



Ness News

Community News & Events

Sept 2026



Trust Update



Golf Club



Legacy Project





That's our summer officially over, but there has certainly been lots going on in our community. I'm pleased to see so many projects moving forward with their goals, including the Glengarry Community Development Trust, the Men's Shed and the Cill Chuimein Legacy Project, to name just a few.

As ever, most community groups need support, particularly in getting more members and volunteers on board. If you have some time to spare, it would be wonderful to see more people from our local community getting involved and helping these organisations to continue their valuable work.

If you live in Dalchreichart, the Hub is currently looking for directors and volunteers to help support its future.

The Cill Chuimein Legacy Project is also looking for supporting members.

The Community Council needs more councillors, and the cut-off date for nominations is Monday, 7th September. If you are interested in standing, please have a look at the Highland Council website for further information.

The Community Company is also looking for new members as well as new directors, ahead of its AGM in November.

If there is a particular group or project that interests you, please get in touch with them. Their contact details are included in this issue. Even if you cannot commit to volunteering, becoming a member or simply offering your support can make a real difference.

The Senior Citizens' Association continues to go from strength to strength. By the time this edition is published, members should have enjoyed their monthly film trip to the Highland Cinema and their summer outing to Newtonmore. Monthly shopping trips to Fort William and, occasionally, Inverness are also organised. If you have any new neighbours aged 60 or over living in Fort Augustus, please let me know so that I can add them to our list and make sure they are aware of the activities available.

The Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council has continued to play an active role in supporting community resilience in Fort Augustus, Invermoriston and Dalchreichart, as well as meeting with major stakeholders regarding the A82 and visitor management. The community council continue to deal with a wide range of local issues, including road concerns, speeding and parking, fly-tipping and litter, housing matters and community amenities. We are also involved in planning matters and renewable energy projects that may affect our community.

Your community needs people who are willing to get involved, however big or small that contribution may be. If you can help, please consider giving your time, becoming a member or simply supporting one of the many groups working hard to make our community a better place.

Editors
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Seonaid MacDonald Urquhart
nessnews-paper@outlook.com





The Hub Dalchreichart

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2026



"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower" – Albert Camus

New Water Treatment Plant

Pleased to say that the water treatment works for the Hub and School House have now been completed and are fully functional. Many thanks to Beinneun Community Fund for helping us fund this project and to our contractors, John Ferguson Contractors, who did a splendid job and caused minimal disruption all round.



What's On At The Hub?

Coffee Mornings

Our regular coffee mornings will run as usual on the last Saturday of every month from 11am to 1pm. **Upcoming dates: 26th September, 31st October and 28th November.** See you there for tea/coffee, cake and all the craic.

Keyboard Club

Fortnightly usually on **Monday mornings at 10:30am** but occasionally on a different day. A relaxed, friendly session to learn/improve keyboard skills. Thinking of joining in? Contact dalchreicharthub@gmail.com for exact dates and more information.

Craft & Chat

Held on the **third Thursday of each month**, 10am–1pm. Bring a craft project or just come for the company and the cake! **Next sessions: 17th September, 15th October and 19th November.**

Social Evenings

We have had a couple of very successful social evenings over the last few months - just an evening to relax, enjoy yourselves, get to know people and generally have a good time. We hope to do these more regularly so look out on our social media pages and notice boards for more information and dates.

Borrow a Book – or Donate One

Our small library is available during all events. Bring books to share and pick from our selection on offer. We also have several jigsaw puzzles for people to borrow and return when finished. They have now all been sorted and arranged in alphabetical order thanks to Jan who volunteered a good few hours of her time to carry this out.

Oktoberfest – 24th October, 7 pm

This year catering will be provided by Rowan Café. Oktoberfest is always a good evening for a bit of fun and laughter and good food. This event is heavily subsidised by the Hub and tickets are available for just £10 per person, to make it an affordable evening for all to enjoy. Please bring your own beverage. This year we have live music with Michael Curley and his band. The event is always a sell-out so don't miss out - book early to secure your place. This is a community event, and priority will be given to residents between the two dams. You can reserve tickets now online at thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com where you will be given instructions for making payment online. **Tickets will also be available at our coffee morning on 29th August.**

Christmas Dinner – 5th December, 7pm

This year the Christmas event has live music including a vocalist. The excellent catering will be provided by The Redshank. Bring your own beverage and enjoy the festive cheer and a darn good meal! Reserve your place early to avoid disappointment as we always get fully booked for this. This event is again highly subsidised by the Hub and tickets are available for £10 per head. For more information and to book your place, contact thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com or enquire at our coffee mornings.

Volunteers and Directors Needed



The Hub is a valued asset to our community, but we urgently need more people to help keep it running. Our Treasurer and Secretary are moving away from the area, creating two immediate vacancies. In addition, three of the five remaining Directors are due for re-election soon, potentially creating three further vacancies. We are therefore looking for people who would be willing to become Directors or volunteers and help support the future of The Hub.

Without additional volunteers and people willing to take on these roles, we may not have enough people to continue running the organisation effectively. If you can help, or would like to find out more, please get in touch. Your support could make a real difference to the future of The Hub and our community; we'd love to hear from you. You can message us on our Facebook page*, email us* or chat to us at any of our events. *See below for contact details.

We also need volunteers to help deliver a community resilience plan. We are unable to move forward with this initiative without additional volunteers to help with its organisation and implementation. We would therefore welcome anyone in the community who is willing to get involved and help us take this important work forward.

For further information:

Website: thehubdalchreichart.co.uk

Email: thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com

Facebook: Westglenmoriston Hub

Or simply drop in — everyone is welcome, including visitors and neighbours from surrounding villages.

With warm wishes,

The Dalchreichart Hub Team:

Andy Hugens - Chairman, Cate Lilley and Sue Reed – Events, Jayne Malley – Fundraising and John Malley – Committee Member.

West Glenmoriston Community Company
thehubdalchreichart@gmail.com

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Join us at the
TELFORD CENTRE

on **22ND SEPTEMBER**
at **11AM**

TOGETHER
WE CAN
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

TO ENJOY
TEA, COFFEE
AND CAKE

.....
WHILE RAISING
MONEY FOR
A GREAT CAUSE

EVERY CUP
FILLS ANOTHER
WITH HOPE

WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT





Brownies

The past few months have been a busy time for the Brownies. We had outings to the woods, park and down the village for ice cream. We also did lots of arts and crafts, some baking and of course we had our bingo night to raise funds for our unit and for Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland.

I would just like to thank everyone who supported that night either by attending, donating prizes or both. Also a massive thank you to everyone who helped on the night and to the wonderful band. We couldn't have done it without you all and we're so incredibly grateful. We raised a massive £730 which was split between the 2 causes. I'd also like to thank The Legion who recently held their monthly killer pool night for the Brownies. Without these kind of donations, the unit wouldn't be able to run.

Looking to the future we have a few things coming up including sorting our garden area, the Remembrance Parade, Halloween and Christmas parties, we're hoping to plan a trip somewhere too. I am also very keen to get more involved in the community, if anyone has any ideas on how we can do this please let me know. We also welcome different visitors and activities so if you have a hobby or talent you are willing to share by coming along one evening please let me know.

Finally, we are always looking for new members and volunteers. If you would like to be part of girlguiding please get in touch or if your daughter is aged 7 and over and would like to join Brownies, you can either get in touch with myself or register online. As our Brownies are getting older, we will also be looking at starting guides again in the near future which is for age 10 years and older.

