



Kingussie Community Development Company

Spring 2019 News and Membership renewal

KCDC COMMUNITY HYDRO GRANTS

Over the past year the Hydro Fund has continued to make valuable contributions to local community projects, with recipients representing a broad range of Kingussie activities and organisations. Last winter, we supported the presentation of 'The Armed Man', an event organised by Badenoch Chorale, and this was followed up by a contribution to the establishment of a new partnership between the High School and Cycle Friendly Kingussie, for the running of the Bikeathon.

Summer 2018 also saw the handover of a new Away dugout at the Dell for KCC, the provision of free places for children to attend summer camps organised by Roots and Shoots, and assistance with the final footpath stages for the new bridge at the Golf Club. Most recently, money has been pledged to Caberfeidh Horizons, and to the Tennis Club, for upgrade works which are soon to be completed.

The fund continues to accept applications of up to £2500 from organisations within PH21, with the application form available at: <http://www.kcdc.co.uk> so if you know of an organisation which would be assisted by an input from the fund, please make contact with any of the directors.

COMMUNITY WOODS

The community owns the woodland on either side of the Gynack from the bridge at the Cross up to the Golf Club car park. We are delighted to see that the replanting, following the building of the hydro scheme, has established despite what was a long dry summer making a wonderful home for wildlife. If you have been in the woods you may have noticed the arrival of tree protectors. There has been some tree loss so we have invested in the future of the woods for coming generations.

We had a visit from the Woodland Trust Out Reach Advisor who gave advice on introducing new trees to add diversification to the tree species and also the ages of the trees. With the generosity of the Woodland Trust over 100 tree saplings were planted through the woods. They are native trees e.g. hawthorn, willow, holly and birch. A recent peek down the tubes showed many starting to form buds suggesting that they have moved happily to their new home.

The woods are not just about the future and it is great to see them being used by school and nursery children, local people and visitors some of whom have noted their enjoyment on Trip Advisor!

KCDC COMMUNITY HYDRO

It is now 4 years since the hydro was commissioned and it has required very little maintenance, all of which has been done by volunteers. Last June, July and August the river was very low and there was no output for much of the time. Only £250 was earned last summer compared with £2500 for the same 3 months in 2015. However the 6 months to the end of March have been the best ever winter period. It was "the right sort of rain and snow" but also helped by cleaning of the slime from behind the inlet screen. The earlier dry weather allowed one of the screen sections removed to get access into the chamber in the photo for pressure washing. It was a very wet job!

The story of the hydro from its beginnings in 2004 to the present day has been put together in a book "*Harnessing the Gynack*". It can be obtained from the Caberfeidh Bookshop or by contacting any of the directors. All the profits from the sale will go to supporting the work of KCDC.



Handover of new dugout at the Dell.



NEW DIRECTORS AND/OR VOLUNTEERS

KCDC is a charity that benefits the PH21 community in many ways, including maintaining the Paths Network and the Woodland, supporting Cycling Friendly Kingussie and operating the Hydro. The income from the latter provides financial support for many local projects. None of this could be done without the willingness of volunteers. If you are interested in participating, either as a director or volunteering for specific projects please speak to any Director or tick the box on the form below.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

At the recent AGM, it was again decided to leave the subscription level for 2019 at a nominal £2, and you are invited to support the day to day running of KCDC by completing the form below and returning it to any Director, to the Treasurer, KCDC, Forestville, West Terrace, Kingussie PH21 1HA, or handed to Goldwells, 15-17 High St Kingussie, the company's official address. This subscription, along with additional donations which most members add, represents the only income for the company (Hydro income is totally separate) and covers such things as insurance for volunteers, so your support for this year would be very welcome. Thank you to those who have already joined for this year.

KCDC MEMBERSHIP FORM 2019

NAME(S):

KCDC intend to save costs in future by distributing membership information including Newsletters by email. If you are happy with this please provide your email address and tick this box

ADDRESS:

POSTCODE:

EMAIL:

TEL:

Type of membership – please delete as appropriate
Ordinary - £2 Associate/non-resident/Junior - £1

Please indicate if you are able to volunteer for any working parties

Gift Aid declaration – for a single donation

KINGUSSIE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Please treat the enclosed gift of £as a Gift Aid donation.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for the current tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for the current tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given.

Donor's details

Title.....First name or initials.....Surname.....

Full Home address

Postcode

Signature..... Date.....

