



KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue No2 June 1991

KILLIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN



by Lesley Rogers

The Community Development Plan programme forms part of Stirling District Council's commitment to involving local people in decisions which affect their communities. They cover a much wider range of topics than traditional local plans and give local people an opportunity to be involved from the beginning and not just after a draft plan has been prepared. It will also include a clear action plan to ensure that things happen sooner rather than later.

Meeting the Local Community

An officer was based in Killin Library every Monday afternoon from 22nd October- 17th December 1990. Leaflets were circulated to households, clubs and organisations telling people about the CDP. The Community Council was also involved. Many of the issues were old chestnuts and responses ranged from enthusiasm to healthy cynicism.

Types of Issues Raised

Housing: there was a concern at the lack of affordable housing for young families and more sheltered housing for elderly people and those with special needs appears to be required. The District Council will work with the newly established Rural Housing Association to overcome these problems.

Business and Economic Activity: there is a need to identify ways in which a variety of meaningful new jobs can be created to reduce the dependence on tourism.

The Environment: Local people are keen to see the outstanding natural environment of the area protected from unsympathetic development and there is a particularly strong feeling that Loch Tay should remain unspoiled. People also considered that more could be done to protect and enhance the built environment in Killin. For example, the growth of signs along the Main Street and some poor shop front design, reduce the attractiveness of the village, and a number of good buildings are not listed.

Leisure and Recreation: new facilities in the form of a sports pavilion, floodlit all weather/all purpose tennis courts are being developed and should improve upon existing provision.

Transport and Accessibility: parking problems and congestion in the vicinity of the Bridge of Dochart have proved the most frequently highlighted issues. The problems raised which include: Coach parking, pedestrian safety, car parking

and traffic priority on the Bridge, have been forwarded to Central Regional Council for consideration.

Utilities: works were carried out to remedy the problem of smells associated with the sewage works. The number of complaints have now dramatically reduced although the position is being monitored by C.R.C.'s Water and Drainage Department.

Your Next Chance to Participate

The draft Killin and Ardeonaig CDP, which will guide development for the next five years, should be available from the beginning of June. You will have the opportunity to comment upon and influence this document, before it is amended and finally approved by the District Council.

KILLIN PTA GOT A GRIP ON LITTER



A successful clean-up of Killin took place on 27th April. A total of 41 children and 19 adults, 12 of us bravely wearing the special campaign tabards, wielded black plastic sacks, gloves and a few wheelbarrows for 2½ hours or more. A skip provided by SDC was well filled with rubbish, but there was less litter around than last year. Some areas such as road verges could not be cleared because of safety considerations with children.

The event ended with a soup and roll lunch provided by the Regional Catering Service. The children raised at least £442 from generous sponsors. Many thanks to all who turned out or contributed.

Killin

Leisure and Recreation Club

The Scottish Tourist Board has granted the Breadalbane Park Project £30,000; so we now have the full funding. A Public Meeting will be held in the McLaren Hall on June 19th to discuss arrangements for running the finished complex.

COMMENT

We thank Lesley Rogers for her article on the Killin Community Development Plan. We have not yet seen it, but it should by now be available for inspection in the Library. We urge people to examine it and make their comments known. The Community Council will certainly give it close attention.

We note with some excitement that the document is to include "a clear action plan" - which we take to mean that things will happen! So often elaborate and time-consuming "development plans" are beurocracys way of appearing to be doing something, but actually doing nothing. Maybe this time the cynics will be wrong and we'll see some quick results: for we do need action on at least one of Lesley's "old chestnuts" - the parking and traffic congestion problem in the area of the Bridge and Main Street. We know the District Council is short of money and urban concerns always seem more urgent, but this is a matter of the highest priority to the village of Killin. So action, please, not "plans".

The Killin News wishes to thank the people of the village for their generous donations to the newspaper, which will help to keep us going.