Lisa Gordon (Leader in Training)

Senior Citizens

FORT AUGUSTUS SENIOR CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

The weekly Low Intensity Exercise Class has been running for 4 years. Over that time attendance numbers have increased which meant additional equipment and storage boxes was required. A grant application to the Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company was successful and the following was purchased:

Selection of dumbbells ranging from 0.5kg – 16kg

Selection of power bands

Wobble balance board

Skipping ropes

Hula hoops

Storage boxes x 3

Classes are held every Friday morning at 10.45 at Fort Augustus Village Hall. They are led by Vicky Howie who is a qualified fitness instructor. Current age range of participants is 18 – 90 years. Exercise can be standing, seated or a mixture of both. If anyone is interested in joining this friendly, inclusive class, they are welcome to come along. Cost is £2 per session. If you would like more information, Vicky can be contacted on 07464 840043. We are most grateful to Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company for awarding the grant for the additional equipment and for continuing to subsidise the class.





Glengarry Community Development Trust Update

Glengarry Forest Cabins are OPEN! After three years of hard work, Glengarry Forest Cabins are officially open and welcoming guests! We are deeply grateful to the whole community for your patience, encouragement, and support throughout the build process.

Following testing with 'early bird' visitors and a fantastic turnout at our Community Open Day on 30th July, paying guests have begun arriving via Airbnb and Google. The response has been wonderful, with five-star reviews being shared. Guests are loving the off-grid experience and the woodland setting, and appreciate that the project is community-owned.

We aim to provide flexible employment for accommodation staff and welcome enquiries for this and next season. Just get in touch for an informal chat (and remember: if you work here, you do not have to walk up the hill!).

Bookings & Info: www.glengarryforestcabins.com

Trust Enquiries: woodlands@glengarry.org.uk | 01809 501287

Update on the Black Bridge: The sudden closure of the Black Bridge over the River Garry by Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) in June caused understandable disruption across the Glen. Built by the Ellice family in the 1890s, the Category B listed footbridge holds historical value, linking Mandally to Invergarry and offering a safe route for school children and Great Glen Way walkers.

FLS has offered to transfer ownership of the bridge to GCDT for 1p. However, taking on an ageing structure carries significant legal and financial responsibilities. If an owner cannot maintain a listed bridge, they could ultimately be required to dismantle and store it in perpetuity at enormous cost.

We are keen to take on the bridge, but to make a responsible decision, we must commission an independent engineering survey to assess immediate repair costs and long-term viability. We are working constructively alongside Glengarry Community Council, FLS, SSER, Highland Council, and local funding partners.

Greenfield Land Project: Community Consultation Following FLS's intention to sell buildings at Greenfield, we have been working with community development consultants to assess community land ownership options.

Community Consultation: Thursday, 17th September at Glengarry Community Hall (time tbc).

Bringing parts of Greenfield under active community management offers a wonderful opportunity to help repopulate and shape the future of Glengarry. The Community Consultation offers a chance for you to share your views and ideas.

Ardochy Housing Update The planning application for Ardochy is now under its final assessment with the head planner in Fort William. Layout revisions have satisfied SEPA regarding flood risk, and we are finalising site planting details. Once approved, the Community Housing Trust will take forward build funding and building warrants. Note





that capital works timescales remain linked to SSEN's wider Skye reinforcement project.

Glengarry Community Gardens The group has made amazing progress this summer, erecting a polytunnel and a deer-proof fenced area with raised beds at the Old Forestry Depot, as well as their garden space at the Glengarry Community Hall. With the first small harvest coming through, thoughts are already turning to next year's crops!

The group welcomes any new members to come along.

- **Saturday Mornings:** Volunteer sessions at the Glengarry Community Woodland.
- **3rd Wednesday of the Month (Evenings):** Gardening chat over tea and cakes at Invergarry Community Hall.
- **Contact:** glengarry.community.gardens@gmail.com | Find them on Facebook.

Timber for Sale at The Old Depot. We have local ungraded, air-dried Scots Pine timber available directly from the woodland, perfect for sheds, raised beds, or lean-tos (mostly 3m to 3.7m lengths). Stocks include 80x50mm, 50x150mm, and 200x50mm. We can also mill Pine or Norway Spruce to order. Drop by the Depot or contact Tom or Andy to view and make an offer!

Glengarry Community Development Trust | The Old Depot, Invergarry, PH35 4HG | glengarry.org.uk



Announcements

Engagements



Sofia Johnston and Jordan Blackley got engaged in Stirling on the 12th June 2026.

Births



Ailsa (Hosie) and Iain Todd welcomed Lois May Todd on the 3rd of July 2026 at Forth Valley Royal Hospital. Big brother Euan is delighted to have a baby sister.



Rhuairaidh and Rosie welcomed Eilidh Catherine Rose MacDonald on the 26th of August 2026, weighing 8lbs 2oz at Raigmore Hospital. A little sister for Murdo.

Deaths



PATRICK (ERIC) WELDON –
1958 – 2026
(Fort Augustus / Isle of Eigg)

Eric passed away in his new home in Fort Augustus with his loving wife Seonaid by his side, aged 68 years. He will return to Eigg the Island that shaped so much of his life, where for many years he worked alongside his late wife Rachel who was GP for the small Isles. Eric was a loving husband and a good, kind, loyal friend to many and will be missed by all who knew him.

Fort Augustus Golf Club

This year has been well attended by our members who've enjoyed competitive golf throughout the spring and summer months. It's also been great to see our younger members get back out enjoying the course again. Our hope for next year is to really push our junior golf and attract new members from all ages as it's the key to our club going forward.

A huge thank you must go out to all the volunteers and committee members for the ongoing work, especially Davie Mackay and Alex MacDonald who work tirelessly on the course all year round.

If you're interested in trying golf, Fort Augustus is the perfect venue to give it a go; a quiet course without the pressure of a busier course that you find in bigger towns or cities. Please pop up and have a chat with a club representative if you have any questions.

Finally a shout out to our competition winners from throughout the year.

Sair Head - Lorn Mackay

Mary Lesley- Geoff Allan

Nelson Trophy (Pairs) Alex MacDonald & James Barron

Jock MacEachen- Jamie Ferguson

Keir Trophy - David Nisbet

Fort Augustus Open - Andrew Gilchrist (gross)

James Barron (handicap)

Club Championship 36 holes - Lorn Mackay (gross) Gordon MacDonald (handicap)

Trophies were handed out by club captain, Lorn Mackay and vice captain, Davie Mackay.





— MEN'S SHED — **DARTS** **MARATHON**



10.30 AM
TO
10.30 PM



29TH
SEPTEMBER



RAISING MONEY FOR
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT



EVENT HELD AT
THE LEGION
FORT AUGUSTUS

SIGN UP TO PLAY!



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO SIGN UP OR DONATE



Kilchuimen 2-18 Campus



A warm welcome back to a new term at Kilchuimen 2-18.

We are excited to have our pupils return to school and look forward to having another fantastic year of learning and growth. A big welcome to those pupils who are new to our school community; we are very happy that you have joined us.

This year, we are pleased to welcome three new members of staff to our school community. We are excited to have Ms Anna Humphrey join our teaching team as a Music teacher, Ms Eilidh Young will be teaching Art, whilst Mr Stuart Baijal is joining us teaching Languages. We believe that our new staff members will bring fresh perspectives and expertise to our school and are confident that they will make valuable contributions to our students' education and overall well-being.

This year we already seem to have a busy academic calendar with several trips and visitors planned for our students. From the nursery pupils with their regular visits into the community, the primary school going to the annual pantomime at Eden Court in Inverness, and a coach full of academy pupils attending Lochaber career fairs.

We look forward to welcoming Bam Nuttall to deliver sessions with primary pupils this month building Tetrahedrons to develop core STEM skills and knowledge.

