

PRESS RELEASE

NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT TO CARBETH DISPUTE

Formalities of a historic agreement between hutters at Carbeth (1) and the owners of Carbeth Estate have been finally completed.

Despite the background of difficulties, including a rent strike dating back to 1997, negotiations reached a new phase in the last 4 years which allowed both parties to make progress towards mutually satisfactory goals. Thinking “out of the box” has allowed a dramatic and positive solution to emerge – the “dream scenario” for both parties.

Missives have just been exchanged between both parties, offering Carbeth Hutters’ Community Company an Option to Buy all Hutting Areas of Carbeth Estate, together with some adjoining & historically significant lands (2). This groundbreaking agreement results in an Option to Buy (to be taken up within the next three years) comes together with a Management Agreement to manage, improve, expand and develop the huts and those adjoining areas throughout the Option Period, prior to CHCC exercising its Option. Both parties see the Option Agreement as an interim step to the community buy out of the land. The advantage of this period for the Hutters is that it allows them up to 3 years to raise the purchase price.

Allan M Barns-Graham of Carbeth Estate and Gerry Loose, representing the Hutters, today together confirmed the outline of the new arrangements:

“We have worked together to reach what we believe will be the basis of a long term agreement acceptable to all parties. We are pleased to say that, as a result of our discussions, we have agreed terms to take hutting forward into the long-term future”.

“It is a ‘win-win’ situation for all concerned. Both the Estate and CHCC are extremely pleased to have jointly been able to formulate these two important agreements which safeguard an exciting future for the huts and hutters and also meet the aspirations and objectives of all concerned. Neither party has had to compromise on any important matter.”

CHCC intends to work with local government and other relevant organisations to ensure that Carbeth becomes a model of economically sustainable, ecologically sound recreational living for the 21st century; in the process becoming a valuable educational proving ground.

CHCC is confident that the public will also welcome this opportunity to visit and become involved in fundraising opportunities to secure Carbeth’s inspiring future.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

- (1) For generations the people of Glasgow, Clydebank and further afield have built and enjoyed traditional green huts and importantly the beautiful environs of Carbeth Estate, Stirlingshire. Hutters are represented by CHCC: a membership community company (www.carbethhuts.com). Carbeth Estate is represented by Allan M Barns-Graham.

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- (2) Lands include the “Carbeth Lido” and the site of the “Fellowship Camp”.
See Fiona Jamieson: Carbeth Estate Area Character Appraisal, Report commissioned by
Planning & Environmental Strategy, Stirling Council, May 2000.
Also see: Stirlingshire Council Conservation Area Designations 2000.

Note also that CHCC & Estate have been in regular communication with the Land Reform
Branch of the Scottish Government.

**Carbeth Guthrie is approximately one-quarter mile along the
Blanefield Road, which is the first turning to the right after Carbeth
Inn on the Bearsden to Drymen road**