

# Glencoe & Glen Etive Community Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016, 7-30pm held in St Mary's Church Hall

### Councillors Present

Alister Sutherland (Chair)
Ganes Dunlop (Treasurer)
Gwen McTaggart (Secretary)
Ian William McTaggart
Natasha Cattanach
Victoria Sutherland
Simon Meldrum

### Residents Present

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### Invited Guests

Guy Daynes
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### Apologies

None.

### Approval of Previous Minutes

Proposed GMT, seconded GD.

### Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

RBS Mobile Bank – Alister emailed Paul Dykes at RBS regarding concerns over the Invercoe location and over disabled access. Mr Dykes replied that their “Mobile Branch Service is surprising and delighting customers” and that they “have had no negative feedback” from customers within the CC area.

Signage for turn-off from A82 to village – Ongoing. HC has no money at present. IMT to phone again in May. [Action IMT.](#)

Christmas Lights – Ongoing. [Action VS/GMT.](#)

Defibrillator – Ongoing. GD attended the Patient Participation Group. Guy Daynes indicated the Clachaig may be able to help fund the defibrillator. The CC welcomed his offer. [Action GD.](#)

Damaged section of Orbital Path – Ongoing. [Action IMT.](#)

Duror cemetery parking – GD has made contact with Duror and Kentallen CC and will discuss. [Action GD.](#)

Planting the tubs – NC to raise at parent council tomorrow. [Action NC.](#)

Village Hall – A resident offered to get a professional opinion on the state of the roof and the harling. It is thought the Hall's roof has exceeded its design life by 20 years or so and that it is now porous resulting in increasing damage to the fabric of the building. Repair is likely to require substantial investment, and it remains an open question whether it would be better to instead seek funding for a new Hall, perhaps sited adjacent to the School.

### **Finance**

The bank balance stands at £945.71.

### **Planning**

Alister contacted Lucy Prins at Highland Council regarding an unauthorised development south of the A82 at the east end of the village opposite the former bistro. Planning permission had previously been refused for this site. Ms Prins replied to say that HC were aware and had contacted the site owner advising him to remove the structure and reinstate the land.

Separately, AS drew the CC's attention to [a recent Economist article](#) about a referendum in St Ives, Cornwall on whether it should be a legal requirement that all new housing in the area be for principal residences only. The concerns in St Ives about the threat posed to a viable community from second homes and holiday lets are of relevance to Glencoe. AS will raise at the next ASLCC meeting.

Action AS.

### **Broadband**

BT Openreach has begun work on the fibre cabinet by the Mountain Rescue Post. This is expected to deliver good speeds to those within 1.5 km of the cabinet.

Regarding those further from the cabinet, Guy Daynes was kind enough to attend the meeting to update the CC on the discussions about connecting Glencoe into the Locheilnet network. HIE/Community Broadband Scotland funding is available to cover a substantial part of the capital cost. Locheilnet already deliver a trickle feed to the Onich mast. This would need to be upgraded and a relay installed to a dish in Glencoe, probably sited about 200m above the TV retransmission mast. This could be operational in a few months, subject to approvals for the dish installation, etc. The first stage is a survey of residents, leading to a formal proposal. The CC welcomed the plan.

### **Glencoe Trademark**

Awaiting a proposal from the NTS. AS will forward the CC's March minutes to the NTS, which set out our position. Action AS.

### **20 mph Speed Awareness Lights**

20 limits have been painted on the road, and the police have been out with radar guns enforcing them. Regarding the lights, progress on which has been stalled for some time now, NC will endeavour to chase this up. Action NC.

### **National Scenic Area**

At the last meeting, there was further discussion of resurrecting the 2005 proposal to fell roadside trees to improve the views from the tourist routes.

### **Open Forum**

A resident expressed concern that the conditions for closing Glencoe Hospital regarding beds at Abbeyfield have not been honoured. He was concerned also about the spectre of a 'social enterprise' replacing NHS care at Abbeyfield. AS will speak to KS with regard to ASLCC inviting senior

management from NHS Highland to a local meeting to discuss this and the Belford new build. **Action AS.**

The subject of the Core Path by Glencoe House was also raised. It has been blocked in part since mid-February by a fallen tree. The Access Officer is aware and will contact Glencoe House re: removal. Furthermore, the CC was made aware of Facebook posts from residents expressing concern about an application from Glencoe House to reroute the Core Path via the flagpole, closing off a route that has been in use for generations and replacing it with a steep and muddy alternative. There is a Core Paths consultation in progress at the moment. AS will write to Stewart Easthaugh, Access Officer. **Action AS.**

### **Meetings Attended by Councillors**

AS – Belford new build.

### **Correspondence Received**

1. The CC received a printed copy of the West Highland and Islands Local Development Plan 'Main Issues Report'. The document is available for download [here](#). The deadline for comments is 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016. A resident raised the Ballachulish Community Action Plan consultation and VS agreed to speak to Kevin Smith to see whether something similar could benefit Glencoe. Ballachulish have engaged external consultants and preparation of the Community Action Plan is expected to cost in the region of £13,500 to £15,000. More information is available at [www.ballachulish.org.uk/our-community/community-action-plan/](http://www.ballachulish.org.uk/our-community/community-action-plan/). **Action VS.**
2. Notification from BEAR Scotland of planned overnight closures to the A82 at Lairig Eilde Bridge & Ba Bridge for essential resurfacing works (24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> April).

### **AOCB**

Discover Glencoe is seeking funding for an autumn festival. VS asked whether the CC could make a small contribution. £100 was agreed for this year.

### **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

7-30pm on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May. Ordinary meeting + AGM.