

Meeting Report: Fort William and Lochaber
Date: Thursday 21st August 2014
Venue: An Drochaid, Fort William, PH33 6PH



**Generations
Working
Together**

Apologies: Ann Marie Donoghue, Jo Cowan, Sheila MacDonald, Ilona Munro

In Attendance: Lynn MacAllister, Catriona Nicholson, Marion Smith

Marion welcomed Lynn and Catriona to the meeting, which ended early and Ann Marie Donoghue, who had been delayed at a previous meeting, arrived as it finished.

Catriona gave an update on her work with Invernevis House Care Home in Fort William. The home are fundraising for a sensory garden to enable residents of the home, their families and local people including children from the adjacent Nevis Bank Nursery to have a pleasant place to meet and share the garden which will have multiple therapeutic benefits for the residents, in particular, re-ablement, self-management and promoting dignity.

They are keen to encourage links with the community in particular the schools and the young people undertaking Duke of Edinburgh Awards and would like to involve them in the fundraising efforts already being made.

Lynn who is a teacher at Lochaber High School, talked about the young people in the Citizenship group that she works with, explaining that they have been volunteering at the Nimble Fingers project that is held at the Montrose Centre, (the centre offers day care for adults with learning disabilities). The young people are currently working towards an Award in Volunteering Skills, through Voluntary Action Lochaber.

Marion talked about the Award in Volunteering Skills that is being offered to two groups in Lochaber, Lynn's group of 8 young people and a group of 6 people who are not in employment, with a view to improving their confidence, self-esteem and giving them an SQA accredited qualification for their CV's and college applications.

Discussion was held about ways in which Lochaber High School and Invernevis House could work together to encourage integration between the generations.

The meeting closed at 4pm and no date was set for the next meeting.