



Kyleakin & Kylerhea Community Company Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

October 2008

Why have a Newsletter

The intended aim of this newsletter is to provide the people of Kyleakin and Kylerhea with information on that has happened since the first meeting of the Kyleakin and Kylerhea Community Company.

As well as being a means to keep you informed as to what is happening; it is hoped that this newsletter will enable you to keep up to date with other developments in the area.

This is your newsletter and we welcome all ideas, suggestions and comments – without input from you it will be difficult to know what information you require.

To keep costs to a minimum, it is envisaged that where possible the newsletter will be sent to you by email in either a .DOC or .PDF format. To do this, we need to know whether either of these formats are accessible to the majority of people with internet/email access.

For those people who do not have internet access, it is intended that (once we have permission) we will be able to leave a few copies in the shops/post offices of both villages.

If you would like to help with the newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Directors.

What is the role of the Community Company?

The Kyleakin & Kylerhea Community Company was set up to try and highlight the growing problem of the decline of businesses in the area, in particular the impending sale of the SYHA hostel in Kyleakin.

The Company is also looking at the Local Community Plan which summarises Kyleakin & Kylerhea key data on the area, community vision for the future, big issues in the area and the development of an action plan.

It is well known that without help from both the local communities and regional and national bodies, the infrastructure of these small communities, once so dependent on thriving businesses will drift into a slow decline.

If, there is to be a community for the young people to live in, in the future, it is necessary to try to take action now; to involve as many people as possible and to work together as a community to ensure that the young people have a viable future without having to move away.

The Community Company will try to work with main stakeholders in the community, prepare key economic and demographic data, review the local plan, consult with the Highland Council, Community Council, HIE and other public bodies.

With help and ideas from everyone in the area your Community Company can generate a blueprint for the future.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Reasons to be cheerful
- 3 Financial Matters
- 4 What would you like to see in this area?

Kylerhea/Glenelg Ferry

The Glenelg Ferry Community Interest Group is holding a volunteers weekend on 1st and 2nd November 2008 to carry out cleaning and maintenance of the ferry prior to the winter layup. For further information see http://www.skyeferry.co.uk/assets/help_needed.pdf or <http://www.skyeferry.co.uk/index.html>

Help Required

In order to make this newsletter accessible to everyone within the community, we will need help with translating some of the articles into Gaelic – could this be you?

We will also need someone to help with finding articles, adverts or any useful information that readers may find useful.

We are not intending to give you a newspaper type edition. At the moment the newsletter will be two A4 pages and to be environmentally friendly, we will use both sides of the paper!

We also need a title for the Newsletter, whilst Kyleakin & Kylerhea Community Company is the official name; perhaps something a little more it is a bit of a mouthful to keep typing.

Did you know:

Since 1995 the following facilities have been lost to the area:

- 120 beds *
- Internet Café *
- Shower and toilet facilities for the marina *
- Cycle hire
- Mini bus tours
- Tourist information *
- Games room for local children *
- Laundry and drying facilities *
- Bakery
- Ferry (and 35 jobs)
- Car hire
- Woolen shop
- Moped hire
- Chip shop
- Skye boat trips

* All these relate to the SYHA Hostel

Reasons to be cheerful:

- A new Community Hall was built in the summer of 2002, with an extension due for completion in Autumn 2008.
- There are good sport and leisure facilities which are consistent with the drive to improve the health of everyone.
- The removal of bridge tolls should increase economic and tourist activity.
- Kyleakin has one of the best harbourages in the Western Isles.
- The ferry on the Kylerhea/Glenelg route is now in community ownership and continues to provide a year round service (Easter to October).
- The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 and the National Forest Land Scheme opens new opportunities for the Community acquisition of land.
- A new forest walk and cycle route in Kyleakin.

