**Strathglass Community Council** (SCC)

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 27th June 2013, at 7.20pm, Cannich Village Hall**

Present

Molly Doyle, Donald Fraser, Robin Sproull, Edward Redmond, Heather Redmond, Ian Campbell, James Seatter, approx. sixteen members of the public.

Apologies

Cllr. Drew Hendry, Cllr. Helen Carmichael, Cllr. Margaret Davidson, Cllr. Hamish Wood

1. The Chair, Mrs. Doyle welcomed all those in attendance.
2. Tanya Castell, Chair of Soirbheas outlined the Proposed Funding Criteria. Money is due to be available from 2014. Donna Green has been appointed Community Development Officer for 2 days per week for six months. Funding of community schemes will have to comply with Soirbheas Charitable status, requirements of the loan providers and the Co-Op ethical policy. The document, outlining a three tier approach is available for consultation so please have your say, it will be reviewed annually thereafter. Application forms have not been designed yet, the three tiers are: grants up to £500; grants from £500 - £10,000, and grants over £10,000. A range of questions were discussed.
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting: An amendment was requested to the minute regarding Beinn Mhor: Keith Bale of wpd met with some of the TRA **committee.** However, the notes of that meeting were made available to the rest of the community. With this amendment, Donald Fraser proposed the adoption of the minutes, seconded by James Seatter and agreed by the committee.
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

* Road Closure at Fasnakyle: work proceeded quickly and road was open ahead of schedule.
* Road repairs: ongoing
* Nurse’s House Cannich: grass has been cut, outside has been painted but no evidence of repairs made. A letter from Garry Coutts to Molly Doyle had been sent on 26th June.
* SCC website: despite various items having been uploaded onto this, they are not visible to other users of the site as yet. Obviously more work needs to be done.
* Fence around Glass recycling bins. Molly has written to thank David Cave Stephens for treating the fence. Visitors to the area have mentioned the lack of signage to the recycling facility. Alan Hood offered to ask Richmond Clements about this.
* Molly agreed to contact HC to request that the signs to the Police Cabin be removed from the village.
* Dog Fouling: despite promises of a response in time for this meeting, it did not happen.
* Carpark at Fasnakyle Cemetery: much improved thanks to Mr. Ross for spreading the gravel. The Carpark at Struy Cemetery is in a poor state with water on the road after any showers. Molly agreed to chase this up.
* Beinn Mhor (Tomich) wind farm proposal: much discussion and many concerns raised. Edward suggested taking advice from our Councillors. Margaret Davidson advised sending a letter (outlining concerns with inaccuracies on the wpd website and requesting the errors be corrected or removed from the site) to Keith Bale by Recorded Delivery.
* HC Planning Department: we now have a contact in the dept. so shall request them to attend a SCC meeting.
* SCC responded to the HC Consultation on the Management of Obstructions within the Adopted Road.
* It was agreed to progress with further noticeboards for Struy & Tomich.

1. Soirbheas: no further report.
2. Planning Applications: four – extension of time on consent for fishing lodge at Comar woods: Erection of replacement extension at 16 Tomich; Erection of garage 30m east of Chairein Lodge Cannich; Erection of 80m temporary meteorological mast at site of proposed Beinn Mhor wind farm. No applications granted or refused.
3. Police Beat Report. Sgt. Hay presented the monthly report. 202 incidents recorded within the Beauly section since the last SCC meeting on 23rd May: 4 road traffic collisions (none serious); 15 drivers charged in relation to speeding and other road traffic matters; 2 incidents recorded of individuals going door to door offering to purchase jewellery. May be OK but may not. A number of high value pedal cycles stolen from a secure garage in Kiltarlity; concerns of stock wandering on the roadway has been addressed but it is a difficult matter as there is ‘common grazing’ in the area. Any further problems should be reported via Tel. 101. Highland Cross proceeded without any problems. Residents were informed of the Golden Retriever Event at Guisachan from Tues 16th July until Fri 19th, a large turnout is expected. If a car hits a deer it would be better to contact a local stalker rather than the police.
4. Treasurer’s Report: largely covered in the AGM report. Funds available for SCC amount to £1,044. The amount £20.33 has been expended on ‘paint’ for the fence around the glass recycling bins (from the £93.33 remaining from the grant from HC). The final claim in respect of the Recreation Park project is still be processed.
5. Correspondence:

* Consultation on Highland Licensing Board Draft Policy Statement – it was agreed that SCC would not respond.
* New Deer Control Contract: SCC supported a bid for this contract to start on 1st September, no response to the bid has been received.
* Fairtrade in Highland: Hamish Wood is promoting this. Clarification has been sought as to how a Community Council can assist but no reply as yet.
* Town and Country Planning Information: changes to forthcoming legislation is available on the Scottish Government website.
* Beauly District Fishery Board: minutes of their meeting are available on their website ([www.beauly.dsfb.org.uk](http://www.beauly.dsfb.org.uk))
* FCS Car Parks: A further meeting is to be arranged.
* DIGG: Development Initiative – Great Glen. HC were seeking one member from ward 13 Community Councils so we suggested a member from Glenurquhart CC or Fort Augustus would be more appropriate than SCC.

1. A.O.C.B.

* Strathglass First Responders: currently very short of volunteers, ideally they would like 20 split around the villages but only have 9 at the moment. Call-outs are irregular – could range from several in a week to very few in a couple of months. There is also the possibility of the van being taken away as funding is tight and costs of running it are rising. If sufficient numbers come forward, the four day training could be provided locally. A worst case scenario would be the service is disbanded and Defibrillators are kept in each village with residents having a two hour training session in their use. SCC would encourage prospective volunteers to contact Mrs. Kathy MacLennan Comar Gardens, Cannich for further information.
* A proposal was suggested that the Mountain Rescue Service for Kintail and Dundonnell link together to use the Nurse’s house in Cannich as a storage base. SCC were supportive of this idea. Mountain Rescue were advised to liaise with the NHS.
* Street Lighting in the Village: it was proposed that this be reduced to say every other light, especially between the hours of midnight and 5am.
* Some wood chip from the Beauly-Denny line has been made available to the school. The question was raised as to whether any could be made available to the community. Support was given to progress this.
* Struy and Tomich have village Bonfires at Halloween, and a suggestion was made that Cannich also held one. The meeting was positive about the re-introduction of this event.
* The planters at the village entrances were to be planted at the weekend, all invited to help.
* Thanks were expressed to Mary Forbes and Ciceley Ross for their help with providing water to participants in the Highland Cross. More volunteers next year would be appreciated.
* The Traffic Lights at the bridge need a sensor pointed down the road towards Drumnadrochit so that traffic is not left waiting there until a vehicle approaches from their left. Molly agreed to progress this.

1. Dates and times of future meetings were discussed. The majority were in favour of retaining Thursday but moving the start time to 7.30pm. In view of the lateness of the hour, the actual dates were discussed outwith the meeting. Provisional dates (until confirmed by the Hall) are:

Thurs day 8th August; 12th September; 17th October; 28th November; 9th January 2014; 20th February; 3rd April; 15th May and 26th June.