

Glencoe and Glen Etive Community Council
Minutes of the CC meeting held on 1st September 2026
7.30pm, online only, via Zoom

Councillors Present

Helen Fairlie (Chair) – HF
Sally Mortimer (Treasurer/Vice Chair) – SM
Gwen McTaggart – (Secretary) GMT
Ian William McTaggart – IMT

Also Present

Emily Bryce, NTS

1 member of the local community

HF opened the meeting and declared it quorate. HF informed attendees that the meeting was being recorded, and that minutes would be written up from the recording by the Minutes Secretary. These will be circulated via the CC Facebook page and posted on the two notice boards in the village.

HF noted that CC work had continued over the summer recess, with members busy on local projects even though no meetings had been held during July and August.

1: Apologies: Cllr Matthew Prosser

2: Approval of minutes of previous meeting

Minutes were approved by CC members in advance of the meeting and circulated. Proposal to formally adopt the minutes: Proposed by SM; seconded by IMT.

3: Matters arising from previous minutes

HF spoke to Karen McAulay re complaints regarding the XScotia Paragliding event. HF also followed up with event organisers but no reply was received. Suggested following up again closer to the time of the 2027 event.

Re tidying up Church grounds: Rev Amanda responded that work was ongoing across the front of the church, but that the two side areas were being left as wildflower areas to encourage bees.

Invercoe layby – Highland Council has suggested various options to Glencoe Heritage Trust to block the area off. GMT will follow up with GHT to see if they are making any progress.

4: Finance

Current balance reported by SM: £4185.11 (includes some funding from the Community SCIO – last part of this spending is to do with information boards for the picnic area).

5: Planning

Planning applications received since 1st June CC meeting have been discussed separately by members. The CC had no comments to make on the following applications:

26/02447/FUL|Alterations and Extension|Strathmore 24A Glencoe Ballachulish PH49 4HS

26/03092/FUL|Alterations & Extension|13B Carnoch Glencoe Ballachulish PH49 4HQ

26/02415/FUL|Formation of car park|Crafts & Things Glencoe PH49 4HN

The following application was received on the day of the CC meeting, so members had not had chance to look at it and it will therefore be discussed separately, and a report given at the next meeting.

26/03173/FUL|Alterations to carpark|Glencoe Visitor Centre Inverigan Glencoe Ballachulish PH49 4LA

6: Communication to HC

GMT emailed Councillors re gutter cleaning at the village public toilets. HC plan to close the Clachaig Road, week beginning 14 September, to complete repairs to the bridge by the A82 junction.

7: Meetings attended by councillors

GMT/HF attended the Alltnafeadh Car Park working group meeting in July (see item 9 for further details).

GMT/HF/SM attended a meeting of Loch Leven Seasavers to learn more about their work monitoring water quality in Loch Leven and the River Coe. CC will stay in touch with them re progress on this project.

8: Community SCIO

Round 3 of applications to the Community Fund opened on 17 August (closing date is 30 September, at 12 noon).

Two new Trustees have been welcomed on to the board: Matt and Sandi McLeod.

Two educational grants have been awarded over the summer.

Trustees have agreed a donation to pay for replacement batteries and pads for the defibrillator at the Ambulance Station.

A donation was also made to Abbeyfield Care Home.

A mail drop was made to all residents in the Glencoe and Glen Etive community council area, including a Co-op voucher for each household. (Also included local emergency services – Fire, Police and Ambulance.)

GMT thanked Helen Worboys and Matt McLeod for all their work on strimming of the Orbital.

9: Carpark

Update on the new village car park: HC managed to source extra funds and made some minor amendments to the car park surface in order to save some money. These now need to be signed off by the main funders (RTIF) so that work can go ahead. A decision is expected imminently.

Traffic on the village road has been particularly bad. CC received a complaint from Glencoe House regarding the problems. Temporary traffic lights are being set up by the museum developers which should make a big difference.

Alltnafeadh parking project: EB gave an update. Landscape architect is in place to provide designs for the space. Detailed designs are now in – 90 parking bays proposed. (Space is limited by the steep rise at the back of the plot.) Comments are being collated, but key issues are: what screening/landscaping should be put in; routing the West Highland Way around the car park; including an underpass below the A82; should toilets be included. RTIF application was not possible due to tight timescale, but another funding round should happen next spring. Transport Scotland have reviewed speed limit and concluded that no speed restrictions are necessary on the Alltnafeadh section – the working group have

asked for this to be reviewed again. Next meeting of working group is planned for late September.

10: Health

HF attended the New Belford Stakeholders Group meeting in July. The Outline Business case has now been submitted for review; Full Business Case is due in July 2027. After that, construction will begin once building warrants have been signed. Completion date is currently set for 2030.

Ballachulish CC has asked for volunteer(s) to join the Patient Participation Group (at the Ballachulish Medical Practice) which has recently resumed.

11: Invited guests

Emily Bryce (NTS): Visitor numbers at NTS Glencoe have risen by 8% this year so far. It has been the busiest year ever so far for the NTS Ranger team in terms of campers/motorhomes in the glens (and also for outdoor toileting sites).

Speed limits on the A82 have been discussed with Transport Scotland, especially on approach to the village. EB suggests writing a join letter (including local CCs, local Councillors, MSP etc). Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Tourism and Transport, Stephen Flynn, and Malcolm McLeod (from HC) visited in August – they witnessed all the various issues faced by locals and road users, and were supportive of the various plans being developed for alternative means of transport up the glens, the Glencoe Greenway, etc.

Local landowners have discussed coming together on a nature restoration partnership – specifically re Scotland's Rainforest. Funding is available via NatureScot for restoration projects (through the Alliance for Scotland's Rainforest). One key focus here is on removing *Rhododendron Ponticum* across Glencoe area. A project officer is being funded to map the various places RP appears and plan their removal.

Transport Scotland have agreed to reduce the speed limit on the A82 between the Three Sisters car park and the Lairig Eilde car park. Currently waiting for approval of the proposal and wider consultation process. NTS has also asked for additional signs warning drivers on the approach to the Three Sisters car park that there may be stationary traffic ahead – this is a serious issue at busy times. NTS may base a staff member in the car park next season as a traffic marshal (possibly with a small mobile coffee stand); a 'car park full' sign will also be handled by the marshal. Extra bollards have been put in along the verge over the summer.

HC now has the power of parking enforcement – EB will follow up with them to see if they can patrol Glencoe more effectively.

Glencoe Greenway information boards are still in development but hopefully will be in place soon. 29,000 people have used the Greenway between visitor centre and Glen lac na Muidhe; 19,000 from Glen lac na Muidhe to the village.

Soft verges causing danger to road and path users along the A82 by An Torr have been reported to Transport Scotland. HF will follow up. EB will draft a request to Police Scotland re accident statistics on the Glencoe sections of the A82.

12: AOCB

- (i) HF thanked Gwen, Spit, Jamie, Lewis and all the team of folks who set up the chair from the ski centre down at the lochside picnic site. It's a great addition to the village.
- (ii) Museum development project – CC has an extended invitation to view progress; members agreed they'd like to do this once work has
Members were keen for museum team to make regular updates to CC and to the community on what is happening at the site.
- (iii) SM will purchase a poppy wreath for the Remembrance Day service.

13: Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 20th October, 7.30pm via Zoom.