Community Bus

The bus used for a wide range of club activities is rapidly approaching a well earned rest. Replacing our 11 year old vehicle will require your goodwill and generosity. Fund raising activities were discussed at a meeting on Friday 10th May, as were options of lease purchase, second hand replacement and so on. We shall keep you informed of progress, but rest assured we shall need your help towards providing a more comfortable and reliable vehicle for all. A meeting will be held soon to air proposals so that a final decision may be made.

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
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THE ANNUAL PLOUGHING MATCH



The annual ploughing match organised by Killin and District Agricultural Society was held at Daldravaig on Saturday 11th May by kind permission of Judge Stroyan.

11 competitors made a fine job of ploughing the field of river loam, and the standard of work was the highest since the competition was resumed in 1988 after a break of 50 years.

The judge was Archie MacDonald of Thornhill and prizes were presented by Mrs Judy Bowser of Auchlyne. 1st with the 10" plough was Finlay Macaskill, Tullich; 1st with 14" or over was Hamish MacDiarmid, Ben Lawers. This year's champion was the same Hamish MacDiarmid, who was also chosen as the Best Looking Ploughman of the Day! Of remarkable interest is the fact that Hamish's grandfather was champion in this competition 60 years ago almost to the day!

Rachel Hunter

VIDEO RENTAL SERVICE FOR KILLIN LIBRARY

At a launching party in the Library on 15th May, Councillor John Hendry, Convener of the District Council, opened the new video service. He spoke of his pleasure at being able to provide such a service (albeit on a commercial basis) for one of the more remote or "landward" parts of the District. An invited audience of Killin people, while enjoying the buffet and refreshments, were able to see the range of videos on display, at rental charges from 50p to £2. While it is not every day that District Councils get praised, in this case an unsolicited development is much appreciated.

Gaelic Circle

We hope to start a Gaelic Circle in the autumn, mainly for those with "beagan Gaidhlig", but serious beginners will be welcome. Ring "am bodach" on 540. NOW.

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May we wish the new newspaper every success.

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KILLIN MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM



Killin Mountain Rescue Team, originally formed by, now retired, Chief Inspector Andy Comrie of the former Perth and Kinross Constabulary, celebrates quarter of a century this year.

In 1966 Andy, a keen hillwalker, and then Police Sergeant at Killin, saw a need to form a mountain rescue team for the growing pastime of hillwalking in the area. Local farmers and Gamekeepers were recruited into the team and sworn in as Special Constables. The official title was then and still is, Killin Police Mountain Rescue Team although several years ago the word "Police" was dropped.

In 1975 at regionalisation, Central Scotland Police took over the area stretching from Dunblane to Tyndrum. Sergeant Harry Lawrie and Constable Bill Rose were sent to man Killin. After a few months at Killin both men and the well known Davy Murray were involved in a fatal rescue in the Crianlarich area. Harry decided to reform the team, taking on as new members all who showed an interest in the hills.

Over the years the team has been involved in memorable rescues in bad winter conditions, many of which unfortunately resulted in the death of a hillwalker who was unprepared for our

hills in winter.

The team is called out about fifteen times a year, mostly in January and February when the weather is at its worst and most rescues carried out in darkness. This winter there were nine rescue operations, 830 hours of manpower!

Commendations and Awards

Two team members have been awarded the Queens Commendation for Brave Conduct, a further two the British Empire Medal and the team itself has received numerous commendations from the Chief Constable of Central Scotland Police and Stirling Royal Infirmary for the high standard of First Aid and casualty handling.

The team has no vacancies at the moment, but if anyone is interested in joining, drop your name into Killin Police office for consideration at a later date.

Tom Gibbon
(Assistant Co-ordinator)

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

WRI

The Killin W.R.I. meet in the Lesser McLaren Hall on the first Thursday of each month October to April. President is Mrs B. Gordon and there is a membership of around 60.

Each month there is a talk, slide show or a demonstration, of cookery or one of the many crafts which members and friends enjoy. There are also competitions. This year Mrs S. Ferguson won the cup for having the most points, Mrs R. Noble for the best attempts and Mrs L. Lambert received the bell for the best poem.

