

Kinghorn Loch Users Group.

Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 25th May 2009 at 7.30 pm at Craigenfalt Cottage

1. **Present:** Marilyn Edwards (Secretary), Fraser Ballantyne, (Community Council) Margaret Kinninmonth (Treasurer), Alan Henderson, Elinor Chalmers, (Canoe Club) Ron Edwards (Chairperson), Richard Neil,(Craigenfalt Farm) Paul McLaren (Scottish Carp Group) Ronny Duncan (Sailing Club)
Apologies - Alistair Morrison, Saul Gardiner, Roy Henderson, Ronnie Mackie
2. **Minutes from the previous meeting.**
The minutes were proposed by Richard Neil and seconded by Fraser Ballantyne
3. **Matters Arising.**
 - a) It was felt that the Yurt or Earthship may be a bit small to accommodate everyone for a meeting so it was agreed to leave the venue the same for the present.
 - b) 8c from last minute, Margaret was able to confirm that the summer youth activities for canoeing would take place the first week of August. Also Active Schools were liaising with Christine to hold canoe sessions for P6/7 age group during the last two weeks in July. The Canoe Club is holding come & try evening for adults from 6pm Wednesday 3rd June.
 - c) It was agreed the secretary would write to Keith Winter, Head of Development Services to try and ascertain the name of the person responsible for progressing Local Nature Reserves in Fife Council.
 - d) Come and Try Day feedback – This proved another popular busy afternoon, secretary had emailed around to thank all participants groups for their hard work. The Sailing Club had a disclaimer form for Health and Safety, and the Canoe Club would adopt this form for a future Come and Try Day. Also signage for walks and a direction sign for The Earthship would be helpful.
4. **Correspondence.**
 - a) Landfill Community Fund, end of year declaration – this had been filled in and returned by the chairman.
 - b) Email from Lawrence Shirley – Budget 2009 – Changes affecting the Landfill Communities funds - noted
6. **Maintenance of the Loch**

Roy Henderson from the Sailing Club along with some volunteers from the Ecology Centre had managed to put out most of the barley straw and the loch was remaining very clear. The raft at the hide was firmly fixed and would have to be cut to pull it further out and then re-anchor it into position. Alan had weights ready to anchor the raft in the bay. All the spare Marley tubing had now been used so it was agreed the chairman would write to PDM and Keyline (Wolsey Group), local stockists to see if they might kindly donate some for future repairs. The secretary would buy flowers for Mrs Cochran who regularly donated the barley straw for the loch and request some more for late August.

Ronny reported that the initial idea of fitting rubber tyre fendering to the jetty had scuffed some of the boats. He and Roy were considering using a timber facing board and covering it with conveyor belt rubber to see if this proved more satisfactory.

The weed growth was building up in the loch once again. It was agreed to ask Neil Chalmers if he would contact Richard Smith at Lochore Meadows to see if he could bring the boat to cut the weeds for us.
7. **New Project Ideas**
 - a) Saul had sent an email with some information about ideas for planting to stop further habitat erosion and bank stabilising. This would be put on the agenda for the next meeting.
 - b) Ron passed around some sample ideas to give thought to an information board. It was agreed to try something innovative or different taking in the geology/history of the loch area. This would be investigated further.
Elinor said that she had access to some interpretation boards.

7. Any Other Business.

- a. Paul said that the pathway along to the fishing area was fine at present and the Scottish Carp Group was still in discussion with the farm factor Bill Robertson.
- b. Fraser said that vehicles entering and exiting the road at the sluice gate was a danger as the entrance lacked visibility. He asked for bollards to be erected to stop vehicle access. Ron said that his had already been requested.

Date of next meeting Monday 27th July 2009 at 7.30pm