We also can't wait to deliver the finished planters and bird boxes to the Invergarry Railway Station currently being worked on by our S2-S4 pupils.

It is with the support of our many partners in the community that we can offer the wide and varied range of activities both within and out the classroom. Over the last academic year, we would particularly like to thank Omexon, Loch Ness Cruises, Monster Chip Shop, Cobbs, The Boathouse, The Lovat, Caledonian Canal Centre, Invergarry Train Station, the Community Company and both the Primary and Nursery and Academy Parent Councils for supporting so many of our school activities and providing resources.

Finally, our school community would like to wish all our last term's school leavers well in their chosen destinations.





Cill Chuimein Legacy Project Update



At 4.49pm on 30th June, the Cill Chuimein Legacy Project team let out a collective sigh of relief. This was the long-awaited moment when, after a lot of hard work and complex negotiations, we got word that the land around Inchnacardoch Bay had finally been transferred into charitable ownership for the benefit of the community.

Sold to the Forestry Commission by the Lovat Estate in 1922, it was then bequeathed to Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council in 1984. A few years ago, however, it came to light that the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer of the Community Council were personally liable for the site, which had become unsafe. This was obviously a very concerning situation that couldn't continue, so Councillors explored several possible solutions before deciding that the only course of action was to form a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) to look after the land.

Cill Chuimein Legacy Project's first priority was to transfer the assets, ensuring that the legal liability no longer rested with Deirdre MacKinnon, current Chair of the Community Council. Now that we're not living in fear of a 'Free the Fort Augustus One' scenario, we can crack on with the next phase of the project, which is to repair and restore the lay-by, slipway access, paths, signage and heritage interpretation boards, making Inchnacardoch Bay easily and safely accessible once more.

We're delighted that some of our start-up costs have been funded by the Beinneun Community Fund, administered by Foundation Scotland. Their award of just under £5000 goes a long way for a little charity, and we're thankful for this support. With insurance in place and a shiny new lifebuoy installed by the water, we are now chatting with other funders and donors to secure money for the jobs at the top of our to-do list.

Our vision is to preserve and protect this area of natural and historic significance, and to celebrate its rich cultural heritage. Inch has long been a place loved by locals and tourists alike, steeped in legend and lore. Inchnacardoch comes from Innis na Ceàrdaich – innis is an old Gaelic word meaning island or water meadow, while the ceàrdaich part refers to the smithy that would have once stood nearby. Many a monster sighting happened here back in the day, and the crannog that we know as Cherry Island (originally called Murdoch's Island) was the site of a medieval castle and, allegedly, a gruesome murder involving a slippery deer hide.



Though there are no slippery deer hides lurking in the lay-by (to our knowledge), there is some serious damage, so it remains closed while we work to make it safe. Users of the land owned by Cill Chuimein Legacy Project do so at their own risk, and we accept no liability for any accidents, damages or losses incurred. Thank you for your patience.

As we inch (pardon the pun) towards our goal, we feel proud of what we've achieved, but there's still a great deal to be done. Luckily, our team has a wealth of combined experience to drive this project forward. Cill Chuimein Legacy Project is run by a tiny but tenacious band of volunteers: Community Councillors Mike Anderson, Jenny Findlay and James Prince have been trustees since the beginning, and they have recently been joined by Chris Rose, with Laura Brown acting as an advisor to the board.

We are grateful to everyone who's been involved so far, including former Councillors Dan Clark and Leanne Findlay, the rest of the Community Council, and local residents and landowners. We particularly appreciate the support of our members – if you'd like to join them, visit cclegacy.co.uk to download a membership form and find out more about our mission. Want to ask us a question? Email us at contact@cclegacy.co.uk – we'd love to hear from you!

Images: lifebuoy by James Prince; slipway and Cherry Island by Leanne O'Toole; Inch Bay from above by Iain MacKnocher



CILL CHUIMEIN
LEGACY PROJECT





Shinty Update

Glengarry Shinty Club won The Chieftain's Cup for the third time at The Bught Park in Inverness on 1st August. Glengarry were against Lewis Camanachd who travelled over from the island that morning with 2 bus loads of supporters who were very vocal.

Both teams were piped onto the field by young Kian Stewart whose father Calum Stewart is a former Glengarry player.

Lewis Camanachd reached the final for the first time & to mark the occasion presented Glengarry captain Finlay Fraser with a memorial quaich. It was an intensely fought game as both matched each other very well with excellent shinty. Despite Lewis getting a penalty with which they failed to score the score remained 0.0 at half time. Glengarry were greatly encouraged in the second half to bring their top scorer Nick Dalgety on to the field of play. Nick had been carrying a hamstring injury in recent weeks but his quality instantly shown through in attack.

After a very exciting & tight game the deadlock was broken in the final minutes as Steven 'DD' Cameron's long ball was played to Raymond Robertson who laid it off to Nick Dalgety who then held onto it to let Raymond Robertson run in to score. A fantastic win for Glengarry against a very strong & competitive Lewis team. A brilliant advert for shinty. Camanachd Association Chieftain John MacKenzie presented medals to both teams & Glengarry Club Captain Finlay Fraser lifted the Cup to the applause of both sides.

On 20th March at their home pitch in Craigard Glengarry won the McBain Cup which is held annually in memory of former player Roddy McBain who died in a road accident. Glengarry beat Strathglass 4.1 in an exciting game. Raymond Robertson scored 2 goals. Nick Dalgety scored 1 & young player Nico Anderson-Barreno scored 1. Struan Hood scored Strathglass's only goal. Samantha McBain niece of Roddy presented the cup to Glengarry Captain Finlay Fraser & she presented medals to both sets of players.



Heritage and Gaelic Update

As the Heritage and Gaelic Development Officers for Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston, Laura Brown and Eilidh Sykes organise events and classes, as well as working behind the scenes to catalogue our archives and enrich them by documenting the stories of local people.

We also have some ambitious long-term goals, including opening a heritage centre. There are so many wonderful tales and traditions in Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston, but a lot of visitors to the area leave without learning about these, and it can feel as if important parts of our collective history and culture are being eroded by cuddly Nessies and bus tours. Our dream is to create a place that can be enjoyed by residents and tourists alike, complementing the existing heritage exhibits at the Clansman Centre and the Caledonian Canal Centre.

We're currently in the 'no idea is a bad idea' stage of planning, which is always fun. Finding the ideal spot for our centre is a bit of a conundrum, but we relish the challenge. We don't need a huge space, so a room or two will do, and we're considering all options – Laura is really keen on a mobile museum, perhaps inside a vintage vehicle that could be driven around both villages and taken to events, while Eilidh would love to build a traditional turf house or shieling!

It would be good to hear your thoughts on this. If you know the perfect location or have strong feelings about what makes a great heritage centre, drop us a line (our contact details are below).

In the meantime, we have produced heritage panels for the vestibule of Glenmoriston Millennium Hall in Invermoriston, and we'll be adding to these in the coming months. We're also going to curate a small display at Dundreggan Rewilding Centre.

Check out the local Facebook pages and noticeboards for news of our future events. After a summer break, Glenmoriston Heritage Group and Cill Chuimein Heritage Group will be back soon with a programme of talks. Laura is kicking things off with a talk about the Brahan Seer on Sunday, 27th September at 3pm in the Church of Scotland Hall, Fort Augustus (£3 entry).

