

## LENNOX COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT PORTGORDON EAST - ATLANTIC GREY SEALS

**Project** - Provide quality information/interpretation panel at a site adjacent to the former ice house east of Portgordon. This facility is at the nearest point where the Atlantic Grey Seal Colony can be viewed and where access for walkers, cyclists and motorists already exists.

**Design** - The panel is of a high quality design similar to others in the area and was prepared by J Tasker, Graphic Design. A stone plinth to house the panel has been erected by local stone mason, George Reid.

**Benefits** - The site offers a superb opportunity to view the seals (often there can be around 20 seals basking on the rocks) and the panel provides an informative and educational tool to enhance the enjoyment of visitors to the site. The panel also complements a number of other such panels on the Speyside Way. It is very important to safeguard the site and included on the panel is valuable advice on how visitors should conduct themselves in the vicinity of the site to ensure that the colony is not unduly disturbed or the environment damaged. This is something which does not exist at present.

**Funding** - The Community Council is indebted to three organisations for funding the project - Moray Council ( Community Environmental Improvement Fund), Moray Firth Partnership ( Community Grants Scheme ), and The National Lottery ( Awards for All). It is hoped that some additional environmental improvements can be carried out at the site and that litter and 'doggie' bins will be installed courtesy of Moray Council

#### Financial Statement-

Grants	Moray Community Environmental Fund	£1500
	MFP Community Grants Scheme	£938
	National Lottery Awards for All	<u>£1200</u>
	TOTAL	£3638
Expend	Construction of Plinth	£600
	Design & Manufacture of Panel	<u>£2937.50</u>
	TOTAL	£3537.50

The remaining £100.50 will be spent on improving the surface of the viewing area

**Publicity-** The award of the grants was publicised in an article in the local paper along with a photograph of the site. The panel acknowledges the funders with the appropriate names and logos. On completion of the works the Community Council arranged for an informal opening ceremony attended by two Moray Councillors, both the Speyside and Countryside Rangers, the designer, two Community Councillors, photographers from the Northern Scott and the Banffshire Advertiser and the Chairman of the Community Council. A press release was issued and subsequently both local newspapers gave excellent publicity to the project.

Secretary, 11th December 2007