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS:

Cameron's Shop and Post Office - 01599 534519

Harry's Cafe - 01599 534641

WINTER OPENING HOURS

Cameron's Shop & Postoffice

Monday to Saturday – 8.30am – 5.30pm

Sunday - Closed

Harry's Cafe

Monday – Saturday – 9am – 3pm

Sunday – 10am – 3pm

Wednesday - Closed

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GLENELG FERRY COMMUNITY INTEREST GROUP

WHERE: KYLERHEA/GLENELG

WHEN: 1ST AND 2ND NOVEMBER 2008

Volunteers weekend to carry out cleaning and maintenance of the ferry prior to the winter layup

SPECIAL EVENT

PLACE

TIME

Type a description of your event here.

SPECIAL EVENT

PLACE

TIME

Type a description of your event here.

SPECIAL EVENT

PLACE

TIME

Type a description of your event here.

Are you under the age of 25?

If so, your Community Company needs you!

There is no point in the older members of the community deciding on your future without your input. So, for one night only, instead of propping up the bar at Saucy Mary's or the Haakon, or staying in playing computer games, let us know what you want.

How do you see the future of the village(s), do you care? Like everything else in this world, there is no point complaining if you do not like what you get – you need to let the Directors know what your thoughts are.

So next time you are surfing the net or using your mobile, remember, 10 minutes of your time could make all the difference!



Financial Matters

In order to ensure that the Community Company has sufficient funds to enable it to cover the day to day running costs, it is essential that some form of fundraising activities will have to take place. Your suggestions, help in organising and most importantly your participation in the events will help.

Additionally, if the Company bid on the hostel is successful, it will be necessary to raise the money by means of grants etc. The company currently does not have the £275,000 it needs to buy the hostel, but help and suggestions as to how we can raise this money will be appreciated.

Do you know how to write out a business plan, if so, and you have some time to spare, please contact the Treasurer as soon as possible.

Please send your suggestions to the Chairman

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://kyleakin.com>

with thanks to Ray Shields.

Thanks

On your behalf I would like to say thank you to the very small number of people who are trying their best to make the community company work. They are all unpaid volunteers and spend a large amount of their free time trying to work their way around the vast amount of paperwork that is required to be read and responded to.

In particular, the Community Company is indebted to Henry Mains from Sleaford Community Company whose advice and guidance has helped the current Directors understand what is required for a successful Community Company.

FUNDRAISING IDEAS:

QUIZ NIGHTS

DANCES

AUCTION DONATION OF UNWANTED ITEMS OF FURNITURE, TV'S, DVDs, PICTURES AND ALL FUNDS RAISED GO TO THE COMMUNITY COMPANY

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SELL ANYTHING – WHY NOT ADVERTISE IT HERE, ALL WE ASK IS A DONATION FROM THE SALE

What do you want to see in your local area?

This is your chance to let the Company know what you would like to see in your area? There is no point leaving it to others – everyone, no matter how young or old, whether they are at school, working or retired has ideas of what they would like to see in their locality and more what they don't want.

The only way the Company can work for your benefit is if they know what you want – there is no point bleating about it after the event if you haven't put forward your suggestions.

It may not always be possible to undertake a particular scheme or prevent something happening in the villages that go against the majority comments. But without a blue print of what is and is not required, it may be left to others (from outside the area) to decide our fate .

The Directors

Chairman	Nigel MacDairmid
Treasurer	Rick Terry
Secretary	Harry Slater
	Mairi MacKenzie
	Flora Strachan
	Phil Lyons

nigelmacdiarmid@aol.com
email@rickskye.co.uk

kyleakin@supanet.com
flora_strachan@yahoo.co.uk
pjlconsultancy@aol.com

Apologies: At the time the newsletter was generated, we were unaware that the village had NOT lost its taxi service. If you would like a taxi, contact Kyleakin Taxis on: 01599 530340, 07884 136604 or email: kyleakintaxis@hotmail.co.uk

If you or your company would like to sponsor the cost of the newsletter, either by means of money or the donation of materials (i.e. paper, ink, etc.) please feel free to contact the Chairman. Your details will be included in future newsletters as a sponsor – so if you are interested in a little bit of free advertising.....