Laura Brown: laurabrown@treesforlife.org.uk Eilidh Sykes: eilidh@treesforlife.org.uk Cill Chuimein Heritage Group: cillchuimeinheritagegroup@gmail.com Glenmoriston Heritage Group: glenmoristonheritagegroup@gmail.com

Image: Laura Brown

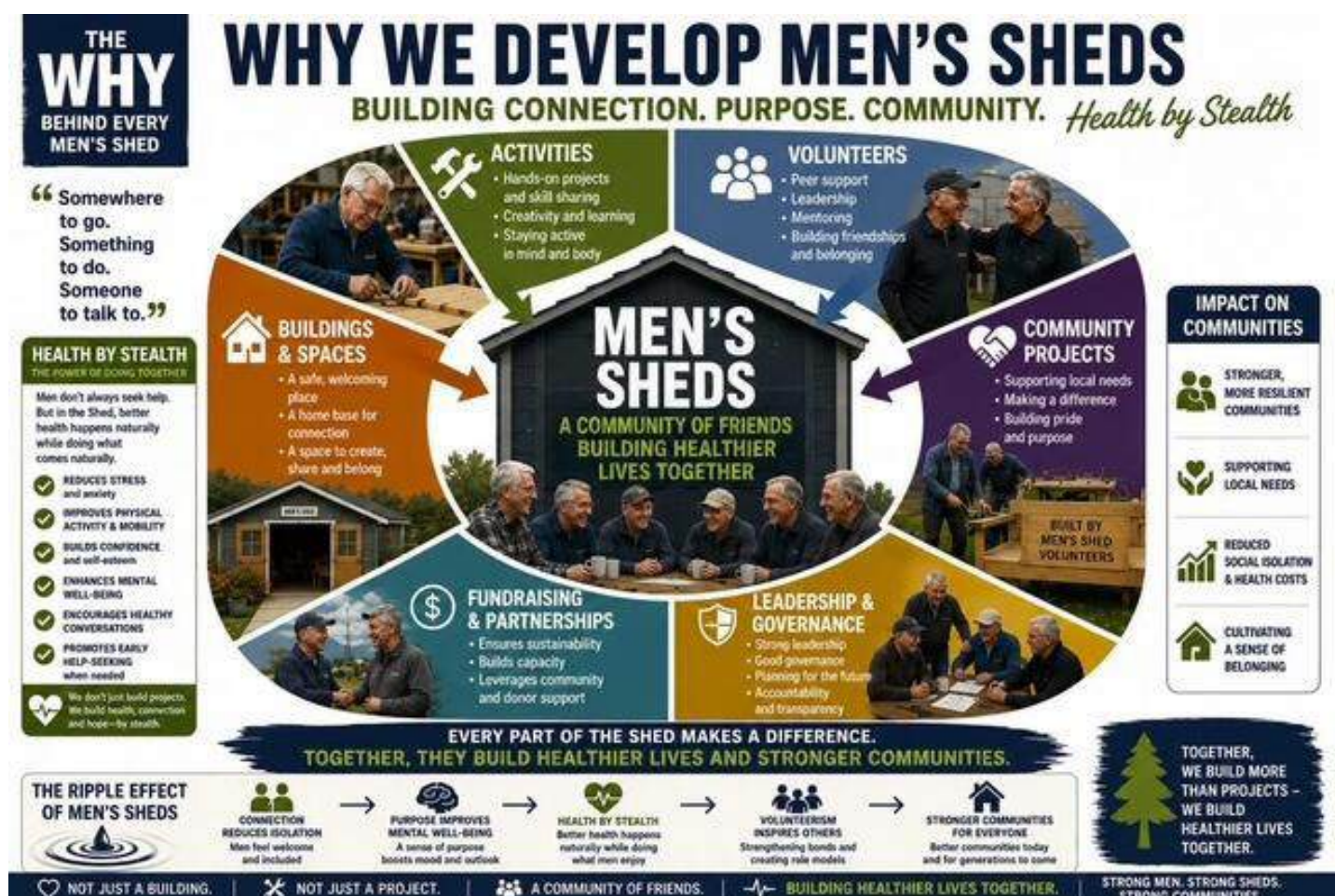


Fort Augustus Men's Shed

Wow, the Shed is going from strength to strength. Since having a place for woodworking activities, we have now taken on conservation projects for the Community Company, by building bat, bird, owl, and hedgehog boxes that are planned for distribution around the community. We have also been asked to help with the placement of signage on the convent land, to provide First Aid stations for Omexom Ltd on the Auchterawe development and to supply and install flower planters for the Church of Scotland. All in all, we are busy working on the various projects in the community and we are always looking for new ventures, so if we can help you with your project, please get in touch.

Our membership has now increased to 17, and our current activities remain the same. We meet each Tuesday morning in the shed, Tuesday night for darts at the Legion and Wednesday mornings for coffee at the Caledonian Canal Centre. Feel free to drop in and join us if you can, to see what we can offer you in the way of friendly chat and support, where needed.

The big news is the 12-hour Darts Marathon, being held at the Legion on the 29th September from 1030 am to 1030 pm in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. Watch out for the posters around the village where you can scan the QR code to join the team, or to donate to such a worthy cause. Alternatively, you can use the following link to find the page - <https://dartsmarathon.macmillan.org.uk/teams/fort-augustus-men-s-shed> or just leave a message behind the bar at the Legion. For more information about the Shed, just contact John at ftaugmshed25@outlook.com or come along to one of our get togethers. We look forward to seeing you.





Tel: 01320 366800

Email: contact@communitycompany.co.uk

Office hours: Mon – Fri 9am to 3.30pm

Staff Update

There have been a few changes at FAGCC over the last few months, with two new members joining the team and **Karen Edwards** preparing to retire later this year.

Oli and **Martin** both joined the team recently and have so far proven themselves to be great assets.

Oliver Giles

Oliver joined us recently as our new **Chief Officer**. His role includes helping shape the company's future plans and developing new projects.

Before joining FAGCC, Oliver worked with Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust, where he helped deliver a 12-home affordable housing project and supported the trust's work in the Glenlivet area. He has also worked in community and sustainable transport and has an MSc in Sustainable Mountain Development from UHI.



Outside work, Oliver is usually happiest outdoors, whether that's sea kayaking, cycling, hillwalking or skiing.

We asked Oliver what he enjoys most about his new role:

"Working with volunteer boards is an inspiring part of my role. The passion, enthusiasm, and local perspective they bring to organisations like FAGCC is what drives community development in the Highlands."

Oliver lives on Speyside with his family.

Martin McDonald



Martin joined us in May as our new **Operations Manager**. His career has taken him through residential childcare, operations management, hospitality, forestry and estates, volunteer programmes, and third-sector projects.

For almost ten years, Martin worked with Fife Employment Access Trust, where he was involved in the development of Silverburn Park in Leven. He was also part of the steering group behind the restoration of Silverburn Flax Mill and has run his own café-restaurant at Hill of Tarvit Mansion in Cupar. Along the way, he has led a number of employability and mental health projects.



Martin is still getting to know the area and is looking forward to becoming part of the community.

“As a newcomer to the area, I’m grateful for this opportunity to get to know my new community and to play a part in its development.”

Martin lives in Dalchreichart with his wife, “Tac” the cat, and “Mac” the dog.

While we welcome Oliver and Martin, we’ll also soon be saying goodbye to **Karen Edwards**, who retires at the end of September.

Karen joined FAGCC in August 2019 and quickly became an important part of the day-to-day running of the office. Over the past seven years, she has helped improve the way we work and has been involved in some of the company’s biggest projects, including Tarff Trading and the community asset transfers involving the Memorial Hall and Glentarff House.

Karen has always been someone people could turn to, whether they needed help with something in the office or simply needed to know who to ask.

She will be greatly missed by the team, and we’d like to thank her for everything she has contributed to FAGCC and the wider community.

We wish Karen all the very best for her retirement and hope she has plenty of time to enjoy whatever comes next.

Funding in Action!

One of the best things about community funding is seeing what happens when local people have the chance to turn an idea into something real.

