

Kinghorn Community Land Assoc. 2005 – What we are about.

Kinghorn Community Land Assoc. 2005 was established out of local concern to secure land at Kinghorn Loch for the good use of the local community.

Since 1611 when King James VI gifted the Loch and surrounds to the new Borough, it has been a source of leisure and enjoyment, a water supply and a place of natural beauty, valued so much that in 1905 the citizens of Kinghorn stormed and tore down new gates erected to deny public access. The Loch area thus means a lot to Kinghorn.

The Loch is flanked by land in various ownerships including local farmers. Significantly, the East and West shores are each owned by companies who have in the last 3 years closed the major industrial sites and employers in Kinghorn (Kinghorn Tannery) and Burntisland (Alcan). In contrast on the North shore, Craigencait Farm Ecology Centre represents an exciting future for the Loch, capitalising on the natural heritage and turning it into a pioneering ecology and environmental education centre, unique in Scotland.

KCLA2005, formed in March 2005 with the support of 600+ petitioners, achieved Community Body status under the Land Reform Act and had an interest registered in the East Shore which Pittards told us in March was on the market. Our Right to Buy had briefly been enacted, when Pittards advised the Scottish Executive that the land, of which the East Shore is a part, was in fact sold subject to conditional missives on Christmas Eve last year. Given the conditional missives, SEERAD took the position that the land was already sold therefore our Right to Buy was 'deactivated', although it could be reactivated if the conditions were varied in any significant way.

Despite this knock back, KCLA2005 have been consulting widely with other community, local authority and landowner interests as to whether a vision for the future of the Loch area can be agreed and how KCLA might help in achieving that. We have also sought to grow our membership, now standing at some 100 local people, and to elect a Board for the first time. We are looking to develop a partnership to deliver the vision with all parties.

What we are seeking from new Board members

- membership of the Association
- enthusiasm for and commitment to the Association's Aims
- active attendance at 2 hourly Board meetings held roughly every 2 weeks
- skills, experience and knowledge relevant to the Board's responsibilities
- a willingness to help foster and maintain team work within the Board
- sensitivity to the views of members and the aspirations of the Kinghorn community

What we hope to offer new Board members

An opportunity to help achieve good stewardship of Kinghorn's heritage and future

The satisfaction of participating in an enthusiastic Board that enjoys excellent working relationships, friendship and team work, based around a common purpose.

Recognition of the need to limit, without judgement, the demands on Directors' time to what each can sustain given their personal circumstances.

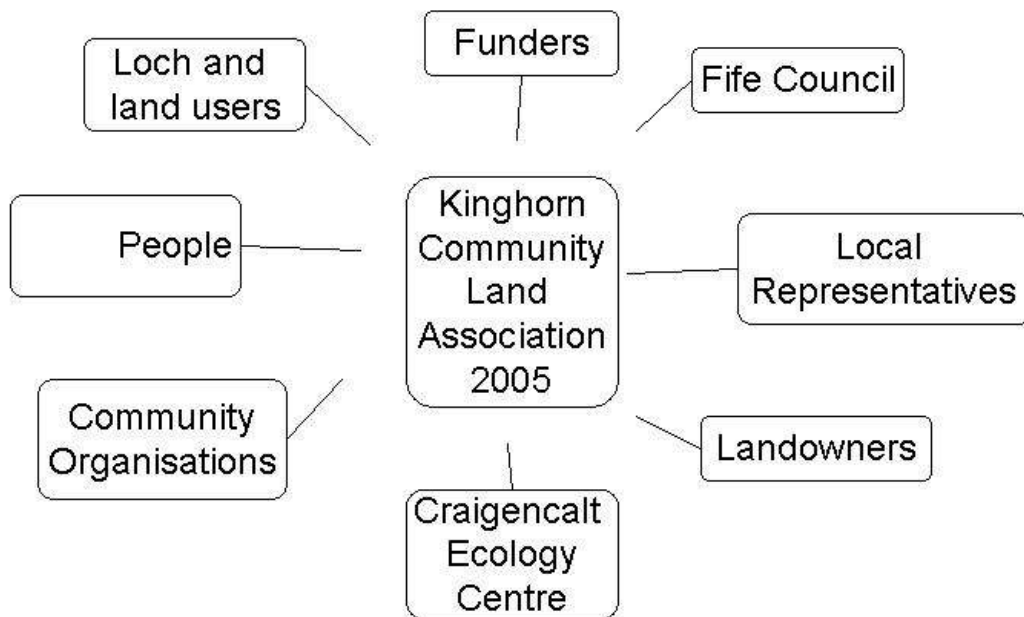
A fair, open and accountable process for co-opting Directors

