

## **Chairman's Report 2006**

This has been another busy year for the members of your community council. Our year always starts with the Christmas Party which was enjoyed by all those who participated. Thanks are due to the members and ex-members who were involved in making it such a success and we are again looking forward to the 2006 party.

At Easter, Carol Neely took on the editorship of the community newsletter and with her input the publication has grown immensely and with her efforts in selling advertising space has increased revenue covering the extra costs involved. The Council is delighted with the growth that she has built.

The housing development at the former Ecclefechan Restaurant is almost complete and various issues have come up over the construction. Your Council has been involved in monitoring the work and ensuring that planning conditions have been adhered to. The ongoing housing development plans of Aviemore & Highland Developments are still being considered by the National Park planning department and again your council, being a statutory consultee, is involved in the process. We are trying to ensure once more that we get the best deal for the village from this development. During this time we have been lucky to have the services of a Civil Engineer, Gavin Gerrard who is a Council Member and has been able to steer us through the complexities of the development and the conditions applying.

During the course of the year the Council acquired two new marquees with funding from the Lottery Commission and these have already been put to a lot of use and have brought in income for us.

The Duck race raised over £700 for this year's Christmas Party. It has been agreed that prizes will be increased for next year and that tickets will go on sale earlier.

The Carrbridge Gathering was extremely successful with a profit for the village of over £2000. This money is earmarked for the Village Hall Fund to improve the facilities there. Thanks are due to all those who were involved in what is a considerable amount of work.

The Porridge Championships attracted a large audience and much publicity. Bill Kendrew our original and long serving Chairman of Judges was unable to attend but we are grateful to Colin Bussey Executive Chef at Gleneagles Hotel who took over the role. The Porridge Championships got great national press coverage for the village and the Council is indebted to all those involved and especially Linda Jolly who put in a considerable amount of her own time to ensure the success of the event.

This year the Council has had regular visits from PC Ross Polworth, our Community Police Officer, to keep members apprised of problems arising in the village. We are pleased to learn that the village is still relatively crime free although there are sporadic incidences of pointless vandalism and occasional speeding offences.

The Council wishes to thank Mr Gavin Gerrard who is on the move again and has reluctantly resigned from the Community Council. Gavin has been a hard working member of the team using his engineering professionalism to help with the major housing application and his management skills in organising this year's Gathering. Gavin will be sorely missed and we will hopefully tempt him back on the Council at some point in the future as he is maintaining his house in the village.

Once more we find ourselves in need of new members and we hope that other public spirited villagers will be interested in joining us to help secure the future of the village and maintain its enviable reputation.

Scott Bruce