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KIRKHILL SWRI

Our January evening had a Spanish theme with a paella demonstration which turned our thoughts to warmer days.

We have several other interesting speakers and events lined up so why not come along to the Kirkhill Community Centre at 7.30p.m. the first Thursday of each month?

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Crannog

Spring 2012

Read it first online at www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk

Your Crannog. Your Community. Your Commitment

Everyone at the Crannog team would like to take this opportunity to thank all the contributors and advertisers who regularly donate their valuable time and money to ensure the Crannog proudly continues to provide an informative, valuable and accessible resource for the entire community. It is people that form a community. It is YOU that makes up part of the community. What YOU put into our community determines how rewarding, satisfying, enjoyable and valuable our community is and will be. Your input can make all the difference.

We strive to be inclusive to everyone and provide

a channel for anyone in the community to become involved, participate, give something back, make something better, meet new people and explore the incredible natural and human resources we are so fortunate to have in this community.

Please take part. Please contribute.

The Crannog, the community website (www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk), the Facebook pages, the Community Council, the Woodland trust, the KDAA and all the other worthwhile community groups and organisations are there for all of us in the community to take part - so what are you waiting for?

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KIRKHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Recent School News

Congratulations!

Our whole school production of the school musical Fleece was a tremendous success.

The pupils, staff and audience had a great time and we received lots of positive comments.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make our production such a memorable school event.

Associated Schools Cross Country Race

This annual event took place at the Community Centre on Thurs 23rd Feb.

It is always looked forward to by the pupils.

Kirkhill won the P4/5 Boys and P6/ boys trophies. All pupils completed the course and many achieved personal best times.

Many thanks to Mrs Horne and others for all their commitment in training the pupils throughout the winter...

We will be taking 4 teams to the Inverness schools McRobert Cup on Friday 16th March...here's hoping for more sporting success.

School Choir

Our choir is performing The Hippopotamus Song at Eden Court on Tuesday 13th March as part of the Music Festival. We wish them lots of luck and would like to thank Mrs Helen Goodwill for her time and expertise training the children

Euro Quiz

We have entered a team of 4 P6 pupils for this interschool event on Thursday 8th March at Milburn Academy. Good Luck

Dates for Diary

Village Markets -restarted last Saturday in every month from 10-12 o'clock.

Parents and Community members are invited to our School Sport Day (with an Olympic Theme this year) at the Community Centre on Wednesday 6th June at 1.30pm -weather permitting or else on Thursday 7th June same time and place.....

Community Councillors

Chairman

Cameron Kemp, West Altnaceardaich ☎831552

Treasurer

Fred Geddes, Newtonhill ☎831324

Secretary

Jim Ogilvie, 22 Newton Park, Kirkhill ☎831316

Ian Weir, Groam Farm, Kirkhill ☎831750

Chris Heaton-Armstrong, Kirkhill ☎831779

Ally MacNeill, Tigh Cala, 4 Newtonhill ☎831339

Karen Young, Glen Rowan, Bunchrew ☎234128

Iain Urquhart, 58 Newton Park, Kirkhill ☎831278

Ian Cowan, Tigh-na-Beithe, Kirkhill ☎831344

Caroline Crawford, Gardener's Cottage, Kirkhill ☎831503

Judith Rumbold, Fearna, Birchwood, Bunchrew ☎225073

Nikki Maclean, Eileantulloch House, Moniack, Kirkhill ☎831041

Crannog is published four times a year by Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council. All meetings of the community council are usually held in the Old North Inn on a Tuesday evening at 7.30_{pm} and are open to members of the public. If you have any concerns you would like raised please come along or alternatively speak to one of the councillors.

Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community website and facebook page

If you want to know what's going on in the community or want to share things with others then the community WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE is the place to go. Send your news and events to editorial@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk and "Like" us at www.facebook.com/kirhillbunchrew (yes that is how it's spelt). And if you'd like to promote your club or activity we can set up a page on the site for you at www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk

Crannog contact information

Get in touch with the Crannog for the next edition at the following email address as appropriate:

advertising@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk

editorial@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk

If you do not have email then please send your comments to: Crannog, 4 Newton Place, Kirkhill, IV5 7QE, or by phone to 01463 831546.

