

Kinghorn Loch Users Group.

Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 17th March 2010 at 6.30 pm at Craigenalcott Cottage

Present: Marilyn Edwards (Secretary), Fraser Ballantyne, (Community Council) Margaret Kinninmonth (Treasurer), Alan Henderson, Elinor Chalmers (Canoe Club) Ron Edwards (Chairperson) Richard Neil, (Craigenalcott Farm *Paul McLaren* (SCG) Stephanie Little (Development Services)

Apologies -) Saul Gardiner, John Hughes

1 Progress on Local Nature Reserve Status for Kinghorn Loch

Stephanie Little from Development Services gave a written statement of the sequence of the work needed to set up the proposed LNR.

- a) Agreement from all landowners is required for the area detailed in the Local Plan. Alcan and Kinghorn Developments need to agree.
- b) Identification of and agreement on who will be responsible for producing the management statement and management plans including resource implications, as well as responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of reserve management plans. Initial discussions suggest KLUG is willing to take on this role, however the group needs to see examples of the type reports that will be needed to help assess if they can take on this responsibility.
- c) Formal consultation with SNH for their endorsement of LNR designation. They will need to provide with a management statement, indication of management costs and funding arrangements.
- d) Fife Council approval (committee) to go ahead with the designation based on confirmed landowner agreement and agreement regarding who will be responsible for future management given that Fife Council do not have resources.
- e) Law and Administration will be required to draw up landowner agreements and then undertake the statutory LNR declaration procedures. They will not be asked to undertake the work until the above has been completed.

Stephanie provided some samples of LNR plan statements, Dalbeath and Gillingwell, possibly Callaloe nearby would be a good sample to view. KLUG needed to consider all the plans and report back. Time for full discussion of this at a future meeting would be required.

2 Minutes from the previous meeting

The minutes were proposed by Fraser Ballantyne and seconded by Alan Henderson

3 Matters Arising.

- a) The wood along the front grass at the jetty was still loose, possibly redo with a hilti gun.
- b) Marley tubing –The chairman had not heard back from Marley for a quotation on the cost for some new tubing he would send to them again.
- c) Spring clean/litter pick at the loch could not go ahead until the travelling folk vacated their camp on the east side. Environmental Services had agreed to help with bulk uplifts and initial litter. Then a litter pick could be organized between local groups.

4. Forthcoming Events

a) A "Come and Try" day was agreed for Saturday 1st May. It was agreed to change the barbecue to selling hotdogs and the secretary would organise this along with a baking stall and refreshments. Canoe Club have gas burners and pots they can loan and Richard will provide the earn again. It was also agreed to widen the interests on offer, the secretary would contact RSPB, Fife Bird Society and Kinghorn Pathways Group to come along. Time of the event is to be 1 – 5 pm

b) KLUG stand at the Beveridge Park Festival during the first week in July left undecided.

c) Ron to find out more from the Toll Centre in Burntisland as to what kind of outdoor/leisure activity they wish to hold at Kinghorn loch and he will report back.

5. Correspondence. - none

4 Maintenance of the Loch

- It was agreed to consult Saul Gardiner to ask his opinion on planting to prevent bank erosion. iris and bulrushes had been suggested as possibilities at the previous meeting..
- The chairman had received a information from Edinburgh University which had been studying the phosphate balances in Kinghorn loch. It showed a moderate phosphate to be present but no algae which was an anomaly. They request more information as to the state of the loch over the last 10 years to try and determine why this should be. The chairman would get back in touch with them.
- Barley straw has been requested but it is in short supply this year and cattle are still in barns due to cold spring and lack of fresh grass.

5 New Project Ideas

- a) The secretary would get in touch with John Hughes to see if there was a further update on progress of the composting toilet.
- b) A new maintenance boat was considered and discussion ensued as to where this boat might be stored for convenient use on the loch. Alan agreed to obtain prices of boats from Cala Marine, Inverness and come back to next meeting.

6 Any Other Business.

- It was agreed to donate £50 to the seat in memory of David Chalmers
- Elinor said that she would add any addition dates to the annual timetable.

Date of next meeting to be decided Wednesday 28th April March 2010