



Rothiemurchus and Glenmore Community Association

Newsletter May 2007



The Purpose of the Association is “to form a cohesive body to represent the Rothiemurchus and Glenmore community’s present and future interest and well-being”. We try to act as a channel for receiving information from statutory bodies and other relevant agencies, and disseminating it to the community. We aim to collect the varied views of the community and to present them to appropriate bodies. We also aim to identify specific issues for community involvement and to initiate and undertake collaborative community projects. You can see the whole of our constitution on website www.rothieandglenmore.org.uk.

We are not a Community Council – Rothiemurchus and Glenmore come under the wing of Aviemore and Vicinity CC. However, we try to act like a Community Council, and to some extent Highland Council and other organisations (for instance, Rothiemurchus Estate, Forestry Commission, and Cairngorm Mountain) treat us like one. We are consulted on planning issues and on developments. Thus we try to represent the views of the Rothiemurchus and Glenmore communities as best we can, and we are always ready to receive and act on requests from the community. In the past, we have sought the views of the community through surveys, public meetings and through our website. We also alert Highland Council or other relevant agencies when we become aware of issues which arise in the area, such as flooding of roads, damage to road signs, uncompleted tasks, etc. We offer encouragement and limited financial support to community projects, such as the John Roy Stuart festival and, along with Aviemore and Vicinity Community Council, we represent the community at meetings of the Cairngorm, Rothiemurchus and Glenmore Group (CRAGG)

Committee members

The RGCA committee members are:

Mary Ferguson (Convenor)
Telephone 01479 861 223
Julie Brown (Treasurer)
Annie Dempster
Richard Green (Vice-Convenor)
Telephone 01479 810 939
Alison Grant
Willie McKenna
Val Steel
Keith Taylor

You can write to us c/o Glenmore Lodge PH22 1QU, or email us at contact@rothieandglenmore.org.uk

An Camas Mòr, Cambusmore, proposed new planned community

Last autumn, the feasibility team working on the An Camas Mòr project produced an Indicative Land Use Plan for use in an Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed development. There was a public progress update meeting in September where the land use plan was explained. The land use plan can be viewed on website

www.ancamasmor.com. It gives an indication of the possible layout of the development and the styles of buildings envisaged.

The proposed new planned community would revolve around a busy village centre, with footpath links both to Aviemore and Rothiemurchus, including easy access to the local railway station. The main access for motor vehicles

would be by a new road leaving the B970 at the Fish Farm entrance. Built in a woodland setting and taking care of the natural surroundings and local wildlife, An Camas Mòr would enable the provision of open spaces such as parkland and sports fields. A mix of housing styles is envisaged with apartments, town-type houses and a few larger sites.

The Environmental impact Assessment should be completed later this year, at which time there will be another public update meeting.

Inverdrue Wood

The Inverdrue Wood development at Rothiemurchus was granted planning permission in October 2004. The planned building comprises retail/restaurant on the ground floor, commercial offices on the second, and a gallery in the roof space at the top. The building has been designed by architect Benjamin Tindall. In tune with its natural surroundings, the new building will incorporate a clean, contemporary style and traditional materials. Tree felling and car park construction necessary to accommodate this development is complete. Later this year tenants and/or partners for the construction will be sought. An artist’s impression of the building can be seen on www.rothiemurchus.net

Outsider Festival June 22nd–24th

The Outsider Festival will be held on Rothiemurchus Estate in the middle

of June. This festival will include live music, debates, and many outdoor activities. For a few days it will have quite an impact on the lives of the Rothiemurchus community. More information can be found on www.outsiderfestival.co.uk

Funding for Community Projects

Rothiemurchus Estate has access to some funding from the Carnegie Trust for small projects in the community. Suggestions for suitable projects would be very welcome. Please let us know your ideas by telephone, letter or email.

Affordable Housing

Glenmore - Albyn Housing Society Ltd purchased the site in Glenmore from the Forestry Commission in March 2005. A detailed planning application was submitted in October 2006. As part of the planning process the planning application was called in by the Cairngorm National Park due to the fact that the housing is social and sustainable. Albyn Housing have addressed all the issues raised by the Park Authority and anticipate a reserved matters planning approval. In anticipation of planning approval the architect is currently working on building warrant drawings and Albyn Housing hope to invite contractors to tender for the development in the summer of this year with a view to a site start in September.