Throughout every year we see groups and volunteers across Fort Augustus, Invermoriston and Dalchreichart keep themselves busy running clubs, organising events, improving facilities, and creating opportunities for other people in the community. Here are just a few recent examples.

Fort Augustus Brownies – Bingo night

The Fort Augustus Brownies have been busy raising money for their group, and Lisa Gordon organised a bingo night at Fort Augustus Village Hall with **£375** of funding helping to cover the costs.

The money paid for the bingo machine, raffle tickets, prizes and refreshments, giving everyone an enjoyable night out while helping the Brownies raised money for **Heart, Chest & Stroke Scotland** in loving memory of Lisa’s **Nana Peggy**.

A lot of work goes into organising an event like this, so well done to Lisa and all the Brownies and volunteers who helped make the night happen.

Kilchuimen Academy – Activities Week

For pupils at Kilchuimen Academy, this year’s S1-S3 Activities Week was a chance to get out of the classroom and try something a bit different.

With **£1,000** of funding, pupils enjoyed trips to **Landmark Adventure Park** and the **Ledge Rock Climbing Centre**, a **flight simulator experience** and an **in-school clay-making session**.

It was a busy week, with plenty of opportunities for pupils to try new things, learn new skills, and importantly, have some fun together.

Kilchuimen Academy – Teen Weightlifting Club

The teen girls' weightlifting club is another great example of a local activity being kept going through the efforts of the people involved.

Working with local fitness instructor **Vicky Howie**, the school secured **£4,810** to continue the club for at least another year, with no cost to the girls taking part.

Keeping activities like this affordable makes a real difference, particularly when it gives young people somewhere to go, something new to try and the chance to build confidence.

Well done to Vicky and the school team for putting the work in to keep the club going.

Tarff Trading – fit tail lift to the van

Tarff Trading staff regularly deliver orders around the community, including heavy items such as 45kg Calor gas bottles.

After looking at how these deliveries were being carried out, the team identified that a tail lift would make things safer and reduce the risk of injury. A grant of **£3,960** has allowed a tail lift to be fitted to the delivery van.

It's a simple piece of equipment, but one that will make a big difference to the team and to the customers who rely on local deliveries.

Annual Hub Grants

Every year, Fort Augustus, Invermoriston and Dalchreichart each receive funding towards the running and upkeep of their village halls.

This year, each hall received **£18,000**.

Village halls are easy to take for granted until you need one. They provide somewhere for clubs to meet, events to take place, groups to get together, and the wider community to come together. Keeping them open and available relies on a lot of work behind the scenes.

Simon Canning - Females Self-Defence Class

An **£87** grant covered the cost of hall hire for a new female self-defence class, allowing the sessions to run free of charge.

Keeping the cost down means more people can take part in this new class where community members can build confidence and learn how to keep themselves safe in difficult situations.

The classes start on Tuesday 8th September at 6pm, and are open to 13-year olds and over.

TEEN GIRLS & WOMEN'S SELF DEFENCE

Practical skills.
Real confidence.
Stronger together.

FREE
community class

WE'LL FOCUS ON:

- Situational and environmental awareness
- Control and restraint techniques

CLASS STARTS
Tuesday 8th September
6pm - 7.30pm

NEXT CLASSES
Tuesday 20th October
Tuesday 1st December

FORT AUGUSTUS VILLAGE HALL
Fort Augustus
PH32 4BJ

RUN BY LOCAL MARTIAL ARTS INSTRUCTOR
SIMON CANNING
25 years experience in martial arts
• Fully Insured
• PVG Certificate
• First Aid Trained

SPACES ARE LIMITED
MUST BOOK IN ADVANCE

FOR MORE INFORMATION
☎ 07432 620202
✉ canningsimon@rocketmail.com

Kindly funded by Fort Augustus and Invermoriston Community Company

Fort Augustus Senior Citizens Association – Summer outing

We gave Fort Augustus Senior Citizens Association **£1,470** towards this year's summer outing to Newtonmore.

The funding covers the cost of the bus, a morning stop at a coffee shop, and lunch before everyone heads home.



The FASCA is run entirely by volunteers, and organising a day out for a group takes plenty of time and effort. It's great to see them continuing to give people the chance to get out, catch up, and enjoy a day together.

Fort Augustus Men's Shed – Health & Safety equipment

The Fort Augustus Men's Shed has spent several years building up the group and creating a place where people can get together, work on projects and learn new skills. A grant of **£687** has helped the group buy the Health & Safety equipment needed to support their tools and activities.

It's another step forward for a group that has put a lot of work into getting established, and we look forward to seeing what they do next.

Joanne Howe - Dungeons and Dragons club

Joanne Howe's Dungeons & Dragons club has been running successfully for several years and continues to attract local players.

The group secured **£597** towards updated equipment and hall hire, helping them keep the club going and make sure they have the equipment they need.

A big well done to **Joanne** for all the time and effort she puts into running the club.

Community skip dates

The community skips will be back in their usual locations in October.

In Fort Augustus, Glen and the caretaker team will again set aside areas for wood and metal. If you have these materials, please use the designated areas rather than putting them into the skip.



This helps stop the skip filling up unnecessarily and means more people in the community can make use of it.

Invermoriston 2nd - 5th October 2026

Dalchreichart 2nd - 5th October 2026

Fort Augustus 5th – 7th October 2026

Become a member

If you live in the Fort Augustus, Invermoriston or Dalchreichart area and are **18 or over**, you can become a member of Fort Augustus & Glenmoriston Community Company for free. Membership gives you a say in what happens in your community, including the opportunity to vote at the AGM and on other important community matters. Members can also stand for election to the Board.

Every year, three Board members stand down at the AGM, giving other members the opportunity to put themselves forward.

You don't need to know anything about running a community company to get involved. If you're interested in standing for election at this November's AGM or simply want to find out more about becoming a member, get in touch with the office. We're happy to talk you through it.

You can also download a membership application form from our website, complete it and return it to us.

If you live locally and are 18 or over, we'd love to have you involved.

ILM Electrical recycling service

If you have an old electrical item gathering dust at home, don't forget that ILM Recycling is at Fort Augustus Village Hall car park on the **first Friday of every month, from 11am to 1pm.**

Anything with a plug can potentially be put to better use rather than going into general waste. Items can be serviced, repaired or reused, helping to keep electrical waste out of landfill.

So, if that old toaster, kettle or other electrical item has finally given up, bring it along and see if it can be given another lease of life.

Caretaker's update

It's certainly been a summer of change, changing weather, changing staff, changing vehicles, and changing clothes! All have been very significant this year excluding the last entry, and what comes with change is adapting. The caretaking team have taken each day as they come and tried to rise to the challenges presented to them.

Our floral displays have done well this year, and with some forward planning early in the year we managed to attain some late flowering perennials to enhance the areas into late August and September. The rabbit population hasn't helped too much in some parts of Fort Augustus, but we have lived with it. Some people have 'yard dogs' to protect their patch, we could do with a 'Yard Goshawk' to assist with pesky rabbits and chip gobbling seagulls!

Next month see's the arrival of our new **Transit van** for the team, a similar workhorse of a vehicle, necessary for the job in hand; who'll be the first to put a scratch on it?

We are also looking forward to installing the new hand carved '**Welcome to Invermoriston**' sign which will be located on the raised bed on the corner as you enter the village. Look out for the 'Chinese Rhubarb' and our 'Chocolate scented Cosmos' plants here too.

On a last note, the team endeavour to keep the area litter free which can be a soul-destroying task at the best of times; please be responsible for your waste and refrain from dumping large items in the main carpark. ***If you are struggling to dispose of an item, please approach one of the team and ask the question.*** We may be able to help, we might not, it's worth asking before dumping.

