

GARVE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

AGM

Of meeting held in Achmasheen Village Hall on 5 December 2006

Present: Helen Grainge, Marian Taylor, Alex Mackenzie, Kenneth MacLean, Pat Campbell, Sheree Grant, Lady Eliza Leslie Melville, Donald Northwood, Jim Ruggles Brise

Apologies: Uisdean Menzie, Ian Dickinson.

Approval of the minutes of the previous AGM was proposed by Sheree Grant and seconded by Marion Taylor.

The chairman did not offer himself for re-election as chairman and offered his resignation from the community council; he then read a statement outlining his reasons and noted his achievements during his time as chairman.

A discussion then took place on the position the community council now found itself in. Lady Eliza said that she had a couple of names of people who would be willing to be co-opted to the council. Donald Northwood stated that there had been two names put forward at the last AGM and that these should be considered first if the community council felt it necessary to co-opt any one. Sheree Grant felt that if we needed any other members the original two names should be contacted. Pat Campbell asked if we needed to appoint any more councillors or could we continue with 10 members. The secretary checked the constitution and read out the item on members and numbers and it was then agreed that there was no need to appoint any other parties to the council.

It was agreed that due to the unusual situation and not all members being present the meeting should be suspended and that Pat Campbell continue to act as Vice Chairman, Donald Northwood continue as Secretary and Lady Eliza as Treasurer. The Community Council further agreed to reconvene a special meeting to elect new officers.

Date of the special meeting to be arranged.

Date of the next AGM 4 December 2007

GARVE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Of meeting held in Achnasheen Village Hall on 5 December 2006

Present: Helen Grainge, Marian Taylor, Alex Mackenzie, Pat Campbell, Sheree Grant, Lady Eliza Leslie Melville, Donald Northwood, Jim Ruggles Brise

Cllr Ewen Mackinnon and 24 members of the public

Apologies: Uisdean Menzie, Ian Dickinson.

Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting was proposed by Sheree Grant and seconded by Marion Taylor. Cllr Mackinnon stated that there was an error in the minutes regarding his comments on the rail alterations that are under discussion. The secretary agreed to correct this item.

The secretary then read out the minutes of the special meeting the community council had held on the 21 November 2006 in response to the Lochluichart wind-farm developer's resubmission of an addendum reducing the number of turbines from 43 to 22 and the community council's outcome of the meeting.

The secretary then read out the letter sent to the developers that reaffirmed the council position in their objection to the overall development of the wind-farm.

There was no planning issues that affected the community area other than the wind-farm addendum.

Correspondence received included a letter from Gordon Mackenzie questioning the community council's decision to write to Infinergy Ltd on the wind-farm issue. Other correspondence included NHS, postal services and play equipment.

There then followed a lively debate from the public on the merits of the community council decision to continue to object to the project and perhaps it should have been discussed in open meeting; a number of the public were adamant that the new addendum was better than before, while others felt strongly that this and any other wind-farms should not be built.

Jim Ruggles Brise said that the community council had since their appointment been as open and transparent as they could be including minutes of all meetings that had been made public, asked for the public's opinion and taken the lead from two public meetings and a postal ballot.

It was suggested by several members of the public that a new ballot be taken on the developer's addendum. The secretary said that this needed to be funded and following comments made, who should be included; he then explained that there are two electoral lists, one they could purchase as before but did not include every one; the other was not available for public use and although it is a complete list it contains

names of persons who have chosen not to be contacted, and last time some of these complained they were excluded. There was a further problem that if the community council excluded the estate owners that were affected by the development we would be failing to allow all those effected or impeded by the development from having a say and we had a duty to allow as many people as possible who are affected to have a say.

This brought about more lively debate, including a comment from Cllr Mackinnon that when it goes to committee he would like to have as much feed back from the community as possible and that the electoral role might be the best way forward.

It was proposed and seconded from the public to hold another ballot using the electoral role and that a new question be put to the public and that the question should be simple, i.e. are you for or against the addendum. It was agreed by the community council that this would be considered, including costs and feasibility of getting all the names for a new ballot

The meeting moved on with the treasurer giving her report that the main account held £2423 the Christmas Party fund £846 and the war memorial £124.

There was no any other business and the vice chairman thanked every one for attending.

The next meeting 6 February 2007 Garve village hall