

Kinghorn Loch Users Group.

Minutes of the Meeting held 1st September 2008 at 5.30 pm at Craigenalt Cottage, Kinghorn

1. **Present:** Marilyn Edwards (Secretary), Margaret Kinninmonth (Treasurer), Fraser Ballantyne, Alan Henderson, Elinor Chalmers, Ron Edwards (Chairperson), Richard Neil, Ronny Duncan
2. **Apologies** - Alistair Morrison, Paul McLaren and Saul Gardiner.
3. **Minutes from the previous meeting.**
The minutes were proposed by Ronny Duncan and seconded by Fraser Ballantyne

The notes made from the meeting held 18-8-08, with Steve Westbrook from the Dualchas Group were given to people at the meeting. Steve had said that the Carp Group and The Ecology Centre had met with him separately. The chairman went through the notes but to give people proper time to look over them it was agreed that individuals would get back to the secretary with their approval before the notes were sent on to Dualchas, KCLA and BDT

4. **Matters Arising.**

- a) Barley straw – It was time for the next lot of barley straw to go into the loch. A request would be made to Banchory Farm but if it was possible to collect it this would help.
- b) Elinor and David Chalmers had sent an email to say that they had sold their boat which had always been used for putting the barley straw out on the loch. The Loch Users Group wished to record their thanks to Elinor and David for their time and the use of the boat for some years. Ronny Duncan kindly offered his boat to distribute the next barley straw with the help of some volunteers.
- c) There were still a few small jobs remaining at the jetty. The best way to do the fendering was still being considered.
- d) There were still some rubber tyres remaining but they had been cut free and were ready for disposal.

5. **Correspondence.**

- a) Landfill Communities Fund – Environmental Bodies Guidance Manual.
- b) Entrust e-bulletin for August; this could be emailed on to members if they wished.
- c) The chairman had sent for information on purchasing a utility boat for the loch. The idea was shelved for the moment
- d) **Problems with Fish hooks in and at the loch**
The secretary had received two letters on this subject:
 - A letter from Neil Chalmers of the Canoe Club outlining an incident the previous week when a young girl canoeist at the grass jetty area had got a fish hook stuck in her foot. It had resulted in her needing hospital treatment.
 - The second letter was from Saul Gardiner SCG, saying that he understood that there had been some issues with wildlife and fishing hooks. He claimed that the canoe club rescue boat had deliberately cut through fishing line.

It had been recorded that fishing line and hooks had caused 7 injuries to wildlife, 2 injuries to dogs and 1 injury to a person over this year. Everyone agreed that the situation could not continue. Richard Neil, representing Craigenalt Farm expressed concern, and stated that a sublet agreement for fishing had never been agreed with The Ecology Centre and he would look into this.

Action agreed:

- The Canoe Club were asked to respond to the incident of the boat deliberately cutting fishing line
- The Chairman would send a letter to the land managers at the jetty (Craigenalt Farm and the Ecology Centre) telling them that it was unacceptable from a Health and Safety point of view to have fishing on the launching areas and must cease.

e) The Local Nature Reserve was left for discussion at another meeting.

6. Any Other Business.

- a) A request had been made to Richard Smith, Lochore Meadows to ask if he could bring the boat used for cutting back weed as a lot of blanket weed had formed around Kinghorn Loch over the summer. He was coming as soon as the boat was mended.
- b) The secretary was asked to contact Brian Shand, Community Services to check if the padlock at the sluice was secure and if a maintenance check of the area could be carried out.

29th September was the date agreed for the next meeting.