What is needed to consider co-option of a new director

- Membership of the Association
- An opportunity for the potential director to meet the current Board and observe a Board meeting
- A written statement of:
 - o why she/he would like to join KCLA 2005 Board
 - o what she/he believes they could bring to the Board
 - o what questions they have for the Board
- Contact details for a personal referee
- A willingness to submit their co-opted Board membership to the next available General Meeting of members for confirmation as a Director.

Information on how to follow this process can be obtained from Chris Mitchell, Chair of Board or Richard Brewster, Company Secretary – contact details below.

KCLA 2005 and who it is working with



Name	role	E-mail Address	Street	Town	Postal Code	Home Phone
Board as 30 November 2005						
Chris Mitchell	Chair	chris@cemitchell.co.uk	74 Pettycur Road	Kinghorn	KY3 9RW	01592 890921
Claire Brown	Minutes Secretary	clare445@hotmail.com	18 Queens Crescent	Kinghorn	KY3 9RG	890162
Hugh McNeil	Membership Sec.	hughmcneil2@aol.com	8 Abden Place	Kinghorn	KY3 9TZ	890702
Julie Samuel	Director	juliesamuel@yahoo.com	9 Inchview	Kinghorn	KY3 9SH	01592 891410
Mick McMillan	Treasurer	MickR65@ecosse.net	13 St. James Place	Kinghorn	KY3 9SU	890479
Rosalind Ramage	Director		50 Templars Crescent	Kinghorn	KY3 9XS	890042
Ann Donald	Director	ANNCDON@aol.com	14 David I Street	Kinghorn	KY3 9SR	891672
Richard Brewster	Company Secretary	rjmb@ecosse.net	Pettycur Road	Kinghorn	KY3 9RL	892306

Kinghorn Community Land Association 2005

Update 5 - Progress

Contrary to the downbeat impression given last year by the front-page article in the *Fife Free Press* ('Housing bid ends buy-out plans for old tannery', 18.11.05), Kinghorn Community Land Association 2005 has not given up work.

Community interest in buying the five-acre plot (not 13, as quoted in the paper) on the eastern shore of the loch is still registered and can be reactivated if the land is put up for sale again. This area is designated in the current Local Plan as 'open space'. At no time did KCLA register an interest in buying any of the tannery site designated for housing – an idea that may have been wrongly inferred from the newspaper report.

In the meantime the Association has consulted a number of interested parties. For example, in December Rhona Brankin, Deputy Minister for Environment and Rural Affairs, and Marilyn Livingstone, local MSP, toured the site. Similarly, representatives of the Community Services and Development Services departments of Fife Council came to discuss future plans. Meetings have also been held with the owners of other land surrounding the Loch. Regular contact is maintained with the Community Council, Kinghorn Loch Users Group and other local interests. We also had a stall for consultation at the Craigencaft Festival

The aim of KCLA remains the same as ever: to ensure that the whole area around the Loch remains open to all, as a place of interest, learning and leisure, and a peaceful haven for both people and wildlife.

Public meeting

KCLA is holding a public meeting to bring everyone fully up to date regarding the current situation and the results of a wide range of consultations in Kinghorn, We hope this will help achieve a consensus and shared vision about the future of the Loch and its surrounds. There will also be a presentation and a chance to learn more about other communities' endeavours.

Tuesday 21 February – 7.30pm – Community Centre

Alan Hobbett, formerly Development Officer for the island community of Gigha following their well publicised buy-out, will give an illustrated talk. We are also inviting people involved with other Fife Community Land Associations to share their experiences with us.

All are welcome – please come along!