Crannog Newsletter publication information

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Next issue of the Crannog: Summer 2012

Contribution deadline: 1st May 2012

*any late submissions will not be included!

POETRY CORNER

Lunatic

**Lying in my bed at night
with the curtains open,
watching the moon.**

**Better than any T.V. show,
she sails across the deep sky,
a bright jewel;
fluorescent, white.**

**The clouds flee fast
over the glowing orb's surface.
The moon is always
so still and serene.
Why do the clouds go so fast?**

**There's nothing more beautiful to watch
than the moon...
a temporary respite
from a fleeting day of troubles.
The moon is quiet and still,
a centrepiece in the troubled world.**

**Writing these lines in the dark
on a dim grey page
for fear of turning the light on
and losing the moon-magic.**

Lindsey Stout

FROM THE WEB

Our new feature aims to bring you some of the topics, stories and contributions posted onto the Facebook web pages and other social media channels from community contributors.

Feeling exhausted just reading about it - but if you're fit and fancy a challenge to raise some money for this great cause, read on!

The Ben Nevis Challenge - Walking events - Macmillan Cancer Support
www.macmillan.org.uk

Any budding chefs out there?
Excellence Awards - Scotland Food and Drink
www.scotlandfoodanddrink.org

£1,150 for the Highland Hospice was raised at Tore Art Gallery's Christmas concert last December - thanks to James Ross, Musick Fyne and the Coronach Gallery Band. Make sure you are on our mailing list to be invited to our next concert on 18th May - an elegant Summer "Schubertiade"

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COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

by Councillor Drew Hendry

Our roads are in a poor state. Decades of underinvestment and inadequate maintenance has taken its toll. A recent report to Highland Council laid out the extent of the problem and it may take many years and a lot of planning and work to get them to an acceptable position.

Locally, in Kirkhill and Bunchrew the problem with the roads was heightened when the Moniack and Reelig burns became blocked and closed the "old A9" last year due to flooding. The event also threatened houses in Inchmore and I, personally, will never forget attending the scene to help and watching the only too real drama unfold for homeowners. Due to the efforts of a number of local people such as Chris Swift, who worked long hours in terrible weather with his colleagues to literally dig out the culvert during the height of the flood. Luckily, the waters eventually receded and there was no significant damage but it brought the problem into clear focus.

The fact that makes this flooding event even more relevant is that the potential for a dramatic breach was highlighted the previous year by several local people and, together, we alerted the Council. The problem was that whilst there was a risk to the road (under council control) the source of the problem was on private land and at first this seemed like it was going to be an impasse. It took quite a while to get all of the parties with responsibility together, however, eventually I chaired a meeting in Beauly where a groundbreaking agreement was made for the Council to work together with the landown-

ers and tenants for a permanent, mutual solution, sharing the cost between them. Although this agreement was reached before the flood it came too late to avoid the incident affecting Inchmore and the road closure. Since then, however, there has been significant engineering work building new and repairing the culvert causing the problem and I am assured that this should be a permanent fix to avoid both road closures and the chance of flooding.

This was an extreme situation, however, particularly in this area there many places where small culverts, gullies and other water courses cause problems. Some of these result in long term damage to roads where earlier intervention might save great costs at a later date. I believe that we should have a work plan for our communities to list, agree priorities and gain action to fix these issues. If you would like to report such an opportunity then I would be grateful to hear from you and work with others to produce a plan for reversing the decay at drew.hendry@highland.gov.uk

EGM  **child care**

Newly registered child-minder based in Cabrich, covering Kirkhill and surrounding areas.