Please notify the charity or CASC if you:

Want to cancel this declaration. Change your name or home address. No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

KINGUSSIE PATHS NETWORK

Over the winter we have been carrying out a survey of the Paths Network (see map) and are now preparing to carry out a programme of maintenance and improvements to signage. Most welcome would be any volunteers who would be prepared to take part in this. Amongst other things, we intend to improve the surfaces of identified awkward paths in order to encourage walkers of all abilities, local and visiting, to share the pleasures of the paths around Kingussie.

We also aim to join up with several local interested parties, together with the National Park and land managers, to ensure that the Speyside Way is extended to Kingussie. In particular the section between Ruthven Barracks past the Dell to the Jubilee Path needs to be developed to an acceptably high standard of safety and amenity to provide, where possible, safe off-road walking and cycling.



CYCLE FRIENDLY KINGUSSIE

Kingussie Bikeathon 23rd June

Cycle Friendly Kingussie are working with Kingussie High School & Parent Council again this year to organise the ever popular Kingussie Bikeathon. Entry fees will raise funds to support the work of the Parent Council and as last year participants are encouraged to use this event to raise funds for charity, club or group close to their heart. Details and entry can be found at bikeathon2019.eventbrite.co.uk if you would like to help out or marshal email info@cyclefriendlykingussie.org

Go Electric.

With support from Energy Savings Trust, Cairngorms National Park Authority and KCDC we have just bought a fleet of electric bikes. These bikes will be available for community use either on one of our leader led rides or on a longer term basis (for a nominal fee) to trial for commuting and everyday journeys. The aim is to provide an opportunity for people to try out what is becoming an increasingly popular cycling option. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more details or email info@cyclefriendlykingussie.org.

Improving Cycling and Walking Routes and Facilities

Over the winter months, funding from SUSTRANS Community links programme has been used to develop proposals to improve walking and cycling routes and facilities in the area, which may be the subject of future funding applications. Community consultation events took place in March. If you are interested in this project look out for notices of the next public/stakeholder drop-in session at Talla Nan Ros.



We Still Get Time To Ride Our Bikes!

Our Tuesday evening rides continue to be popular, year round. Everybody is welcome as the nights become lighter we will offer both road and MTB options. Our purpose is to get more people out enjoying cycling. Keep an eye on the CFK Facebook page for details.

From time to time we also run maintenance workshops to help with repairing and maintaining your bike, as well as other cycle related events. We are currently at the early stages of looking at the possibility of creating secure bike storage and providing a cycle repair station in the town.

Loch Gynack Path

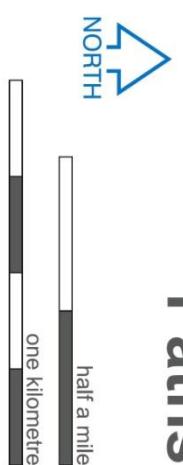
Route to Newtonmore with views of loch and hills, passes old township site.
Distance: 5 miles
Approx Time: 3 hours to Newtonmore (return by same route or by easier 1 hour return route along cycleway beside A86).
Start: Ardvonie Car Park then via Golf Course Circular
Terrain: Uneven terrain, can be muddy, moderate gradients, exposed on moorland sections.



Golf Course Circular
Circular walk through birch woodland with views of Loch Gynack.
Distance: 2.5 miles
Approx Time: 1 1/4 hour
Start: Ardvonie Car Park.
Terrain: Uneven terrain, can be muddy, moderate gradients. BEWARE OF GOLF BALLS, particularly at the northern end.

Tom Baraidd & Raits
Way-marked route round mature plantation on informal trail through fields and juniper woodland to old settlement site with views over Badenoch.
Distance: 3 miles
Approx Time: 2 hours (one way)
Start: Ardvonie Car Park.
Terrain: Uneven ground, can be wet.

Kingussie Paths



Insh Marshes
National Nature
Reserve

Creag Bheag
Hill path with spectacular views.
Distance: 3 mile circular route.
Approx Time: 2 1/2 hours.
Start: Ardvonie Car Park
Terrain: Rough hill path with steep gradients, can be icy in winter.

West Terrace Circular
Circular walk through mixed woodland.
Distance: 1.7 miles
Approx Time: 1 hour
Start: Ardvonie Car Park
Terrain: Quiet road, moderate gradients with some steps, uneven ground, can be muddy, kissing gate.

Gynack Mill Trail
Walk through woods on good paths with interpretation panels along the trail. There is a separate leaflet giving more detail about the features of this route. (See Overleaf)
Distance: 1.3 miles
Approx Time: 1 hour
Start: Ardvonie Car Park
Terrain: Good paths and quiet roads but with moderate gradients and some steps.

