

Application to build at Tomyrone

Monday, 05 June 2006

Last Updated Thursday, 08 June 2006

Avid readers of the Newsletter will recall that in the December 2004 edition the threat to build in the sand quarry at the West end of The Lein was brought to villagers' attention.

The site itself lies within the estate that includes Gladhills, Finfan, Corbiewell and Ferniefield farms as well about half the area - the West end - we all know as The Lein. The application for outline planning permission to build a single house was submitted by Future Plans on behalf of Inkersall Furbs, the trust that owns the estate on behalf of the landlord, Mr M Woodcock. It is understood that the owner, a former MP, lives in England but also has land at Glen Rinnes

The case for rejecting the application was strongly supported by the Amenities & Welfare Committee and thanks to the initiative and purpose of our Councillor, Mr Eddie Coutts, the application was rejected by the Environmental Services Committee by 15 votes to 5 at the meeting in 31st August 2005.

However, in November 2005 we learned that Future Plans had submitted an appeal to the Scottish Executive to overturn the rejection. On 7th February this year a site visit was made by Mr W Ian Hastie of the Development Department of the Scottish Executive; in his report dated 11 May Mr Hastie allowed the appeal. So it seems that one man sitting in Falkirk is able to overturn the democratic decision that own councillors took based on the policy for building New Houses in the Countryside that they or their predecessors had formulated on our behalf. And the wildlife can suffer the consequences. Such is democracy!

Chris Pratt