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KIRKHILL DISTRICT AMENITIES ASSOCIATION

Kirkhill Centre Forward

The Kirkhill Centre Forward is progressing well. Working with our architect White and McGinn we have submitted our planning application for the renovation and extension of the community centre and are working on the final detail. The success of the project hinges on funding applications that have been submitted. We should know whether we will have the funds to go ahead by the beginning of April. We also hope a successful gala week will help us fulfil the community's ambitions for a community centre that better meets our needs. You can keep up to date with progress at www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk/community_centre/kirkhill-centre-forward/

Community Centre and MUGA charges

The committee have reviewed charges for this year and have agreed not to change the community centre charges for 2012. However, we realised the MUGA charges were a bit out of line with community centre charges and so have significantly reduced them for the coming year. The charge for clubs and local groups is now only £5 per hour with use of the changing rooms and floodlights free. Tennis membership remains the same. There's never been a better time to get fit in Kirkhill!

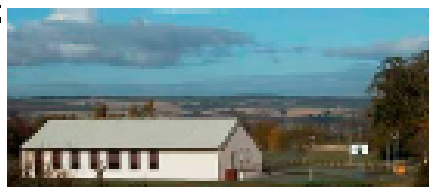
More information and booking details at www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk/community_centre, phone Wilma on 01463 831737 or email kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk

Kirkhill Community Centre

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[KDAA@KIRKHILLANDBUNCHREW.ORG.UK](mailto:kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk)

Community Centre and multi use games area (MUGA) in the centre of Kirkhill. Available for a wide range of activities, clubs, sports, parties and events.



www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk/community_centre

KIRKHILL CUBS UP HELLY AA

Up Helly Aa, the Viking festival of fire, takes place in Shetland at the end of January each year. This year, Kirkhill Cubs and Beavers celebrated a mini Up Helly Aa on 31st January at the Community Centre. The Cub Leaders had built a model Viking longship from scrap wood and the highlight of the evening was the Cubs and Beavers, all dressed as Vikings, watching the longship being burnt before everyone enjoyed a fireworks display in the night sky. The evening was topped off with the Cubs and Beavers having hot chocolate and marshmallows, toasted over the embers. Thanks are due to all the parents who helped this fun evening to pass off safely and without incident



KIRKHILL & BUNCHREW COMMUNITY TRUST

Annual General Meeting & Local Wildlife Talk

A date for your diary. The Trust's AGM will take place on Monday 26th March at 7.30pm in the Primary School. As in previous years there will be a presentation with discussions followed by the AGM itself. We're planning a talk on local wildlife this year which will be really interesting. All members of the Trust will receive formal notification in early March but anyone interested in the presentation or the work of the Trust is more than welcome to come along.

We're looking for new Directors for the Trust if anyone is interested in getting actively involved. We won't twist anyone's arm though so you're quite safe to come along to the AGM without facing the hard sell!

Upper Reelig Community Wood – the annual work programme is well underway. If you've been up to the wood in recent weeks you'll have noticed various activities on the go.

Through agreement with the Forestry Commission, who own the wood, we're busy cutting young beech which will be sold as firewood. This generates some key income for the Trust and also opens up areas to allow native trees to regenerate – including birch, aspen, and holly.

The woodland group meet every second Saturday through to the end of April. We'll be meeting on Saturday 11th March at 10 am at the log cabin in the Community wood and every two weeks thereafter. It's as much a sociable get together as it is about hard work! You're more than welcome to come along to hear what we're up to or even to join in.

Cycle Path – as reported before we're working over a long period to develop an off-road cycle route

between Inverness and Beaulay. This is a major undertaking and will be done in phases. We've currently got funding applications in with the Climate Challenge Fund and LEADER for the section between the Lovat Bridge and the Kiltarlity turn off. We should hear the outcome of these applications in the coming weeks – fingers crossed!

Communications – I hope you've had the chance to look up both the Community web site – www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk

– and the community facebook page. Both are a great way to provide information and get messages out about what is going on within the community. Please do have a look



and if so inclined be sure to “friend” the community facebook.

Playpark – the refurbished playpark in Kirkhill is great and much loved by the children of the community – and their parents! You may have noticed though that the fence around it is looking a bit worse for the wear. We're currently looking to either repair or replace the fence. We're in the process of getting prices for this but it's not cheap.

