completed by now ref. Stirling Council, but had not been done. Agreed to investigate alternative tenders for the larger plan for a disabled-friendly Aberfoyle. **Speed Limits:** Stirling Council say there is not enough money available to complete its entire original plan across all areas and alternative suppliers are being investigated. However some work will go ahead. More information to be sought, and a copy sent to Councillor Earl. **Defibrillators:** Some confusion is being experienced as to where these should be located. Outside the Fire Station had been the initial choice, but this has been refused. Councillor Earl will query the reasons for refusal. The Co-op was suggested as an alternative, enquiries will be made. **Kinlochard mobile phones:** Now working and being tested by residents, and it has become apparent that a 3G phone is necessary to access the service.

6. **Correspondence:**

**Aberfoyle Memorial Hall Committee:** AGM on 17<sup>th</sup> April.

**LLTTNP:** Deadline for comments on Charrette is 8<sup>th</sup> April.

**Councillor Martin Earl:** Update on Police Service of Scotland, which had replaced Central Scotland Police. He is convenor of the Stirling scrutiny panel.

**Scotways:** Rights of Access newsletter.

**Stirling Council:** Temporary closure of Central Library.

**Stirling Council:** Governance Arrangement: What paperwork would we like to receive, regarding committee meetings? Agreed to ask for paper copies of agendas for all meetings, then detail could be accessed online if of interest.

7. **Stirling Council Issues:** **B829 Roadworks:** A list of complaints has been sent to Stirling Council regarding the very poor communication and signs relating to current closures. A specific enquiry has been requested by Councillor Earl. **Subsidence:** Query was made as to whether Stirling Council had fully investigated the issue of subsidence at Little Loch Ard, prior to resurfacing. **B829 Upgrades:** Frenich will also be done, continuing from where previous worked stopped. Request to be made for closures not to take effect before the published time of 9am. **Bolts:** The problem previously minuted of exposed bolts where bins have been removed in Aberfoyle car park has not been dealt with. **Sandbags:** These have still not been collected from the village. Suggestions for storage and local use were invited. **Manse Road Bridge:** Deterioration of the bridge is getting worse. The Council had intimated this would be attended to, but nothing has yet been done. FM will contact the Bridges Engineer requesting a timescale.

8. **Planning: New applications:**

**Lagan Cottage, Kinlochard:** Extension - no issues.

**Duchray Castle:** Formation of track – no issues.

**Blairhullichan Lodge:** Extension – no issues.

**Kinlochard Hall:** Air to air heat source pumps – no issues.

**Lochside Cottages:** IT was agreed to object to this application on a range of grounds including the design, and to support the many local objections already lodged.

**Updates on existing:**

**David Marshall Lodge:** Signage installation approved (reduction from original application).

**FCS:** Office alterations and biomass boiler building approved.

**Scottish Water:** Temporary site compound off A81 – application withdrawn.

**Scottish Water:** Loch Arklet Aqueduct intake access platform approved.

**The Pass:** Electrical installations approved. Permission for stoves refused.

**Aros, Kinlochard:** Attic conversion approved.

9. **Reports:** **Treasurer:** Some routine payments made prior to year-end.

**Police:** Report received from PC McLean. 2 crimes reported – a break-in at the Co-op and a driving offences charge. He confirmed that the change of authority would not affect local policing. There was a new police emergency number of 101 for Scotland, with 999 remaining the emergency services number. A report had been passed to PC McLean re. B829 congestion caused by multiple HGVs and he was investigating.

**O McKee (LLTTNP)** Update on charrette process (also see above).

**Councillors:** Already covered in points above.

**Trusts:** **SCT:** No meeting. **TACT:** Workshop is now operating under new tenants as 'Trossachs Motor Engineers'. **Kinlochard Village Hall:** No report.

**Meetings attended:** None.

**AOCB:** The former upholstery shop beside Aberfoyle Garage was noted as falling into unsightly disrepair. It was agreed not to pursue this formally at present due to the ill health of the owner.

**Next meeting 7.30 pm Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2013 in Inversnaid Hotel**