Inverdrue - Outline planning permission was granted for the

development opposite Dellmhor in December 2005. Albyn Housing are anticipating settlement of the site from Highland Small Communities Housing Trust and an early meeting is expected with the Design Team to progress towards submitting a detailed planning application. Consultation with the Community will be held prior to the submission of the planning application.

Off-road cycle route Dellmhor to Badaguish

The funding for this project is now in place and, assuming that there will not be any undue delays in planning or construction, the new route should be available for use early next year.

Developments at Glenmore

Forestry Commission, aided by the Territorial Army, are to build a children's' play park near to the Glenmore Café.

RGCA are helping to modify the gate on the road to Rothiemurchus Lodge, to make it more accessible for wheelchairs and buggies.

John Roy Stuart Festival

Glenmore will be hosting the John Roy Stuart Festival on 18th and 19th August. On the 18th there will be workshops and demonstrations of traditional arts and crafts during the day, and an evening cèilidh in Glenmore. The 19th will see a procession to the summit of Cairngorm (commemorating an annual pilgrimage made by his standard-bearer, James Macintyre of Glenmore). More details are available from www.johnroystuart.org.uk or 01479 810818. John Roy Stuart was born and raised at Knock of Kincardine, in Strathspey. He was one of the most important Gaelic poets of the 18th century, as well as being an important figure of the 1745 Jacobite Rising. Until now, the only recognition that John Roy Stuart has received in his native land has been the erection of a memorial cairn near the ruins of his birthplace at Knock of Kincardine. RGCA has contributed to the cost of a banner to be carried in the procession to the summit.

Ideas for projects ?

Rothiemurchus and Glenmore Community Association is keen to

support projects which benefit the community and we have a small amount of money to support such projects. Please let us know your ideas for projects to support.

Planning

The Cairngorm National Park Authority has two important planning documents: the Local Plan and the Park Plan. Both of these plans can be obtained from the park offices or from their website, www.cairngorms.co.uk

Core Paths Consultation

The Cairngorm National Park Authority is also seeking consultation on its Interim Core Paths Plan for our area. You can see the interim plan in Aviemore Library or on the CNPA website, www.cairngorms.co.uk The deadline for sending in your comments is 30th June.

Transfer of ownership of the Cairngorm Estate

The ownership of the Cairngorm Estate, which includes the Cairngorm Mountain, is in process of being transferred to Forestry Commission Scotland. It is likely there will be opportunity for the community to be represented on the management board of the new organisation. A report on the recent consultation exercise can be accessed on website www.forestry.gov.uk/cairngormestate

CRAGG

CRAGG is an informal grouping of all the organisations which can influence developments in the Rothiemurchus to Cairngorm corridor. The groups include the landowners, government agencies, community groups and environmental interest groups. By working together the CRAGG members reduce the conflicts which have been a feature of the past. CRAGG is at present considering its future role and how it can work to the benefit of the area. Your Community Association participates in CRAGG meetings and thus has an opportunity to influence what happens in our area.

Useful websites

www.highland.gov.uk
www.cairngorms.co.uk
www.rothiemurchus.net

www.forestry.gov.uk/scotland
www.craggonline.org.uk

Farewell Catherine, Hello Kirsty

Our minute taker, Catherine Cottam, left us late last year. Catherine contributed greatly to the records of our meetings and in the production of our newsletter in June. We are lucky that Kirsty Murfitt from Glenmore has agreed to take our minutes in the future and we welcome her to our committee

Do we have your correct address and do you have an email address ?

We are trying to keep our address list up to date. Enclosed with this newsletter you should find a sheet giving the information which we have about you. Please let us know if it is incorrect.. We would like to contact the community by email from time to time, but so far we have only a small number of email addresses. If you have an email address, please let us know it.

We need more people on our committee

Earlier in this newsletter we explained what we try to do on your behalf. However, we are all volunteers and cannot devote large amounts of time to Community Association affairs. This means that we cannot always do as much as we would like. Your Community Association could do more if there were more people on the committee. Are you interested in what is going on in the area ? Are you concerned about houses being built, the state of the roads and what is happening in the countryside ? If so, please volunteer to join the committee. Call Mary Ferguson on 01479 861223 or any member of the committee

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting is on Friday 6th July and we have been invited to the Badaguish Centre, where we will be able to look at the recent developments. There will be cheese and wine after the AGM. We will send you more details later but please put the date in your diary.