Thanks for reading. *Glen*

Tarff Trading

Winter is on its way, and with the Highland weather, it's never a bad idea to get a few things sorted before the cold really sets in.

Our **car care range** has everything you need for those frosty mornings, including **antifreeze, de-icer, and ice scrapers**. We also have **bagged salt** to help keep paths and driveways safer when things turn icy.



The poster is green with white and yellow text. At the top, it says 'Household Electrical Recycling Collection Service'. Below this, it mentions 'In Partnership with Highland Council | Funded by the Scottish Government Recycling Improvement Fund'. It features a logo for '1994 2020 30 YEARS OF PEOPLE, PLACE AND PLANET'. The 'Monthly Collection Dates' section states 'COLLECTION TIME: 11AM - 1PM' and includes icons of a toaster and a washing machine. The 'HOW IT WORKS' section lists three steps: 'Find your local collection point', 'Bring your unwanted electricals', and 'Drop off at the designated location'. A QR code is provided for 'SCAN FOR MONTHLY SCHEDULES'. At the bottom, it states 'We accept almost any household electrical item with a plug, cable, or battery' and 'Not accepted: Vapes or vape batteries'. The website 'www.ilmhighland.co.uk' is listed at the very bottom.

If you're trying to keep the heat in and the draughts out, we have **draught excluders, insulation rolls, weatherstripping and door sweeps**, along with **waterproof sealants, roof repair products, and gutter and downpipe accessories** to help deal with whatever the Highland weather throws at your home.



The garden doesn't get a winter break either. We have **rakes, leaf blowers, heavy-duty bags and compost bins** for clearing up fallen leaves, plus **autumn lawn feed, mulch and winter plant protection fleece** to help keep your garden in good shape until spring.

And, of course, there's nothing better on a cold Highland evening than getting the fire going so get stocked up now. We have **logs, kindling, coal and firelighters**, as well as **fireplace tools and stove repair products** to help keep things warm and cosy.

Pop into **Tarff Trading** and see what we have in stock. Whether you're preparing the car, sorting the garden or getting the house ready for winter, we're here to help.

We're open seven days a week:

Monday to Saturday **8am – 5pm**

Sunday **10am – 4pm**



The team will always be delighted to welcome you into the store and lend a helping hand.

Convent Land Update

A big thanks to Glen and the team for installing the new **monkey bars** at the Convent Land.

They're a great addition to the existing outdoor fitness equipment, giving you a bit more to work with whether you're looking to add pull-ups to your workout or fancy having a go at getting from one end to the other.

Fun fact: The scientific and technical term for swinging from one bar to the next using only your arms is **brachiation**. In everyday playground or fitness settings, it's called **swinging, traversing, or crossing the monkey bars** and is used by primates to travel across overhead holds.



At the same time, the caretakers have also added some **stepping stones to the fitness trail**, giving people another challenge to try as they make their way around.

We're continuing to look at what else could make the Convent Land a useful and enjoyable space for the community. One idea we're currently exploring is a **sheltered sensory space**, somewhere people could sit quietly, read a book, take in the view or simply have a bit of peace and quiet. It's very early days, and there's still plenty to work out, but we'll keep you updated as the idea develops.



Fort Augustus & Glenmoriston Community Council

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT THE
MEMORIAL HALL, FORT AUGUSTUS ON WEDNESDAY,
24TH JUNE 2026 AT 7.30PM**

PRESENT:

Deirdre MacKinnon – Chair(DM) Mike Anderson–Treasurer (MA) Jenny Findlay (JF) James Prince (JP) Clare Levings (CL) Cllr. David Fraser (DF)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Inspector Craig Still, Inspector Paul Sutherland, Police Constable Jonjo Gibb, Police Constable Kirst MacDonald

CHAIR'S WELCOME:

DM welcomed all present and invited the police officers to speak.

POLICE UPDATE:

Ch. Insp. Craig Still, who is the Local Area Commander, explained that feedback is being sought from the public regarding the proposed disposal of Fort Augustus police station. He said it has been unoccupied since September 2024 but was used only sporadically for some considerable time before that date due to a lack of permanent police presence in the village. An online consultation was launched by Police Scotland on 15th June and people are encouraged to give their views before it closes on 13th July: <https://consult.scotland.police.uk/estates/da2d5d5f/consultation/subpage.2023-12-07.4957347290/>.

He went on to say that he understands the community's concerns and stated that policing in the area will remain the same. Discussions are underway with the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service with a view to the police sharing their space in Fort Augustus, enabling PC Jonjo Gibb and PC Kirst MacDonald, the Community Beats officers for the area, to have a base when they need it. They are, however, mainly out and about in the community and are able to perform most admin tasks on the move.

He added that there have been only nine responses to the survey so far, with the majority of respondents disagreeing with the proposal. DM noted that many people are leaving their comments on Facebook rather than following the link, and that it needs to be clearly communicated that people have to fill out the survey.

Ch. Insp. Still also acknowledged that the timing of the proposal has caused some anxiety within the community, due to the spate of break-ins at the end of 2025/beginning of 2026. He said the police are looking at the possibility of enhanced CCTV provision, and that lines of enquiry suggest travelling criminals were responsible.

He finished by saying that changes to the community policing model have been successful, and that support from the road policing unit won't change if the station closes.

He then handed over to Insp. Paul Sutherland to outline the changes in community policing. Insp. Sutherland said there has been a move away from having police stations, as officers are spending more time building relationships within communities in line with





the Highlands and Islands Division's Policing For Our Communities (PFOC) model. A key strand of this model is increased police visibility and more community engagement. DM said locals are concerned about the influx of workers from the Balfour Beatty camp at Glen Mor near Fort Augustus. There are also concerns about the length of time it takes for officers to get to Glenmoriston and Fort Augustus from Inverness when there is an incident. Ch. Insp. Still and Insp. Sutherland said that PC Gibb and PC MacDonald will engage with members of the community about their concerns regarding the workers' camp, and that the contractors have cascaded police messaging about driving, alcohol, drugs etc. to the workers. Regarding response times, they said the proposed station closure will not impact these. At the moment, the nearest unit responds in an emergency, irrespective of their specialism (roads, firearms etc.).

A resident asked why they don't use Special Constables and a retained duty system. Ch. Insp. Still explained that the requirement for two weeks of training away from the area makes this difficult. He was asked if there is an upper age limit for Specials and said he would check.

CL asked how often PC Gibb and PC MacDonald are in the area and whether they speak to holidaymakers about their driving. PC Gibb said they are here twice a week. They stop poor drivers but it can be harder to fully engage with holidaymakers given they are travelling from place to place. Ch. Insp. Still and Insp. Sutherland added that the road policing unit is engaging with foreign drivers, and is working with the US Embassy as there has been a spike in incidents involving American drivers.

JP asked what the officers present thought about the proposal to close Fort Augustus police station. Ch. Insp. Still said that as the model has changed and tech has advanced, it is no longer necessary for community police officers to be at their desks so often, leaving them more time to engage with communities. An underused building in the village does not represent good value for public money.

DF commented that he has heard fewer complaints about police visibility over the past six months thanks to increased community engagement and regular visits.

PC Gibb said the officers had been at Soup & Sandwiches in Fort Augustus and intend to attend a Community Tuesday in Invermoriston when they start again after summer. The local Men's Shed is also keen to engage with the police.

A resident asked why the consultation was taking place if it had already been deemed better to shut the station. Ch. Insp. Still said all the feedback from the consultation will be considered before a final decision is made.

