

Chairmans Report

This meeting marks the end of another year of Community Council business and we now go in to recess for the summer months. This is not to say that we do nothing just that we don't have formal meetings, the work continues throughout the summer and the year.

This has been another busy year for Nethy, the Woodland Project, of which we are a major partner, is coming to an end with the fencing having been recently installed. you never pass the football pitch, the pond or field without at least somebody or very often couples and families making use of he new facilities. Testament indeed to the many hours of hard work which have gone in to the design and implementation of the project. The Duack Field looks resplendent with its new coat of green grass and is certainly looking a lot tidier than it was of late. I would like to thank Donnie for all his hard work and determination to get it right. At this point I would like to thank David Carrot for his hard work as Chairman of the Community Centre in getting the project completed. The hall committee are now in the middle of the major hall renovation, we wish them well and hope all is completed on time.

We have heard the initial discussions and thoughts on a new health facility for Badenoch and Strathspey with a new Community Hospital being built in the Aviemore area. We with that project well as both current hospitals provide and excellent service to all but maintenance, heating costs and modern ways of treatment mean that they have become unsustainable in the future. I would encourage everybody to get behind and support the proposals as they go forward. We will shortly hear from the Health Board and NHS Highland about their plans.

The Argyll Developments application for housing in the School Wood has come to a head once again and we await the outcome of the Cairngorms National Park Planning Committee. There seemed at one point to be a very workable scheme in prospect but with recent additions to both sites the developments have become more crowded. We must work to a solution keeping an eye on the fact that as a community council we must work to the greater good without any one factor prevailing. The village needs to protect itself from poor development and we must also protect our local environment, but we must also provide housing, we must work to a balance. There is a lot to be gained by coming to a sensible compromise.

A year ago we ran a leaflet drop encouraging dog owners to take responsibility for the actions of their pet dogs on paths and tracks around the village. This seemed to be successful as their seemed to be less evidence of their passing left for all to see. We decided therefore to do a follow