

Firstly, I would like to convey the congratulations of Glenfarg CC to our newly appointed Local Councillors. I am very pleased to welcome both Willie Roberson and Mike Barnacle back with us and they are now joined by Richard Watters and Callum Purves. We look forward to working alongside you all. I would also like to record thanks to Dave Cuthbert for all of his work and support in the past, and wish him well for the future.

I have taken this paragraph directly from Donald Mackenzie's report from 2015 as I feel we should be reminded of the content.

"When it comes to preparing a Chairperson's Report, it's always useful to remind yourself of what it is we should be doing as a Community Council. What we should be doing is laid out in the Scheme of Establishment handed down to all Community Council in Perth & Kinross by the local authority in 2011, when Community Councils were reformed and their system of accountability and governance changed.

So what should the Community Council be doing?

- It is to be a voice for the local area
- It should articulate the views and concerns of people in the local area
- It must involve the people of the community
- It should give views on planning matters in the community council area and,
- It should carry out activities that serve the interests of the community"

I do wonder from time to time, what the village perception of the Community Council is and during these times of change, I contemplate the relevance of groups like us meeting to discuss the same points and issues over a period of months and sometimes years without conclusion.

Does it really matter on the grand scale?

There is so much available for everyone's limited leisure time today and it is becoming increasingly difficult to recruit willing bodies to commit to take on tasks and even attend events.

Having attended the recent quiz night which was prepared and hosted by our wonderful Arngask Primary School pupils and being aware that I was in the only adult team in the room and the only team to have no direct connection with the

school, it made me wonder how a community gels together and supports each other.

However, if anything goes wrong within a vibrant community, who are the people who hold it together? Is the Community Council, or do people look elsewhere for support and guidance?

Sometimes, being a decision maker brings it's own problems, as there are many folk quick to criticise but not voice views. We all have to live by our own personal standard of moral obligation and our community is only as strong as the people who drive it.

Over the years of serving on Glenfarg Community Council, I have seen changes in the ways people work together. It's not many years ago when members of the public were not allowed to speak during meetings unless given permission in writing before attendance. No member of the public was allowed to raise an issue not on an agenda unless the request had been received in writing prior to the meeting.

Hopefully today the people willing to give of their time and efforts to support the administration of Glenfarg are seen to be available and open to all members of our village. We are here to support the views of our community and it is important to gather and gauge those views before decisions are made.

I greatly appreciate the members of the current Community Council and our supportive local Councillors who work continually to keep the village profile high in the sights of PKC. There is a lot of background effort that keeps things ticking over and I know that hardly a day goes by without a CC member working on some aspect of our responsibilities.

So, finally, I would like to thank Glenfarg Community Council for their work over the last 12 months and hope we can continue making improvements in the methods of implementing the tasks we have been elected to carry out. The Council is very much a team and although I feel our communication is the part of our jobs that we could improve on, we are all striving to do our best and I know we all support each other in our roles.

Thank you Councillors.