Traffic problems were discussed. The issue of lorries travelling to the substation in convoy was brought up. The roads policing unit will pull them over if they are inconsiderate, though this can be a challenge. Ch. Insp. Still will pass on this concern to the relevant officer.

The police continue to work with Highland Council and BEAR to address relevant issues. A broken road sign has recently been reported to BEAR.

Officers have been out with speed guns at various locations, and have also been doing school engagement work. PC Gibb said the Community Speedwatch scheme is being modernised and reimplemented. Members of the community will be trained to use speed guns. He is awaiting more details before this is rolled out.

A resident asked how often street surgeries take place. There is a surgery or an





engagement event (such as attending Glengarry Highland Games) every six weeks. He also asked that the police go to the pier, where there are ongoing traffic and parking problems.

MATTERS ARISING:

ROADS

DM spoke to Matt White from Highland Council recently as he has machinery on loan for use in Glenmoriston that could also be used in Fort Augustus to repair some existing issues. The Community Caretakers can fix smaller potholes but there are still larger ones in need of attention, for example at Jenkins Park and Abertarff Place. Matt asked DM to speak to DF about the budget for this. DF will follow up with him.

DF has spoken to the roads manager at Highland Council again about Achnaconeran Road. Budget has been allocated to complete drainage and tarring works and erect signage, though DF hasn't been given an exact date. CL reiterated that the sign is vital.

The Community Caretakers have cemented part of the the verge on Caley Brae where large vehicles were churning up mud, and have covered this in topsoil. This is a good temporary fix, but DF said a more permanent solution will be needed from Stephen Kitt at Transport Scotland.

DM asked DF if there has been any change to date for cleaning the swing bridge in Fort Augustus. This is still due to be completed in November but Councillors have questioned the timing of this, given the roads will be being gritted then. SEPA had previously expressed concerns about paint flaking into the water, though it was pointed out that this will happen regardless of the time of year.

DM thanked DF for his page about the Fort Augustus conservation area that was included in the latest edition of Ness News. She distributed copies to all houses within the conservation area for those who were unaware. One issue that has come to light is that businesses along the canal shouldn't put signs on lampposts. DF said any concerns should be brought up with the businesses, or reported to Highland Council. Sandwich boards that are blocking access or parking should also be moved.

CONVENT LAND/HUMAN FOULING

As reported in the last meeting minutes (27th May), JP and MA found no evidence of human fouling on the convent land. The Community Company has been asked to put up a sign to deter people.

RESILIENCE

The next community resilience meeting is on Monday, 29th June at 2pm in the Church of Scotland Hall in Fort Augustus. MA said the aim of this meeting is to check progress on the resilience plans of each hub (Fort Augustus, Invermoriston and Dalchreichart). Once these plans are completed, they can be shared with stakeholders and then progressed. CL asked if a meeting had taken place with the NHS yet, and JP confirmed that it had.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Total restricted funds: £7399.75

Total unrestricted funds: £5257.22

Total balance: £12656.97

The Inchnacardoch land transfer will take place on 30th June. Though there has been an increase in the Community Council's solicitors' fees, there are adequate funds to cover this.





MA has received a bill for £120 for annual website hosting; all approved its payment.

COMMUNITY COMPANY REPORT:

There was no Community Company meeting in June due to roadworks. The next will be in early July.

DM has invited Oliver Giles (Community Company Chief Officer) and Martin McDonald (Community Company Operations Manager) to attend the next Community Council meeting in August.

Glen and the Community Caretakers empty the bins along Canalside during the week. They have asked if Scottish Canals can do this at weekends. DM will raise this with Scottish Canals.

SCIO REPORT:

As reported above, the Inchnacardoch land will be signed over to Cill Chuimein Legacy Project at the end of June.

RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS:

Households around the area have received letters detailing construction traffic to the Auchterawe substation site between 24th June and 17th July. Ten quarry lorries will run four loads a day (excluding weekends).

A resident commented that lorries have already caused damage at Three Bridges; JF said this was caused by cable lorries, not quarry lorries, and they have been informed of this.

PLANNING AND LICENSING APPLICATIONS:

Reference: 26/01700/FUL

Description of works: Change of use of garage to short-term letting unit

Location: Woodland Cottage, Fort Augustus, PH32 4BN

Applicant: Mr Ross Castlemay

Reference: 26/02020/FUL

Description of works: Alterations to roof pitch

Location: Tigh na Roinn, Invermoriston, IV63 7YE

Applicant: Mr D Love

Reference: 26/02374/PNO

Description of works: Construction and reinstatement of forest track turning point and passing bay (Class 22)

Location: Land 320m NW of Swiss Cottage, Auchterawe, Fort Augustus

Applicant: Forestry and Land Scotland

JP and JF have been sent details of Highland Council's new Engage Highland citizen engagement platform and both think it's useful. Members of the public can sign up to be more involved in local decision making: <https://engage.highland.gov.uk/en-GB/>.

COMMUNITY AMENITY ISSUES:

DM has reported the passing place with a missing sign on the road from the Inch Hotel to Jenkins Park.

Parking and traffic problems at Oich Road and the pier are ongoing, and more photos have been supplied by a resident. The police have recently been to see the situation for themselves and have spoken to drivers in that area.



JP's email to BEAR regarding the off-grid residential site in Invermoriston has been redirected, and he is yet to receive a reply from SEPA, so he has filled out an online incident report form instead. DF has looked at the crash barrier and says it used to extend further.

Matt White at Highland Council has done some work at Riverside Park to fill potholes. Parking remains a problem. CL asked if this is Highland Council's responsibility and DF said there is still at least one council house there. He reiterated, however, that as households now own multiple cars, it's difficult to identify a solution.

DM has been asked by an Invermoriston resident to raise the issue of extending the 40mph speed limit further along the Skye road, as well as extending the pavement. Both of these issues have been raised in the past and DF confirmed that Transport Scotland is doing a survey.

CL and DF discussed plans for a 30mph area in Invermoriston; DF said BEAR seems to have earmarked funds for this.

DM will contact Omexom about the former Police House in Abertarff, which is occupied by their employees. Residents have complained about bins not being put out regularly and causing a smell (though it was noted that they had been put out recently), and the grass is rarely cut so it is very overgrown. DF said Councillors should let him know if they are not looking after the property as it may be a requisite of their lease agreement with Highland Council.

A resident has reported that the leak from lock gate three continues to get worse. DF said this work is definitely being done this winter, and that in August/September, Councillors should raise this again with Scottish Canals.

There is no update on the flagpoles for the main car park in Fort Augustus.

DM still has to talk to John MacLean at Highland Council about the signs on gravestones at Strathoch Cemetery; he is currently on holiday.

DF hasn't yet followed up on last meeting's discussion about public toilet provision in Fort Augustus but will do so soon. A resident commented that sometimes the toilets are shut for up to two hours for cleaning, and that the disabled toilet is locked (the key can be picked up from the shop). The resident also said there are faeces behind the chemist and asked if Environmental Health can be informed. DF said he would take what he had heard at this meeting to Highland Council.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence has been received from the Community Company, Police Scotland, Highland Council, Omexom and Glengarry Trust.

AOCB:

CL brought up a complaint from a local who was recently delayed by 25 minutes at the swing bridge in Fort Augustus. A resident present at the meeting said the average is 17 minutes, which is longer than before. Another resident asked if it could be opened at certain times again. CL said the bridge often opens when boats aren't ready to pass through, adding to the delay, and JF said that the volume of traffic on the roads is greater these days which may also affect times. Another resident said smaller numbers of boats could be let through each time. JF suggested Scottish Canals should be invited to the next Community Council meeting. DF said he will also include these complaints





when he emails BEAR.

