

Newsletter for February 2020

We want to keep you up to date with what we are working on, so here are a few things that may be of interest. Do let us know if there is anything you would particularly like to hear about another time.

Community Caretakers

The caretaking team have now completed their construction of the new community skip compound; there was a general agreement that they were unsightly in their old location.



Before



After

The function of the new compound is to help reduce unnecessary and inappropriate dumping of waste and create a structure which was far more aesthetically pleasing to the eye, (basically hiding the rubbish).

I am sure you will agree that this looks a lot better. The community company are not averse to residents utilising the skips, upon request, but only if there is space (just ask one of the team); I would advise not to ask mid-summer though!

The community caretaker's team would like to thank the many local residents for their expressions of support throughout the year, these are always appreciated and help keep our spirits up.

Village Hall

Thank you to Liz Ferguson for the gift of a sofa, 2 tables and chairs. These recycled items have allowed us to create a more comfortable seating area for groups to use when they stop for a tea break.



The Indoor Bowls group enjoying a tea break at the new tables. They are always looking for new members to join them, they are a sociable group as you can see.

New Housing

Lots happening behind the scenes with the new housing project. We are still waiting for planning and time has been spent managing the final queries that have been raised. Tenders have been returned and are being assessed, both financially and for quality. The financial package for the project is just about in place – with several funders there is a fair amount of paperwork, some of which can't be sorted until we have the final costs.

We have had a number of people who have asked to go on the list to be considered for the new housing – so please pass your name through if interested.

The development has impacts on the area around, including the wall which is likely to have to be reduced in height. There is also a large amount of fill to be brought onto site and we may look to source this from elsewhere on site.

There will be the opportunity to find out more about the works shortly – as well as the opportunity to vote for a new street name!

Grants and apprenticeships

Live in Fort Augustus or Glenmoriston and thought about applying for a grant? We offer quite a selection.

There are group grants for constituted groups, who need help to support the activities that they undertake, that could be for things like room hire for a meeting or a special piece of equipment to enhance what you can offer members, with lots more in between.

There are grants for those who wish to organise something for the community these can range from evening classes in Gaelic to running a community litter pick. The options are endless but remember it must benefit the community you live in.

Student grants are available to help with travel costs to and from your chosen place of study.

Apprenticeships for those who want to learn in a different way. If you live in Fort Augustus or Glenmoriston the Community Company can help fund an employer to take you on and train you in your chosen profession.

As with any grant giving there are guidelines to follow which have been agreed with our funders. The Board have to consider these when assessing any grant. All our guidelines are available on the website in the grants section but if you have any questions Karen will be happy to help. Examples of these guidelines are:

- An event/item cannot have been booked or purchased in advance.
- We will need to see a range of documents supporting your application.
- Any group applying must require 2 unrelated signatures on a cheque.
- You must do a completion report at the end of the timetable set.

If you are interested in applying for a grant please do have a look at our website or ring us for guidance on what may qualify for you or your group.

Grants awarded last quarter

Groups

Glenmoriston Senior Citizens Lunch Club	£4,000
Glenmoriston Senior Citizens Outings	£3,200

Individual for Community Benefit

Deirdre MacKinnon (Community Ceilidh)	£ 670
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Individual

4 Individual student travel bursaries @ £250 each	£1,000
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In addition to these grants we also supported the Screen Machine visit to Fort Augustus in January, through discounted ticket prices, and paid for the Christmas lights to be installed in both Fort Augustus and Invermoriston. We are working with both communities to get the Festive lights available to a more cost effective level to safeguard them for the future.

Key dates...

- Next Grants deadline – 15th May 2020

Contact us:

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Please feel free to call into the office or contact us if you have any queries.

