**Strathglass Community Council** (SCC)

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 25th June 2014, at 7.30pm, Cannich Village Hall**

Present

Molly Doyle, Donald Fraser, Robin Sproull, Edward Redmond, Heather Redmond, James Seatter, Cllr. Helen Carmichael, Cllr. Margaret Davidson and approx. twenty members of the public.

Apologies

Cllr. Hamish Wood

The Chair, Mrs. Doyle welcomed all those in attendance.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting: Donald Fraser proposed the adoption of the minutes, seconded by Edward Redmond and agreed by the council.

4. Summary of Chairperson’s Annual Report:

This past year we have had some very good turnouts at the meetings, with much lively discussion often over the proposed wind farm at Beinn Mhor, Tomich.

Funding generated from community investment in the wind farm at Corrimony is now available at three different tiers from Soirbheas.

SCC is one of two Community Councils chosen to take part in a Pilot scheme to report to Highland Council local problems including pot holes, and other road problems. We have not reported many issues as yet and hope that eventually we have a GPS device which will automate the reporting.

We are grateful to receive regular Beat Reports from the Police.

Consultation has taken place on many topics including the ‘Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill’.

I am grateful to Robin Sproull who receives the weekly list of planning applications from Highland Council and to Donald Fraser who keeps us informed on matters related to Deer management.

Community Councillors attend the Ward Forums and Inverness Community Council Forums whenever possible as well as numerous other Community Council-related meetings.

The glass recycling bins are well used, indeed so well used at times I received a complaint that one bin was overflowing. I phoned Highland Council and they came out to empty it soon afterwards. It is most unfortunate that some people allow broken glass to fall outwith the bins as this is a hazard to us all especially children and pets.

Dog fouling is still an issue.

During the year, the Cats Protection League, with a lot of hard work from some local residents, trapped and neutered many feral cats in Cannich. The SCC made a donation of £200 to help with the costs. Attempts to re-home the cats is continuing.

During a recent storm, a large tree came down across some graves at Struy graveyard. I am grateful to Highland Council who dealt with the problem promptly.

The First Responders scheme is no longer functioning due to difficulties with recruitment. Instead, we are hoping to obtain three Public Access Defibrillators for the three villages. Fund-raising and volunteers to be trained are still needed.

We have had a variety of speakers at our meetings and we thank them for their time.

Much time has been taken up with the proposed wind farm at Beinn Mhor. It was eventually agreed to hold a Secret Ballot by post run by the Electoral Reform Services. This resulted in 145 votes objecting to the wind farm with 120 votes not objecting with about one third of the residents not voting. The results were duly sent to the Planning Department.

My thanks go to all those who help keep the villages tidy by cutting grass, watering plants, picking up litter etc.

Finally, my thanks to all those who support us as a Community Council, by attending our meetings, to Councillors for their loyal support and to the Ward Councillors who attend whenever they can. Thank you also to Heather, our secretary.

I will finish by reminding people that we are all volunteers, elections will take place next year so please consider standing for election.

5. Financial Report

The Financial Report for the year ending 31st March 2014 was presented in the Highland Council format.

We received an income of £1,562 and incurred expenditure of £2,523, leaving us with £760 as at 31st March 2014. Adoption of the Accounts was proposed by Robin Sproull, seconded by Donald Fraser and agreed by the council.

Donald Fraser proposed a vote of thanks to Molly Doyle and Heather Redmond for coping with the difficult circumstances of the last year. There was a round of applause from the floor.

6. Election of Officer Bearers.

Cllr. Helen Carmichael took the Chair whilst the Officer Bearers were elected.

Donald Fraser proposed that Molly Doyle be re-elected as Chair, this was seconded by Edward Redmond. No other nominations were received. Molly agreed to continue as Chair and was duly elected. Donald Fraser proposed that Heather Redmond be re-elected as Secretary, this was seconded by James Seatter. No other nominations were received. Heather agreed to continue as Secretary and was duly elected. No nominations for Treasurer were received. The Community Council had agreed to co-opt Joyce Stirling and this was agreed at the meeting. Donald Fraser proposed that Joyce Stirling become the Treasurer, this was seconded by Molly Doyle. No other nominations were received. Joyce agreed to become Treasurer and was duly elected. Helen was thanked for taking the chair.

7. Provisional Date for the next AGM

Wednesday 24th June 2015 at 7.30pm.

8. The AGM was closed approx. 7.45pm.