A whist drive is held every November in aid of the War Blinded. A donation also was sent this year to the R.N.L.I.

Angling Club News

The Killin Angling Club held its first competition recently on Loch Tay and the winner was Mr Alf Muller, with the heaviest basket. The club have raised some 70,000 eyed ova in its hatchery this year and the resulting "Hatchlings" have been liberated into local burns. In addition, over 1,000 brown trout ranging in size from 11" to 13" and costing the club about £3,000 were released into Loch Tay last month. The salmon members of the club have again had a good season with some fifty or so fish from the club water.

Silver Fox

Killin and District Art & Craft Club

Our Association, founded in the late 1960's has an Exhibition every other year in the McLaren Hall, in the first week in August; next one will be in 1992. The show has always been successful - with a fine display of paintings, tapestries, collage, embroidery and hand crafts (all local talent!). We have usually made donations to local charities, eg Ambulance Service, Churches, Mountain Rescue. Perhaps you have a potential for Art or Craft work - why not join us? (or Rachel Hunter's Art Class in the winter?).

H. Hall Secretary Telephone: Killin 547

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LETTERS

Sir,
I was surprised to read the article on the Killin Mart Site in your first issue. If you had checked with the Community Council, which is charged with looking into planning applications, you would have been aware that the particular application was for 10 houses of 2, 3 and 4 bedrooms and not as you stated.

Also with regard to the petition signed by so many people about the smell from the sewage works, at the public enquiry held in the McLaren Hall at the time, the Environmental Health Department admitted that it was thrown in the waste paper basket and treated with contempt. It is also apparent that the sewage plant does not comply with British Standards specifications. And if any member of the Community Council had attended, they would have been aware of these facts.

Yours etc.
James Gauld

Sir,
I refer to the first issue of the Killin Newspaper and congratulate you and your team for a most interesting publication.

However, I feel that your comments on local housing developments were lacking in background information. Government legislation requires that new houses conserve energy and the most economical way of doing this is by using

Letters to the Killin News should be signed and carry an address and if possible a telephone number. The right is reserved to edit letters.

RESTORATION BEGINS ON BEN LAWERS

The National Nature Reserve of Ben Lawers is internationally important for its mountain plants, yet man's use of the land has changed the vegetation beyond recognition. Intensive sheep grazing has left impoverished grassland on most of the hillside.

Woodland once covered the lower slopes, with Birch, Rowan, Alder and several kinds of willow. Shrubs, mostly willows, occurred amongst the trees and extended, as scrub, even higher up the hill. Many of these are now rare, some nearing extinction on the Reserve. Colourful tall herbaceous plants originally grew amongst the trees and shrubs, but few of these remain today, confined to inaccessible cliff ledges.

Almost all trees, shrubs and tall herbs have been eliminated from the hillside, by a combination of tree clearance, grazing and burning. The tiny remnants on ungrazed ledges tell us how rich the natural vegetation of the area once was. The sheep grazing on the Reserve today belong to the farms below, which have grazing rights on which they depend.



timber-framed houses. Traditional stone built dwellings may have more character but would not only be uneconomical to build but they would not come up to present day standards for insulation, daylighting etc.

For a Highland community, like Killin, to survive it must hold on to the younger inhabitants and not rely on people coming to retire. But how can a young family compete in the housing market with a couple from down south who have sold their 2 bedroom terraced house for £100,000? Yet when a builder hopes to develop a site aimed at the younger family, ie the Mart, he is told it is not in character, but hardly an eye-lid is raised when a large "game-bird" appears in a conservation area adjacent to the villages' main tourist attraction!

I look forward to receiving my next copy of the Killin News which will no doubt be read worldwide!

Yours etc.
David A Graham

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Council held its last meeting on the 9th May before it is reformed at the end of the month. Most of the councillors representing Killin have been nominated for re-election, but there will be one or two new members. Since there were not enough nominations for Killin it will not be necessary to hold an election there. However, there will be an election in the Crianlarich ward. By early June we will know the composition of the new Council and the Killin News will publish the names in the next issue.

