



Quarterly Community Council Forum Meeting, 06/11/2024

Attendees

David O'Donoghue Taymouth Castle
Mairi McAdam Taymouth Castle

Victor Clements Aberfeldy CC
Val Ferguson Kenmore CC

Apologies

Colin Morton (Kenmore CC), Lorraine Reed (Aberfeldy CC), June Riddell and Sue Dolan-Betney (Glenlyon & Loch Tay CC), Charlie Grant (Killin CC), Andy Aitken (Killin CC) and Peter Ely (Kenmore CC).

Agenda & Minutes

Meeting commenced 1835.

D O'Donoghue firstly provided an overview of key factors from the year 2023-2024:

Restoration progress has included completion of the main castle and west wing, 12 seeded holes on the golf course with progress on track to complete construction by December. Completion of the East Gate, Urn and Deer Park Bridge – with renovation of the Dairy as Golf Clubhouse in the next phase. Revitalization of Kenmore Public Toilets and Kenmore Shop is complete. Staffing has increase from around 80 to 150 full time staff; with a further 60 that are part of the team, based at Moness Resort. Community engagement continues, with involvement and links to schools, charities and local organisations; as well as staff becoming part of the community- clubs, volunteering, socializing and as customers. The estate continues to work closely with PKC and all regulatory bodies as well as taking local advice on wildlife and the environment.

1. Open House and Community Open Day

- a) Local community councils, businesses, organisations, connections and family history links; 80 attendees on Fri 11th Oct.
- b) 450 local residents attended Open Day – Sat 12th Oct.
- c) Tickets went very quickly, and the team created a waiting list as we hope to host another event. Feedback was very positive. Everyone was delighted to meet the contractors who undertook the restoration works, and to experience the craftsmanship for themselves. The only notable downside was being running out of Kenmore Bakery's wonderful cakes!
- d) Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance fundraising – raised £1700 on day, which Taymouth Castle matched with a £2000 donation.

2. Communication/engagement:

- a) Continue to meet members of Kenmore community council on a monthly basis.
- b) Newsletter – Autumn Edition was sent out late September; Winter edition will be posted for 1st week December.
- c) Regular attendance at: KCC meetings, Loch Tay Association, Reading Rooms and Christmas Planning.
- d) David met with the First Minister John Swinney late in September to provide an update on developments and planning.

- e) A summary of planning enquiries was published by the First Minister containing PKC planning response.
 - f) Taymouth Castle's restoration has recently featured in the Courier, Scotsman and Scottish Field.
- 3. Community outreach & support** provided by Taymouth Castle was summarised by David:
- a) Kenmore Primary School – a termly opportunity to inspire pupils with a 'careers at the castle' workshop takes place, last month focused on construction and security.
 - b) Reading Rooms – support has been provided for history leaflets & has been agreed for the next Warm Welcome programme from January 2025
 - c) Killin Primary School – 3 'trug' planters were made by the maintenance team and are now installed
 - d) A fun golf teaching programme will commence in primary schools in early 2025, delivered by our coaches.
 - e) Dementia Garden, Aberfeldy Town Hall – a long wall planter is being made and a trellis was installed
 - f) Donating items as requested by the Food bank linked Christmas Hamper for 20 families locally
 - g) Donation of Christmas Trees with charitable donation to Mountain Rescue to local care homes & nurseries, schools
 - h) Participation in local Community Action planning (Moness Resort, Taymouth)
- 4. Upcoming Event Support**
- a) Aberfeldy Christmas Markets
 - b) Christmas in Kenmore
 - c) Fortingall Hall Fundraiser
 - d) Highland Ball
 - e) Young Farmers Dance
 - f) Aberfeldy Hogmanay
 - g) Killin Film Project
- 5. Kenmore Village Update:**
- a) Beach – erosion works are being undertaken early next year, new bins being installed later in November, memorial benches in poor condition to be replaced and an AED to be installed in place of the parking meter (out of use)
 - b) Improvement plans for the Core Path are underway with tree management, installation of benches and interpretation boards in first quarter 2025
 - c) Upcoming Tree Works by SSEN are with accompanying power outage effecting toilets and pavilion 10.11.24
 - d) The Kenmore Phone box will be restored to its former glory and be fit for a new purpose (Kenmore Community Council).
 - e) A full survey of the church, to assess its condition is being carried out mid-November.
- 6. Planning Update**
- Planning Approvals
- a) Golf Starter Hut – this was approved earlier in the Autum and works have commenced
 - b) Golf Clubhouse, Dairy – envelope works to commence before end 2025
 - c) Pump House- works underway
- Current Planning Submissions
- a) Golf Maintenance Facility – this was resubmitted mid-October following public consultation and awaits PKC feedback.
 - b) Newhall 'Operation Village' – this will be resubmitted soon and has taken into consideration feedback following public consultation in 2023.
 - c) Housing Zones – these are currently being considered and are undergoing statutory surveys and assessments.

Pre-planning

- a) Moness Resort – awaiting initial feedback from PKC before full planning application submitted.

7. Infrastructure and sand

- a) Sand to complete the majority of works on the golf course has been obtained locally from the borrow pit at Inchadney; however, construction of remaining holes requires additional sand haulage from Alloa, constituting 25 trucks per day for 1 month from tomorrow; avoiding busy hours. Route is A9 then A827.
- b) Cabling works complete South riverside path have been completed.
- c) HV cable works into Newhall woods have been completed.
- d) The new West Access has been completed.

Discussion topics & Questions

Q: Victor asked to have a detailed list of planning applications relating to flood prevention.

A: D O'Donoghue indicated that he would send this; and highlighted that all flood prevention on the Estate is being built above the riverbank level, designed by specialist engineers; Taymouth castles original flood defences were built in the 1800s and remain in place.

Q: Val asked if disabled access to Kenmore beach could be given some consideration?

A: D O'Donoghue indicated that the team would look into this.

Q: Victor asked about the trees awaiting management at Moness Resort.

A: D O'Donoghue confirmed that the felling license has recently been processed and a schedule of works is expected shortly – this will be forwarded to Aberfeldy CC.

Q: Victor asked if there was a time scale on the Moness change of use planning application.

A: D O'Donoghue said that he will let Aberfeldy CC know and that the process is anticipated to require a public consultation phase.

Q: Victor asked for a deer management update, with regards to Glenlyon Estate

D O'Donoghue said that management is well under way, with numbers in line with expectations for stags; and hinds recently commenced. When plans for native tree plantation are available, D O'Donoghue shall ensure that there are passed onto Breadalbane Deer Management. D O'Donoghue also confirmed that the estate is aware of the John Muir proposal on the East side of Schiehallion.

There was highly positive feedback provided from all Community Councillors who attended the open house on 11th October. Feedback from the Aberfeldy & Dull & Weem community action plan consultation was shared, with the priority areas identified as the need for affordable housing and improvements in public transport.

The meeting ended at 1925pm.