We've raised some money and kindly been donated some funds left over from the expiry of the Kirkhill Krew but likely to still need to do some further fund raising. If there are any fencers within the community who would like to help us out then please don't be shy in coming forward!

If you've any queries regarding the above or are interested in the work of the Trust then please don't hesitate to contact George Hogg, Trust Chairman on 831674 or at chair@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk

KIRKHILL GALA 2012 - GALA GOSSIP

GALA STARTS SATURDAY 26th OF MAY – ENDS ON SATURDAY 2nd OF JUNE

Dates for your diary: Crowning of the Gala Queen on Saturday 26th of May at our kick off event, a family Ceilidh. Back by popular demand as a great night was had by all in 2011. On Monday we have everyone's favourite Kirkhill Bowling Club "Bingo Night". Other events throughout the week will include a Cookery Demonstration & Tasting Night by Louisa from The Kitchen in Dingwall, pets parade, a pampering night, Junior Football & Shinty competitions and a Night at the Races. For any of you who haven't been to a race night before come along, it's great fun. We plan to finish Gala Night with a great night of entertainment. Local favourites Torridon make a return



to the Gala Dance so be sure to get your tickets for the hottest event of the week.

Gala Day will be a day to remember as we strive to bring great music, entertainment, stalls, activities, food and if you're like me a great opportunity to catch up with all the people you don't see the rest of the year. Final details and dates of our events will be confirmed soon watch out for posters, facebook and the community website.

FUN CRAFT COMPETITION

Also for 2012 a fun event for all the family, make and display a "regal scarecrow" in your garden, (get your creative thinking caps on), the theme is "Queens Diamond Jubilee". To enter this competition you will need to complete an application form, so that we know where to send the judges, further details of how this will be arranged will be advised in due course. I can't wait to see all the scarecrows

in the gardens around the village and beyond.

A full list of our week of events will be in the next Crannog.

Can YOU help your friendly Gala Committee? Do you have pictures of past Gala Queens? Please get in touch with one of the numbers below, we would also like to know who the first Kirkhill Gala Queen was. If you have suggestions for an event or anything you would

like to see happening during Gala Week please let us know, all ideas are welcome. We are looking for craft stands on Gala Day, if you know anyone who would be interested please get in touch with: Izzy Maclean 831554, Wendi Forbes 831369, Lorraine MacLeod 831465, Ewen McColl 831597, Amanda MacGillivray 831776, Kay Horne 831433 or Gregor MacCormack 831 493.

Please note tickets will be available for sale at Lorraine's from 1st of May.

An advertisement for 'First Choice Garden Services'. The background is a photograph of a garden with a path made of grey rectangular stones set in a bed of white gravel. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image. At the top right, it says 'FIRST CHOICE GARDEN SERVICES' in white, bold, vertical letters. Below that, in white text, is 'CONTACT Jim Goodman' and 'fcgardensvs@btinternet.com'. Further down, it says '3-8 millfeach kirkhill, Inverness'. At the bottom, it provides the phone numbers 'T: 01463 831301' and 'M: 07922 038868'.

WARDLAW CHURCH NEWS

Since the last issue of Crannog, we have been able to move back into our refurbished church. The first service in the “new” church was Sunday, 11 December 2011, and this was attended by Vivien Roden the Moderator of the Inverness Presbytery.

Regrettably, Kobus Smit, our Minister, has had to resign his position. He had applied for a visa to enable him to return to the U.K. and work, but this was not granted. Kobus and Louisa did return to

Kirkhill for a short visit, during which time he was able to say goodbye at morning service on 12 February. Presentations were made to Kobus and Louisa on behalf of the Kirkhill congregation. We wish them well on their return to South Africa. Rev. Edgar Ogston of Kilmorack and Erchless, based in Beaulieu, has been appointed as our Interim Moderator with effect from 7 February. Edgar will be supervising the day to day running of the church, and will be ensuring the presence of a Minister or reader to conduct Sunday services. Any enquiries regarding weddings, baptisms or funerals need to be referred to him at 01463 782 260.

