

Holmehill Community Buyout

Public Meeting – 13 April 2005 – Scottish Churches House

Attendance – around 60 people from all over Dunblane attended the meeting

Programme – the meeting started with a general update followed by a brief slide presentation summarising activity to date, followed by questions.

There followed an open session to discuss future sustainable development proposals for the site, based on the outline ideas included in the Holmehill application.

Ideas/Suggestions generated during open discussion

- Are we anticipating grant support for projects and if so will this cover both capital and revenue costs?
- University Archaeology Departments are often looking for sites for student fieldwork – perhaps Holmehill could provide an opportunity for this?
- A booklet on Holmehill has been published by a Stirling- based dowser called Ian Orkney. The group should obtain a copy of this.
- Local ‘hands on’ archaeological exhibits can be very popular and worthwhile.
- We should be careful not to overdevelop the site.
- Further explanation sought of what was envisaged by the concept of ‘spiritual pilgrimage’.
- Suggestion that small grants (up to £1000) – e.g. from sources like Snowie and Diageo – were fairly easily accessed for specific projects. This has worked well in local schools.
- We need to think of the cost/benefit analysis of different projects – e.g. some may require a lot of funding and give relatively few benefits.
- We need to ensure that future plans allow for ‘quiet’ areas.
- Local schools may want to get involved – e.g. for opportunities such as Duke of Edinburgh schemes etc.
- Would Holmehill be a suitable site for actually growing fruit etc?
- Would the designation of the site as a Local Nature Reserve be appropriate?

Caroline Crawford
Secretary