Councillors have been emailed about two abandoned boats at the pontoon. JP has emailed one owner but the other owner is unknown. Scottish Canals have posted signs to say they will be removed if no action has been taken by a certain date, but that deadline has now passed. DF advised that Scottish Canals should be reminded of their deadline.

DM had complaints about five abandoned vehicles at Abertarff. DF said these have already been reported to the DVLA. JF added that the car at Auchterawe (previously abandoned on Forestry and Land Scotland land) has finally been removed.

DF has brought up the yellow lines at Oich Road/the pier to the roads team at Highland Council. The signage will also be looked at.

Traffic problems at the pier were discussed. A resident expressed concerns about whether directional arrows and a circular route (see minutes of the Community Council meeting on 29th April) would be suitable because of the volume of traffic. If six minibuses are there and 70-80 people are milling around taking photos, it is very difficult for vehicles to safely turn.

A resident asked how traffic issues are being monitored. DF responded that lines across the road (pneumatic road tube sensors) are usually used but he will ask for clarity on that. Whether or not these lines can distinguish whether cars are overtaking was discussed; another resident said they can record speed and direction of traffic. DF said the first step is to get the data, establish whether traffic is complying with existing speed limits, then decide what measures are necessary.

A resident asked about the outdoor seating structure that has been built at Cobbs Café in Fort Augustus. JP and DM responded that it has been reported to Highland Council who will now handle it.

A resident asked if the police are considering ANPR (automatic number plate recognition) cameras in Fort Augustus. DF reiterated that data would need to be collected and analysed first.

There was a discussion about whether or not Highland Council is considering adopting the road from Broomfield in Jenkins Park towards the Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) land. This road has drainage, sewers and street lighting but is currently unadopted and therefore property owners along that road (frontagers) are responsible for its maintenance. A resident said FLS are using the road heavily and potholes are appearing. DF explained that the decision to adopt a road is more complex than whether or not it has drainage, sewers and street lighting.

Regarding other damage to the roads around Jenkins Park that has been caused by HGVs, DF said wear and tear agreements are in place with SSEN etc. He has contacted Omexom about the damage; photos and details of damage should be sent to DF or DM.

The next Community Council interim elections will take place this autumn, which will allow Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council to elect more office bearers. A Notice of Election has not yet been published by Highland Council.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held at Glenmoriston Millennium Hall, Invermoriston on Wednesday, 26th August 2026 at 7.30pm. There is no meeting in July.

Notice Board

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Drive Local. Help Local. ♥

HELP KEEP OUR COMMUNITY MOVING
Our Community Taxi Scheme is looking for friendly, reliable volunteer drivers to support local people who need help getting out and about.

FLEXIBLE & REWARDING

- Drive when it suits you
- Meet new people
- Support those who need it most
- Mileage expenses covered

WHAT YOU NEED

- Over 25
- 2 years driving experience
- Full UK driving licence
- Your own car
- Friendly and patient attitude
- A few spare hours now and then

WE NEED DRIVERS IN ALL 3 AREAS:

Fort Augustus
Glengarry
Glenmoriston

Make a difference on your doorstep ♥

Full training & support provided
Friendly team • Flexible time • Local impact

Give a little time, change someone's journey ♥

Interested in becoming a volunteer driver?
We'd love to hear from you! ♥

Call or text **07507627990**

Beth Stewart
Development Officer & Services Coordinator
contact@3glenscare.org

VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY TAXI SERVICE

How it works.

Staying independent and connected can make a real difference to everyday life. That is why we are proud to introduce our new volunteer community taxi service, created to help local people travel safely, comfortably and with confidence.

Run entirely by dedicated local volunteers, the service is designed for people who may find it difficult to access transport. Whether it is getting to a medical appointment, collecting shopping, visiting friends and family, or taking part in local activities, our volunteers are here to help make the journey easier.

We would like to thank every volunteer who has given their time, care and commitment to make this service possible. Their kindness reflects the strong community spirit that makes our area such a special place to live.

CONTACT:
Beth - Development Officer / Services Coordinator
07507627990
contact@3glenscare.org

Chair - 3 Glens CC:
Denise Patterson
chair@3glenscare.org

Logos: HG, 3 Glens Community Care, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company

RECENT UPDATES:

DRIVERS
We have recruited a small group of drivers. The more drivers we recruit the more efficient the service.

FARE
Short Journeys = £2
Long Journeys = £10

HOW TO BOOK

- Call Beth a minimum of 1 week in advance
- Beth calls to confirm booking.
- Driver calls to arrange pick up details

SAVE THE DATE
FOR THE CHILDREN'S

Christmas PARTY

DECEMBER **12th** 12 NOON

FORT AUGUSTUS VILLAGE HALL

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW ON TIMINGS

LET'S CELEBRATE!

AVAILABLE FOR LOAN

2 WHEELCHAIRS

2 TRI-WALKERS

1 SHOWER CHAIR with arms

Available for temporary loan to residents of Glengarry, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston.

- Aid recovery from broken limb/debilitating illness.
- To use whilst awaiting personal equipment.
- To trial prior to deciding what help is needed.
- To use on holiday.
- To assist with visiting relatives or friends.

Stored at the Fort Augustus Village Hall
To book: Mon-Fri - contact: 01320 366800
Pick up from Village Hall)
Out-of-Hours: contact Denise 07760 360007

More information:
Email: chair@3glenscare.org
contact@3glenscare.org

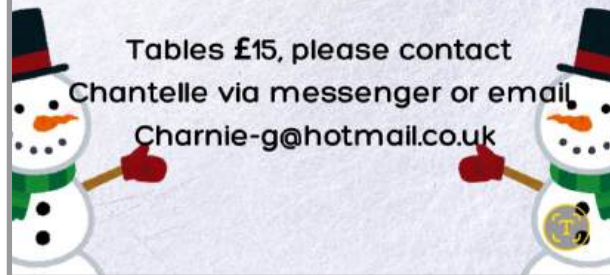
3 Glens Community Care

Notice Board

Christmas craft fair

Fort Augustus Village Hall,
Bunoich Brae

Saturday 5th December
11am - 3pm



Tables £15, please contact
Chantelle via messenger or email,
Charnie-g@hotmail.co.uk

Glenmoriston Craft Club

1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month

At Glenmoriston Millennium Hall
11am - 3pm

Cost only £3 per session

Come along to our friendly group
bringing whatever craft takes your fancy.

Bus to Fort William

Community minibus - Booking essential

Wednesday 16th September

£3

Departing Fort Augustus Car Park 0945
Police Station 0950
Abertarff Place 0955
Invergarry 1015

Leaving Fort William 1330 approx.
Return to Fort Augustus 1500 approx.

Shopmobility scooters available. Please ask when booking.

To book phone Jenny:
01320 366438 / 07790582458

Next trips: Weds 15th July & 19th August



Fort Augustus
Senior
Citizens

**COMMUNITY SOUP &
SANDWICHES** Wednesday 9th &
23rd September

12.00 – 14.00

Fort Augustus Village Hall



For more information contact Helen on
07359 083997

Donations welcome for various charities

Thanks to



STAND FOR YOUR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Make a
difference
IN YOUR
LOCAL AREA



If you are interested in **making a difference** in **your local area**, consider **standing** for your **Community Council**.

WHO CAN STAND?



Be at least
16 years old
by the close
of nominations.



Be **registered**
to vote on the
Local Government
Electoral Register.



Live within
the Community
Council area.



HOW TO NOMINATE

If you're eligible, simply complete the
online nomination form available at:

www.highland.gov.uk/ccelection



⇒ **IMPORTANT DEADLINE** ⇐
MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2026

NOMINATION PAPERS MUST BE
RECEIVED BY **12 NOON.**