With our linked church in Kiltarlity, we celebrated Burns Night with an evening at Brockies Lodge on Saturday, 28 January. An excellent meal was provided by Robbie and Jean Sheriffs and their team. A special selection of artistes from both churches, and from within the local community, then entertained us with speeches, recitations and songs taken from Burns’ works. The evening was much enjoyed by all.

By the time this issue of Crannog reaches you, the Dingwall Gaelic Choir will have made their promised return visit to the church. The choir, under the direction of Kirsteen Menzies, sang at a concert in November 2010 to help us raise urgently needed funds for the refurbishment work. At that time, they promised to come and sing in the “new” church when the work was complete. This event took place on the afternoon of Sunday, 26 February and provided members of the local community with a chance to come and see inside the church.

We have now started a new event called “Third Sunday” in addition to the normal Sunday morning service. This new gathering is held on the third Sunday of each month at 6 p.m. It is an

Photo by Keith McClelland



informal praise evening, involving hymns, songs, prayers and readings, with the musical items featuring the more modern tunes and words, and the use of guitar, drums and piano. Our vision is to encourage folk from all Church denominations, and others, to gather for fellowship and to sing together. At the end of each of these evenings, tea, coffee and home baking are served.

On Easter Sunday, 8 April, we will join with the congregation of Kiltarlity Church in a special joint Easter Communion service at Wardlaw Church at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome to this joyful service, which will feature songs from our ever popular “Celestial Choir.”

Sunday, 27 May 2012 is the start of Kirkhill Gala Week, and we will be holding a special family Sunday service, starting at 10:30 a.m., to mark the occasion. This service will feature a guest appearance from Chris Watt and his puppet friends from “Out of the Box”. Please do join us!

The Wardlaw Church congregation

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KIRKHILL & BUNCHREW COMMUNITY TRUST

Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community Energy Efficiency and Low Carbon Programme.

This is the final update on the Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community Trust's year-long Energy Efficiency and Low Carbon programme. This time last year we were applying for funding for the programme. We were in the depths of a 2nd bitter winter. Heating systems were working flat out to keep our homes warm and energy prices were on the rise.

A year on, what have we been able to achieve? Our community volunteers received electricity meters to help learn about saving energy in their homes. This has helped identify high energy lighting, learn about the energy costs of different appliances like washing machines, fridges and freezers and even wee items like computers and kettles. This helped one household reduce its electricity use and bills by 20%.

Renewable energy is an alternative to traditional electric, oil and LPG heating in our homes. Our renewable energy fair helped raise awareness of different systems for a number of local families with pupils at the primary school getting involved in renewable energy projects.

We have an excellent information resource on the community web site with information about assistance & support, "how to" guides and local renewable energy case studies.

And we have raised awareness of the impartial, free advice and support available from the local Energy Saving Trust office on 0800 512 012.

So if you find yourself struggling with high energy bills, not sure how to reduce your energy use or want more information about renewable energy systems, visit the community web site at <http://kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk> or call the local EST office for impartial and free advice.

KIRKHILL BEAVERS

Thanks to the support of regular parent helpers we have recently been able to halve our waiting list and are now at our limit of 24 beavers per meeting. This term we are working hard on our Healthy Eating, Creative Activity and Promise Challenge badges and as part of this we will be making and discussing healthy snacks, making insect habitats, getting creative with clay and much, much more.

Up Helly Aa - On 31st January we joined the Cub Scouts to celebrate Up Helly Aa, a festival to celebrate the end of the winter season. Wearing our best Viking costumes we cheered as our Viking longship was set alight on the bonfire, and then

we watched the fireworks whilst the hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows kept us warm in the frosty night air. We had a fantastic turn out and everyone enjoyed the celebrations.

Regional Scout Camp - we have a visit to the Highlands and Islands Regional Scout camp near Inverness to look forward to in the Spring where we will join with beavers, cubs, scouts, and other scout sections from across the Highland Region to take part in various land and water activities. We will brave the elements to have a fantastic adventure and burn up some of our energy at the same time.

