

BALLOCH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting 20 February 2006 at Balloch Primary School

Present Ian Williams (Chair)
Laura MacGowan (Secretary)
Ian Thomson (Treasurer)
George Riddell,
Liz Green
Janice Walker, Alex Bennett

Apologies Susan Van der Vlies, Mike Crew, Ann Crew, Margaret Macmillan (Vice Chair)

In attendance 2 Members of the public.
PC N Kinnaird, Shirley Hastings (Courier)

1 Minutes of last meeting

Accurate. Proposed Janice, Seconded Ian T.

Proposed presentation of Tornagrain/Castle Stuart development postponed due to other work commitments.

2 Matters arising

(a) Ian W informed us that Susan Van Der Vlies has resigned from the Community Council. On behalf of the Community, he expressed well deserved thanks for all her hard work over the many years she has served on the Community Council.

(b) Continued development of site at Feabuie despite Tree Preservation Order and letter warning of enforcement orders. Surveillance ongoing by various council officials.

Margaret

(c) The Manager Balloch stores will be asked to keep BCC informed of work progress. New building work begins March 1st.

George

3 (a) Chairman's report

Highland Environment Network news letter received with proposed training/workshop for School grounds for action development. To communicate this to school through School board and PTA for some representation.

Liz/ Laura

(b) Issue of erection of dwelling house at Bogbain all views asked for. Need to find out more before final decision.

Alex

(c) Letter received from a resident re large hedge obscuring road signs on Culloden Road. Person concerned written to and favourable response received. Hedge to be cut soon.

(d) CC training day 25 February 06 highlighted. Liz and Ian W to attend.

4 Balloch Village Trust Update- (BVT)

Last meeting was 15/02 /06 with main focus on forestry development. Stake holder parties invited.

Path network through woodland to make a circular route flagged.

- (a) For pedestrian, cycle and horse. There was a lot of opposition for any formal trail bike facility.
People wanting this facility encouraged to use areas already developed – Ardesier, Bogbain, Torvean Quarry and Evanton.
- (b) Other issues- community woodland to have a clean up day **25 March** (free skip from Forestry Commission). As part of the work for this day we plan to clear some gorse and broom from the bus turning circle to create a viewpoint. **All Community Councillors**
- (c) The School of Forestry offering help to thin some of the trees in the community woodland area – this to be planned with care and close communication with CC. Trees to be marked and mapped for next meeting before going ahead. Liz to contact School of Forestry. **Liz**
- (d) Chapelton Woods - the BVT want to register interest in this land with support of the Forestry Commission.
- (e) Balloch Gala - Mrs Snape has been asked to judge the best fancy dress. **Laura**
- (f) Youth facility and way forward. Trip to Elgin Youth Café attended by 2 adults! Very positive feedback. There is a definite need for committed adults to support the young people.
Aim now to liaise with Sandra Macbean and have possibly a forum at Culloden Academy for further ideas. Academy students welcome to attend any BCC meeting to express ideas.
Balloch Community Hall Committee has temporarily stopped taking bookings for band nights due to misuse and lack of adult supervision. They will address this issue.

4 Treasurers Report
Current acct £179.39. Deposit Acct £4396.30
Clarification given re separate money from grants to BVT.

5 Secretary Report

- (a) Safety seminar 28/03/06 ICTF stadium.9.30-3.30 includes community concerns, work of community wardens, anti social behaviour, drug and alcohol misuse.
- (b) Highland Health Voice Network to be launched March 2006.
Aim is to allow effective engagement between communities and NHS Highland.
- (c) NHS team update newsletter received.
- (d) Newsletter re Beatrice Wind farm Project.
- (e) Reply to letter re litter and gutters. An effort to be made to clear litter around the shop, but access to gardens where litter blows is an issue. As part of litter clean up by Eco Schools group, the Primary School will be approached with a suggestion that they offer to include house next to the shop in their litter lift. **Liz**
Clearing of gutters not always effective. Letter to Tech Services. **Laura**
- (f) NHS award scheme - nominate any NHS health professional for outstanding service. Further info available if required.

6

(a) Planning

The Pines - Feabuie - object.

Dwelling house – corner Feabuie and Culloden Road - need plans.

Margaret

(b)

Tree felling noticed in Chapelton Woods. Forestry Commission to be asked to contact landowner.

Police Report

Illegal riding of quad bikes in surrounding woodland continues.

Perpetrators will be reported to the Fiscal by the police.

Vandalism at top of Culloden Road is being investigated.

AOCB

Dog excrement on pavements causing concern. School campaign hopefully to go ahead called Shoo poo! Children to design posters asking dog owners to clear up mess and highlight health dangers etc.

Community council to support this and award prizes and put winning posters up around the village.

Date of next meeting – 20 March 2006.