

Insh Community Holdings SCO45599

Spring Newsletter 2024

Hi Folks,

It's been a while since our last newsletter and lots has been happening. Thank you to everyone who has helped out with our various initiatives.

BBQ

Our end of summer BBQ in the community woodland was a great success with over 30 people attending. Good food and good craic were enjoyed by all.



Firewood delivery

Our thanks to the core work team for processing and delivering firewood to those who requested it.

Forest Management Plan

Our 10-year Forest Management Plan has been approved by Scottish Forestry. This means that we have a felling license to allow us to manage the community forest. Our thanks to Ewan and Cattie for all their hard work

Wildlife Pond and Hedge

Our wildlife pond was created in a wet area of our grazings which had 2 sheep watering holes. Work commenced in partnership with the British Dragonfly Society in December 2022 with an aim to increase biodiversity on our ground. Since the pond was dug, ICH members have planted trees at the edge and pretty much left nature to do the rest. Since the warmer weather has started there has been a big increase in activity of amphibians in the pond. Toads, frogs and newts are coming out and it might be a nice walk to take the (grand)kids to check if there is any frogspawn yet.

Willow has been planted in the lower section of the hedge where the ground is very wet. Creag Meaghaidh National nature Reserve kindly donated some apple trees and these have been planted next to the plum trees.



Community Right to Buy

A meeting was held on 12th December 2023 to bring the members of ICH up to date with progress on this initiative.

Tom explained that Hamish Windross owns the church and that he has said he is willing to sell it to the community. A question-and-answer session followed.

It was agreed, by a large majority, to conduct a feasibility study before proceeding.

Duncan Bryden explained the process involved in CRtB and his experience guiding other communities through the process. He talked about the benefits to these communities in gaining control of their local environment and the importance of having a clear plan for the land in question. A question-and-answer session followed.

The proposal was unanimously agreed.

Our land agent, Duncan Bryden, is currently working on the next steps.

A further meeting will be held soon with the wider community.

Community Woodland

This week the core work team felled some trees to allow turning circles to be created for the quads. The bridges require some repair and this will be the next job.



AGM and Membership fees

Our AGM will be held on April 25th at 7pm in Ivy Cottage. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Our annual membership is also due by the end of March. The cost has remained at £5 per person. If anyone feels able to add a donation to that amount it would be greatly appreciated.

Fees and donations should be sent to our treasurer Bob Murdoch, Woodside, Insh.
bobmurdoch69@hotmail.com

The preferred payment method is BACS to...

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Finally, a wee wordsearch containing 20 creatures which can be seen in the local area.

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C L N P M K R N K U H M N B D
E U W N I R E E D E O R O E R
N L R O C N D W X L L C S A A
Z C O L Y Q E T K A Z D P V Z
A D X V E N E M R D A F R E I
X O F R E W W I A M E H E R L
I T B R B O M A S R C C Y Q T
Z S A O O D P E T K T I M R V
E H S W A L L O W R E I K S W
L J J D B F F G G G E I N I X
O N E N L H W R W Q D G L P L
M R Q Y T A D P O L E D D Y N
I F P Y Y K Z C M G C C G A X
J B U T L I E W R A H S Q Z B
Y Q L E L L E R T S I P I P P

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Badger
Damselfly
Hare
Newt
Pipistrelle
Swallow
Vole

Beaver
Fox
Lizard
Osprey
Redadmiral
Tadpole
Wildcat

Curlew
Frog
Mole
PineMartin
Roedeer
Tawnyowl

Enjoy!

Isobel