Finally - there is a Very Important Beaver in our midst as one of the beaver scouts has managed to achieve their Chief Scout's Bronze Award. This is the highest award available in the beaver section and it will be the first time in two years that it has been gained by one of our young people. We are very proud of their achievement and we hope this will be the first of many to be awarded in the future!

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Mairi MacDonald, Beaver Leader

NOTE: The new email address for Kirkhill Beavers is **kirkhill.beavers@hotmail.co.uk**

KIRKHILL & BUNCHREW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Old North Inn
On Tuesday 6th December 2011 at 7.30pm.

Chairperson Mr Arthur Lacey (Returning Officer)
after election Mr Cameron Kemp.

Present.

C.C Councillors Nikki Maclean Karen Young, Chris Heaton-Armstrong, Ian Cowan, Cameron Kemp, Ally MacNeill, Caroline Crawford, Drew Hendry (Highland Councillor) and Jim Ogilvie (Secretary).

1). Apologies. Ian Weir, Fred Geddes and Judith Rumbold.

2).Business Meeting.

a).The returning officer Mr Arthur Lacey opened the meeting by welcoming all and then asking for nominations for chairperson. Chris Heaton Armstrong nominated Cameron Kemp and this nomination was seconded by Karen Young. There being no other nominations for the post of Chairperson the meeting unanimously voted Cameron Kemp into office to serve until the next AGM which will be held in June 2012.

Cameron Kemp then took charge of the meeting.

b). Election of Treasurer. Although Fred Geddes was absent he had sent an email to say he was available to continue as Treasurer. Caroline Crawford nominated Fred and Ally MacNeill seconded. There were no other nominations so Fred Geddes was elected to serve as Treasurer.

c). Secretary Jim Ogilvie said he was available for re-election and there being no other nominations he was re-elected by endorsement from the whole meeting.

d). Deputy Chairperson. Chris Heaton Armstrong was re-elected in to this post nominated by Cameron Kemp and seconded by Ally MacNeill again there were no other nominations.

3). There was now seven elected members of the Community Council and under the rules of the Highland Council we were allowed 8 full members so we could co-opt on to the Community Council one member.

Ian Weir although he could not attend had intimated that he was available for election.

Ian Weir was nominated by Karen Young and seconded by Nikki Maclean. Caroline Crawford nominated Ian Cowan and this was seconded by Cameron Kemp. A vote was taken and Ian Weir was duly elected.

4). Appointment of Associate Members to the Community Council.

The meeting held the view that it did not want to lose the expertise held by Members who were not re-elected in the recent election for members to the Community Council so Ian Cowan and Judith Rumbold were appointed as Associate members of the Community Council so that gives us 8 full members and two appointed associate members giving us a total strength of 10 members.

5). Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 1st November 2011 were read and approved with minor corrections. Ally MacNeill proposed and Chris Heaton Armstrong seconded.

6). Matters arising from the minutes.

At the last meeting the Community Council discussed an issue which occurred in the Highland Council which involved a secretive pay off to the ex. Head of Legal Services. This matter was reported in the Inverness Courier and the Press and Journal. This matter is now being investigated by the appropriate authority. It was felt that as we discussed this incident it should be in the minutes, but no further action was needed.

7).Flooding Problems.

Chris Swift was unable to attend the meeting tonight but through Nikki Maclean he had intimated that steady progress was being made and that at a recent meeting plans to start phase three of the remedial work had been discussed and progress had been made.

8). No planning issues reported.

9). Inverness Sothern Bypass Route.

Considerable discussion took place on this subject as there is a consultation underway for the public to express their views on the seven or eight options available to get the bypass road over the River Ness and the Caledonian Canal.

Here are details of the eight available options Maps are on the Council's web site.

OPTION 1 - Short direct link from Dores Road to Precast Yard / Weir crossing of the River Ness. Link road to follow the tow path of the Caledonian Canal embankment to a tandem Canal Bridge arrangement at Tomnahurich.

