

# GARVE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting Held on the 3 April 2007

Achnasheen Village Hall

Present: Helen Grainge, Donald Northwood, Jim Ruggles-Brise, Pat Campbell, Sherée Grant, Alex Mackenzie, Uisdean Menzies, Ian Dickinson, Marian Taylor Cllr Ewen Mackinnon and 11 members of the public.

Apologies: Ian Dickinson Uisdean Menzies

- 1) Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting was proposed by Jim Ruggles-Brise and seconded by Marion Taylor.
- 2) Matters arising: the results of the ballot held on the 9 March 2007 were read out by the Secretary; 299 potential voters, 180 cast a vote which was over 60% of those eligible, 106 voted against the addendum, 70 for the addendum and 4 don't know; of the 299 potential voters 23 were those classed as holiday home owners. A member of the public raised the question of the holiday home owners and the Secretary stated that even if they had all voted against the addendum by subtracting the 23 from the 106 against the addendum this would have still given a majority against the development. This information had been passed on to the Highland Council and Scottish Executive and a further letter to Cllr Ewen Mackinnon stating the community's position.

The white lines have now been painted on the road at Gorstan and there has been no response to the flood warning process, raised at the last meeting.

- 3) There were no out standing planning issues other than the planning committee meeting for the 17 April 2007 at the Garve village hall; Community Council members ask that the Secretary attend the hearing and relay the communities objection to the proposed wind-farm development. Jim Ruggles-Brise asked if the community council had received any correspondence about a proposal to site two chalets at the Ledgowan Hotel, the secretary reported that no such correspondence had been received.
- 4) The Chairperson said that there was no Treasurers report as Lady Eliza Leslie Melville had resigned as Treasurer and Community Councillor following the ballot on the wind-farm addendum and had requested that her letter of resignation be read to the meeting, the main point being she "could no longer work for a community that has voted against a wind-farm that would produce a substantial amount annually for the local community for the next 25 years -- It is my belief that there is strong support for the wind-farm among the community and that the Highland Council and Scottish Executive will take a positive view". The chairperson then asked for nominations from the Community Council to fill the vacancy, Helen Grainge nominated Marion Taylor and seconded by Sheree Grant, there was unanimous support and the motion carried.
- 5) Correspondence: Highland Health Voices 3 letters noted, Highland Council newspapers Noted, Scottish Executive re Coastal Marine National Park Noted,

E-mails from Harry Goudie, George Seligman, Roger Cundiff, Noted, Highland & Islands Fire and Rescue Service Noted, Letter and map from the Forestry Commission Noted, MOD Army notification Noted, Post Watch Scotland Noted, The Scottish Parliament re post offices Noted, SAWD re wind-farm's Noted.

- 6) Any other Business: A member of the public asked what was happening with the petrol station in Achnasheen as it was making the village unattractive and the canopy was becoming dangerous. None of the community council members knew as this had been left for the passed chairman Kenny MacLean to deal with following his reported discussion with the owner. The Secretary was asked if he could write to the owner seeking information on his intentions. Another member of the public asked about the level of gritting carried out and what times they set out and this was explained. The Chairperson brought to the Community Councils attention that a dispute had arisen over the daffodils planted around Garve village and that children had been seen picking them which had resulted in another village member shouting at them, causing them to become upset. It was suggested that the flowers were for the benefit of the whole village and those who travel through the area. The Secretary reported that there had been a request from the Highland Council to consider a new location for the play area as the owners of the land now wanted it returning to them and that the equipment was now unsafe; it was agreed to contact the school PTA and ask for their suggestions on the issue. A member of the public asked what could be done about the rubbish and litter that was lying at the road side and it was agreed to contact the Highland Council highways department.
- 7) There was no other business and the meeting was closed by the chairperson who thanked the members and public for attending

The next meeting was set for Garve Village Hall on the 5 June 2007 at 7:30