

## GARVE AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at Achnasheen on Tuesday 31st August 2004

Present Doug Winship, Pat Campbell, Lady Eliza Leslie Melville, Einir Hughes Winship, Sheree Grant, Marian Mackenzie, Kenneth Maclean, Uisdean Menzies, Jim Ruggles Brise, Councillor Ewen Mackinnon and 7 members of the public

Apologies Alec Mackenzie

Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting was proposed by Sheree and seconded by Lady Eliza.

Chairman Doug Winship introduced Robert White from Scottish Water who explained why Achnasheen recently ran out of water. The new plant opened just before Christmas last year is a prototype for a membrane plant. The problem with the plant output during the summer was due to increased demand by tourists and it didn't recover overnight as it should. There is no prospect of water running out in the short term. Scottish Water has gone back to the design team to plan bolt on extra capacity. Meantime water was tankered in.

Lady Eliza asked does rain not help supply, Robert replied no. Jim Ruggles Brise pointed out that the plant was not sized to take into account the hotel, Robert replied there is a problem with peak demand and it will be resolved. The hotel requested to obtain water from the mains instead of using hill water. Jim asked Robert if there had been a miscalculation as to capacity. Robert replied that "it would seem so". The problem of sewage was discussed, difficulties experienced by residents in getting tanks emptied, taking 5 months, sewage in the field, public toilets unusable. Flow of the burn may not be fast enough to discharge properly. SEPA appears to be somewhat uninterested although representatives have been out. Mains drainage is being considered for Achnasheen, SEPA have ideas for improvement. Robert, Ronnie Ross and Councillor Mackinnon will meet with SEPA.

Doug thanked Robert, who then left.

Neil Riddell from Highland Council's Community Learning office gave a short talk. He told the meeting that they provide higher education opportunities with local partners, any kind of classes, day or evening, that people may want. He handed out questionnaires for any interested people to fill in and suggest what they might like to study. A vast range of possible subjects from aromatherapy to word processing is suggested, with Neil happy to add more.

Neil then offered to help with the current run of News and Views as we are having printing difficulties.

Matters Arising from the previous meeting.

A835 - more chevrons on the east side of the "magnetic bend" for drivers travelling west advising 30mph. A flashing "slow down" sign on the west side of the bend. Councillor Mackinnon is requesting double white lines for some distance. There is a speed survey in Garve.

Minutes 31.08.04 (continued)

News and Views - it was suggested that we get our own photocopier and not rely on printing firms. This would be very expensive, but it may be possible to get grants. Also, obtaining a machine through Highland Council would save us VAT. Sheree will look into this.

Achnasheen Toilets - had to be closed temporarily due to lack of water. Jim asked Councillor Mackinnon if there was any truth in the rumour they would be closed permanently, who replied it was unlikely. Einir pointed out that the closure of the toilets would mean closure of the Community Hall as the building did not have its own toilets inside.

Garve Football Pitch - a fence is needed.

Rubbish - who cleans up rubbish from roadsides? Highland Council? Bear? Councillor Mackinnon will follow up.

Highland Council will uplift large items of household rubbish that will not fit into wheelie bins. Phone and request.

Date of the next meeting, which will be the Annual General Meeting will be Tuesday 19th October 2004 in Garve Hall at 8pm.