• **OPTION 2** - Short direct link from Dores Road to Precast Yard / Weir crossing of the River Ness. Follow the north side of Whin Park to a roundabout at the corner of Bught Road. Follow a rising embankment across the middle of the Canal Park

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Rugby Ground to a new opening bridge over the Canal. Thereafter follow a falling embankment through the Golf Club to join the A82 Trunk Road to the east of the General Booth Road junction.

- **OPTION 3** - Short direct crossing of the River Ness at Heraghty Lodge Flats. Follow Bught Road to a tandem Canal Bridge arrangement at Tomnahurich.

- **OPTION 4** - Short direct crossing of the River Ness at Heraghty Lodge Flats. From a roundabout at the corner of Bught Road follow a rising embankment across the Canal Parks Rugby

Ground to a new opening bridge over the Canal. Thereafter follow a falling embankment through the Golf Club to join the A82 Trunk Road to the east of General Booth Road junction.

- **OPTION 5** - Short direct crossing of the River Ness at Heraghty Lodge Flats. From a roundabout of the corner of Bught Road cross the west side of the Canal Parks Rugby Ground on a rising embankment to an opening Canal Bridge and thereafter link to the A82 Trunk Road via a falling embankment to the west of the Golf Club.

- **OPTION 6** - Follow a sweeping alignment along the river bank from Dores Road roundabout to cross the River Ness at the Precast Yard / Weir. Thereafter link road to follow the towpath of the Caledonian Canal embankment to a tandem Canal Bridge arrangement at Tomnahurich.

- **OPTION 7** - Follow a rising embankment from the Dores Road roundabout to a high level bridge across the River Ness and Caledonian Canal. Thereafter pass through the Torvean Quarry to join the A82 Trunk Road near the old quarry access .includes a tandem Canal Bridge arrangement at Tomnahurich.

- **OPTION 8** - Short direct link from Dores Road to Precast Yard / Weir crossing of the River Ness. Follow the north side of Whin Park to a roundabout at the corner of Bught Road. Thereafter follow an alignment in cutting through the Canal Parks Rugby Ground underneath the Canal via an aqueduct. Then follow a rising gradient in cutting through the Golf Club to link with the A82 Trunk Road and the General Booth Road junction.

Councillor Drew Hendry offered some advice to the Community Council on this issue and said that money could be the deciding factor in the decision making process and although nearly everyone

would vote for the most expensive option which is number 7, can the additional cost be justified and where would that money come from?

Traffic studies show that a bypass route cannot be justified on traffic volume but the city centre does get congested with large lorries and narrow streets and a bypass would relieve most of this problem.

It was decided to leave this matter over until our meeting on the 17th January to give all our members time to consider the proposals. The consultation should end on the 17th the day of our next meeting but it has been agreed that we would seek an extension of time so we can submit our opinion on the 18th.

10). A862 and Achnagairn Mansion and estate.

The Secretary reported that the centre line hatching on the A862 at the old police station had been omitted when the road had been resurfaced. This would be replaced when the weather allowed.

The management at Achnagairn mansion had promised that there would be no more loud fireworks or Chinese lanterns and that firework displays would be short and be done at a reasonable time and not late at night. They said they were fully aware of the dangers to animals and elderly people.

The houses in Achnagairn Estate are still lying as before although some fresh boards have been put up where there was no doors to restrict access. The Secretary reported that he had obtained an Aberdeen number to phone to try and establish the present owners but someone there gave out an Edinburgh number which rings on to an answering machine to leave a message and they will ring back, but no one has yet done so.

11). The secretary outlined the Connecting Carers organisation.

The Connecting Carers group offer support to carers in the Highlands. They run training and social events for carers and hope to have support workers in the area from next year. As the Community Councils operate throughout the region they want to make sure they have contact details for the Connecting Carers in case the need arises and they are asked for help from local residents.

12). A.O.B. There was no other business so the meeting was closed.

Date of next meeting 17th January.