At its last meeting the Council made a strong plea to the District Councillor present that the problem of parking in Killin was now too serious to be left to the forthcoming Killin Development Plan. They asked for this matter to be given the highest priority.

We also note that the current Chairman, Peter Henderson of Crianlarich is retiring. We should like to record on behalf of the community our thanks to Peter for his efficient chairmanship of the Council and his persistent badgering of the District and Regional Councils to get things done - sometimes an uphill struggle. Many thanks, Peter, for your years of service to our community.

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JUNIOR BOYS BRIGADE



The 'Juniors' once again spent their annual weekend at Rhu. Jim and Betty Houston were a great help - Jim ferrying us to and fro in the bus, many thanks. Killin got their revenge this year beating Rhu Primary footballers 5 - 3. We returned happy but exhausted.

Kay Riddell

Playgroup

The highlight this winter was the Coffee Morning and Sponsored Bed Push (with the mums in fancy dress) in October. We raised £900 for new equipment, a Xmas party - and a donation to the Intensive Care Baby Unit at S.R.I. At the Xmas party 54 children got a present from Santa. (We were joined by the Mother and Toddlers Group for that). This year so far, we've had a visit to a Panto at the MacRobert Centre, a trip to the Baths, another Coffee Evening and Cane Party etc. Still to come are a number of outings - the Ben Lawers Visitor Centre, the Police, the Fire Service, and a day outing in June.

We meet in the Church Hall every Monday and Thursday (9.30 - 11.30 am and 1.30 - 3.30 pm), the Supervisor is Freda Cairns (and 2 Mums per session).

Jane Brown
(Chairperson)

Drama Club

Well done Killin and District and well done "Dodger" who must have broken a record by reaching his goal in 3¼ hours! From this phenomenal feat funds of over £300 were raised. This along with a loan from the Club funds should enable us to order the front curtains and pelmet.

P.S. An Comunn raised another £100 for us at their Ceilidh on 18th May! Many thanks.

Golf

Killin Ladies Coronation Foursomes

1st : Mrs W. Davidson and Mrs E Hogg
2nd : Mrs J Chisholm and Miss H. MacDonald

Winners go on to play next round at East Renfrewshire G.C. on 17 June 1991.

DOUGLAS McROBBIE Electrical Contractor

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EFFECTS OF CHERNOBYL

Since the summer of 1987 our farm has been under movement restrictions as a result of the Chernobyl explosion.

The Department of Agriculture carried out a sample test not expecting to find any radiation. Unfortunately 6 out of the 10 lambs tested were above the level considered safe to market. All the neighbouring farms were then tested and 11 farms in Glen Lochy and Glen Dochart were placed under restriction.

These restrictions mean that in order to sell sheep they must be tested by Department officials. A radiation counter is held against the lamb's rump and a reading taken. If this is below 1,000 becquerels we are free to sell as normal. If the reading is above this level, then we either keep the lamb until it passes, or mark it with special paint and sell it. These painted lambs must pass another test before being slaughtered.

However, once our sheep have been in the meadow for about 3 weeks they pass the test. Because of this, we have not found the restrictions too difficult to live with. We are compensated for the expense of the testing.

This year 2 farms in the area have been declared free from the restrictions. We hope it won't be long till all the farms are freed and we get back to selling sheep as usual.

