

Kinghorn Loch Users Group.

Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 27th July 2009 at 7.30 pm at Craigenalt Cottage

1. **Present:** Marilyn Edwards (Secretary), Fraser Ballantyne, (Community Council) Margaret Kinninmonth (Treasurer), Alan Henderson, Elinor Chalmers, (Canoe Club) Ron Edwards (Chairperson), Richard Neil,(Craigenalt Farm) Roy Henderson (Sailing Club) John Hughes (Ecology Centre)
Apologies - Alistair Morrison, Saul Gardiner, Ronnie Mackie, Brian McMorrin, Saul Gardiner, Paul McLaren
2. **Minutes from the previous meeting.**
The minutes were proposed by Alan Henderson and seconded by Fraser Ballantyne
3. **Matters Arising.**
 - a) Wooden facing board had been put around the jetty for fendering to prevent the sailing boats from being damaged. This seemed to be working though some nails have popped out as the concrete blocking can be soft in places and may need plugged and re-drilled. Roy reported that the cost of the wood and gun cartridges was approx £220, he would submit a bill to the Treasurer for payment. Margaret said that there was £500 in the account at present
 - b) It was agreed the secretary would contact Keith Winter again, (Head of Development Services) to find out the person who is now responsible for progressing Local Nature Reserves in Fife Council with the view to inviting them along to a KLUG meeting.
 - c) Come and Try Day event – Both the Sailing Club and the Canoe Club have held their own taster events so another one at the loch may be too much. Margaret reported that the Canoe Active Schools Sessions on the loch had gone well.
 - d) Marilyn had delivered a bouquet of flowers to Mrs. Cochran and she will kindly supply more barley straw at the end of August
 - e) Bollards at the entrance to the sluice – The chairman had contacted Community Services about putting up bollards along the road entrance down to the sluice to stop visitors parking there as visibility on the road was restricted. Community services considered putting up bollards would be more dangerous to this entrance.
 - f) Marley tubing – Some new tubing was needed for replacement rafts. The secretary was yet to contact Keyline, local stockists (Wolsey Group) and PDM, Randolph Industrial Estate to ask if they would consider donating some Marley Quantum twin walled 300mm diameter 4 or 5 metre length tubing to repair the rafts on the loch.
 - g) Richard reported that the SCG agreement was still in progress, the chairman said he hoped this would be sorted very soon.

Forth Coming Events

- Canoe Club 30th Anniversary celebrations, Friday 7th August starting at 7pm.
- Ecology Centre Fun Day Event, Sunday 30th August, John Hughes told the meeting about the

4. **Correspondence.**

- Email - Sandy Mitchell F.C. has retired; a new contact will be allocated from Community Services
- Email concerning an approach from someone seeking work with the fishing and wildlife industry. Agreed to tell the Ecology Centre and SCI

6. **Maintenance of the Loch**

Floating weed, although present was not as bad as last year. KLUG needs a means of getting the weed out of the loch so that the nutrients are not recycled. The cost of hiring the boat from Lochore is £500. This was beyond budget means and regarded as an extortionate cost to cut weed in the loch. Purchasing a small fibre-glass dorrie boat for carrying out maintenance was discussed. Roy Henderson and Elinor Chalmers would look into this possibility and report back. A funding grant

would need to be sought.

Ron would inquire from researcher, Brian Spears, about animal protozoa that chew up blanket weed. He is conducting research to tackle the problem of weed growth in lochs but consideration must also be given to how it may affect the wildlife.

7. New Project Ideas

- a) John Hughes, employed by the Ecology Centre to oversee the new Environmentors Project introduced himself and spoke about how he was looking at the area and gathering ideas at present, establishing environmental walks, including maintenance and signage was one idea, the herb garden was another. John said he would keep people informed with regular updates.
- b) Ron passed around a sample idea of a touch screen interactive information board. This idea was innovative and would cover information on all aspects of the loch including geology, history etc. It was felt that the board would need to be robust, in a shelter and south facing. A solar power supply would be required for the computer and monitor. Ron suggested it might be erected on the farms land and Richard said that he would discuss this with the owners. Alan H to look at a suitable sight and Ron, Richard and John would investigate design.
- c) Planting to prevent erosion, it was agreed to leave this discussion until the SCG was present as it affects the bank where fishing takes place.

7. Any Other Business.

- a. The secretary said that she would write a press release for the communities column for the FFP as it was good for people to know about the work KLUG was achieving.

Date of next meeting Monday 14th September 2009 at 7.30pm