



# MANOR & CASTLE NEWSLETTER

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## Manor & Castle Newsletter

### Special points of interest:

- Chairperson's Comments
- Councillor's Comment's
- Local information

## CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

#### Iain MacKenzie

Since our last meeting it was with sadness that we learned that our Councillor Iain MacKenzie (pictured right, with son Don) passed away on 29 June 2017. Iain was very helpful to me in my role as Chairman and was present at many of our Manor meetings and shared the Councillors Forum on many occasions with Gordon and updated us on what was happening in our area and gave every support to any requests that we made to him for our community. He will be sadly missed and our sympathy and thoughts go out to his wife and family.

#### Cars and Hedges

A growing area of concern is the ever increasing situation of cars and vans fully parked or partly parked on pavements. I am sure I am not the only one who has had to step off the pavement and onto the road in order to get past vehicles that block our pavement access. Pavements on many of our streets are already very narrow without the additional hurdle of trying to manoeuvre our way past parked vehicles. The Scottish Government recently (March – 30 June 2017) issued a public consultation on the issue of legislating about pavement parking (and other parking-related issues). Here is the link to the consultation paper, which sets out some of the background: [https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/road-policy/improving-parking-in-scotland/user\\_uploads/improving-parking-in-scotland.pdf](https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/road-policy/improving-parking-in-scotland/user_uploads/improving-parking-in-scotland.pdf). In particular, paras 13-20 outline the current legislative situation and state that:

#### Parking on the pavement

13. While it is currently not an offence to be parked on the pavement in Scotland, it is an offence to drive on a pavement under Section 129(5) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 ("the 1984 Act"). It is also an offence under Section 129(2) of the 1984 Act for a person:

15. Yet there is no statutory definition of what constitutes an obstruction and the decision on whether a vehicle is causing an obstruction would initially be a matter for the police officer dealing with the incident. The variety of overlapping provisions has led to complaints that the law on parking on a pavement is not clear.

The analysis of the consultation responses is due to be published soon (autumn

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14. Furthermore, it is also an offence under regulation 103 of the 1984 Act to leave, cause or permit a vehicle to stand on a road so as to cause any unnecessary obstruction of the road. The Removal and Disposal of Vehicles Regulations 1986 grants police the power in certain circumstances, including the causing of obstruction, to require the driver, owner or person in charge of a vehicle to move it.

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The analysis of the consultation responses is due to be published soon (autumn 2017).

Still on the theme of pavements is the problem with hedges and trees that overhang walls which again reduces pavement space and causes obstructions. Anyone with concerns in this area should contact our council for advice.

Roddy Nicolson  
Chairman

## Councillor's Report

As always , we cannot believe how quickly the year is going and now its September and the nights are starting to darken.

Maybe some of you have seen the Gazette a few weeks ago with residents of Assaye Place sending a press statement to the Gazette and other local media outlets to emphasise their concerns about the speed of traffic coming through their area. We hope that the council will act before there is a serious accident.

The Scottish Government announced their legislative programme for Scotland and I was absolutely delighted to hear that there had been a commitment made to implement Frank's Law. This is a law that states that anyone who needs personal care will get it, previously it was only those over 65 that received care. Frank's Law was named after Frank Kopel, a Dundee United and Manchester United footballer who had dementia before he was 65 and was not able to get care. His widow, Amanda Kopel, has fought for this for many years and she is to be commended.

The Council committees are on next week (week beginning 25th September) and you can listen online if you go into the council website and click on live audio.

Councillor Gordon Murray

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Iain Mackenzie

It was with great sadness that I learned of the passing of my fellow council colleague, Iain Mackenzie over the summer. I had known Iain when I was a young boy as one of my school pal, Don, was his son.

When I was first elected to the council in 2012, Iain topped the poll. We got on very well together from the offset despite being poles apart politically. Working on Santa runs, Christmas lunches, meetings, senior citizen trips we got to know each other very well and he was always looking at the positive side of things and his sense of humour would override everything else.



I feel I am in a privileged position being an elected member for Stornoway North and one of the personal benefits I get is that I come into contact and work with people I would normally not have the opportunity to do so. Iain was a special friend and although disagreements would come and go we always had our friendship to fall back on.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time.



## **New HHP chairman Norman Macleod from Manor**

It was good to see Norman Macleod, Barony Square, take up position as the Hebridean Housing Partnership chairman at the AGM last week.

Norman was a councillor for a number of years and has lots of experience in Housing. He was latterly the Chairman of the Environment and Protective Services committee who dealt with the local housing strategy.

We wish him well in his new post and will look to invite him to a future association meeting to discuss his new role.

# COOKS CORNER

## SCOTCH BROTH SOUP

### Ingredients Serves:

1kg neck of mutton or lamb (my mum sometimes uses chicken in this recipe for Scotch broth)  
75g pearl barley  
1 large onion  
75g split peas or fresh peas  
1 large leek  
3 wee neeps (swede rather than turnip)  
1 swede  
water depending on thickness required - try 2.5 litres  
3 carrots  
2 tablespoons of freshly chopped parsley  
salt and pepper  
small cabbage (optional ingredient for this Scottish broth recipe)

### Method

1. Pre soak the barley and split peas
2. Chop all the vegetables
3. Melt a wee bit of lard/cooking oil and add the chopped onion. Once softened add the water and meat (you can just add stock rather than boil meat) and boil, skimming off any fatty deposits from the top.
4. After boiling for about half an hour add the barley and peas and simmer for another 30 minutes.
5. Add the remaining vegetables.
6. If used, remove the bone and strip off the meat and return this to the pot.
7. Some people might be tempted to give a dog the bone afterwards. However the boiling of the bone weakens it, making it softer and causing fragments to come off when chewed by an animal. This stock bone could cause mouth ulceration, choking or tears to the lining of the stomach wall from bone fragments and cause dogs pain and discomfort.
8. Add parsley before serving. Great with warmed bread rolls.
9. If making a big pot full it'll keep out provided you boil and stir each day. Though to be safe it would probably best be kept in the fridge or individual portions could be frozen and used as needed.



## Committee week at Comhairle

**25th September—Audit and Scrutiny**

**26th September—Communities & Housing / Education**

**27th September—Transportation / Sustainable Development**