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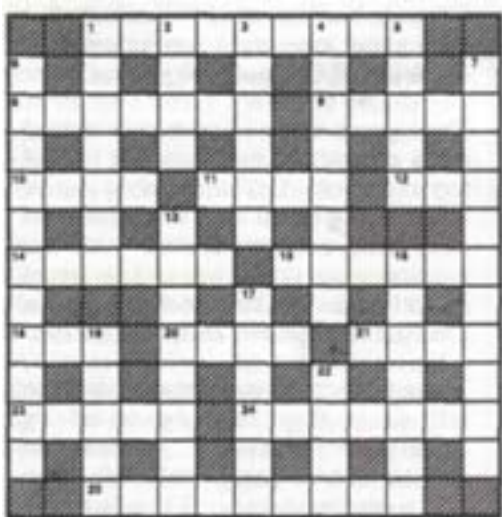
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DOWN

- 1 You can enjoy this in Breadalbane Park. (7)
- 2 Ripped. (4)
- 3 Another word for a lodger. (6)
- 4 He doesn't belong here. (8)
- 5 Use one to catch a mackerel. (5)
- 6 They get souvenirs of their visit here. (7, 4)
- 7 Local current? (5, 6)

ACROSS

- 1 A popular and famous fly used on the loch. (5, 4)
- 8 A Canadian City. (7)
- 9 An old village in Glen Lochy. (5)
- 10 We get too much of it in Killin. (4)
- 11 Not quite a whole house! (4)
- 12 They are used for driving on the golf course. (3)
- 14 Communicate without words. (6)
- 15 A place in the Lake District. (6)
- 15 Do it in the garden in Spring. (3)
- 20 There's one to the top of Lawers. (4)
- 21 Name of a Viking. (4)
- 23 We get oil from it. (5)
- 24 No movement. (7)
- 25 Make the matter clearer. (9)
- 13 Was a powerful clan. (8)
- 16 For brown shoes only. (4, 3)
- 17 Tie with it! (6)
- 19 Complain, complain, complain! (5)
- 22 A safe bet! (4)

CHURCH NEWS

Killin and Ardeonaig Parish Church

Communion on first Sunday in June. Flower Festival 28th July - 4th August. Gospel Evening - 28th July. Coffee Morning and Stalls - outside Church 31st July 10.00 am - 12 noon.

St. Fillans Scottish Episcopal Church, Killin

Built in 1885 by the 7th Earl of Breadalbane, the church has been in continuous use since then. The present Priest in Charge, The Rev. Dr. C.F. Fryer gives his services free. Matins are held at 10.00 am on the third Sunday of the month. Every other Sunday Holy Communion is held at 9.30 am.

Roman Catholic Church

2.30 pm on a Sunday afternoon is an odd time for Catholics to attend Mass. This however, is the practice in Killin, where we worship in the Episcopal Church, by kind permission. Our group is part of the Parish of St. Joseph and St. Fillan, consisting of six Churches or Mass Centres spread over almost 1,000 square miles - the second biggest Parish in Scotland!



Variety in your Bar-B-Cues!

by Leslie Kettle

Why be stuck with the usual burgers and sausages? Try your hand at the following for a change.

Trout Salmon or Prawns (in the shell)
Any thin tender cuts of meat.
Corn-on-the-Cob (parboil first)
Avocado (brushed with garlic butter, skin on, halved and face down)
Apple rings, fresh peaches, garlic bread, rolls etc.

Garden Centres sell different types of wood chips to sprinkle on the fire, giving a flavoured smoke.

Some Forthcoming Events

- | | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|---|
| June 15 | Sheepdog Trials, Tyndrum. From 8.00 am. | 26 | Show Queen Dance, McLaren Hall. 8.30pm. | |
| | 28 | Sheep Shearing Competition, Ben More Farm, Crianlarich. 6.00 pm | 27 | Fiddlers Concert, McLaren Hall. 8.30pm. |
| July 10 | Scottish Country Dancing, McLaren Hall. 8.00 pm. (and every Wednesday throughout summer). | 28 | Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band, Killin. 1.00pm. | |
| | 14 | Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band, Killin. 1.00pm. | Aug 16 | Marquee Dance, Breadalbane Park. 9.00 pm. |
| | 21 | Boreland Gardens, Glen Lochay. Open to Public. 2.00 pm. Cream Teas. | 16/17 | Display and Handcrafts, Baking, Floral Art, McLaren Hall. |
| | | | 17 | Killin Agricultural Show. |

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