**Strathglass Community Council** (SCC)

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 14th May 2014, at 7.30pm, Cannich Village Hall**

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

Apologies: Karen MacKenzie

1. The Chair, Mrs. Doyle welcomed all those in attendance.
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting: Further detail to be added under Treasurers Report. The format of the minutes was discussed. In future the minutes will include a brief synopsis of the discussion then any decisions and actions will be recorded. Edward Redmond proposed the adoption of the minutes, seconded by Molly Doyle and approved by the committee.
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes:
* Public Access Defibrillators (PAD): £62 raised from cake sale at last meeting, thank you for your generous support. Further ideas for fund raising required as well as more volunteers for training.
* Protection of Mac Coll Road square: ongoing
* FCS SCC Residents Parking permits: Passes for residents of the SCC area are now available from Edward Redmond at 6 Mac Coll Road Cannich. Vehicle Registration is required. Notice to this effect on website.
* Letter from John Boocock (Easter Ross CC): seeking opinion on the way HC works with CC’s. SCC feel that we have quite a good relationship with HC and our elected Cllr’s. So no further action.
* FCS presentation on Pine Tree Lappet Moth: on 16th April. No immediate crisis. Further details available from Heather Redmond.
1. Soirbheas: Carol Masheter, Community Development Officer introduced herself. She spoke about the Grant Briefing sessions different levels of grant funding. The AGM will be held on Thursday 26th June at 7.30pm at Balnain.
2. Planning Applications: Applications: Mr. McCallum erection of extensions to house new plant room at An Grianan Cannich; wpd for Beinn Mhor Wind Farm. Four applications granted: memorial structure near Tomich by Friends of Guisachan; alterations at Chalet Park Cannich to join two together; retention of access track near Kerrow; scoping decision on hydro scheme near Glasburn House.
3. Police Beat Report: PC gave this report in lieu of Karen. A few Road Traffic incidents reported, please be patient with visiting drivers. No opportunity to carry out speed checks in Struy as yet, unlikely to identify significant problems. Perception of speeds often misleading. Incidents of problems with dogs out of control or stock on roads etc please report on Tel.101 or 999 as appropriate. ‘Beat Doorstep Crime’ leaflets and website.
4. Strathglass Community Fund: Edward Redmond is now the SCC representative and attended the meeting on 2nd May.
5. DHG Hydro Corrimony Hydro Electric Scheme: Not our area but feed in to grid may have impacted on Kerrow Brae. Assurance has been given that this will not be by overhead cabling on new pylons. Cllr. Davidson declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.
6. Community Council Pilot Project: Article in Highland News 24th April. Three reports made so far. Pothole left by fallen tree near Marydale has been repaired, light outside defunct toilet block still awaiting attention, cattle grid at entrance to Tomich is ongoing. TECS suggested taking the grid out but feedback from Tomich residents is against this. Heather to feedback to TECS.
7. Beinn Mhor Wind Farm proposal: Mr. K. Bale of wpd reported that the planning application had been lodged with HC on 1st May 2014. These can be accessed on HC website application no. 14/01731/FUL. There are a large number of documents running to approx.. 1500 pages with summaries at end of each chapter. Sets of documents are available at some HC sites. Cllr. Davidson is trying to obtain an extra set to be left in the Hall entrance lobby. The CD/DVD may be made available to residents. Discussion about accuracy of some sections.

Ian Campbell reported on behalf of GAFSN that they had 611 registered members, 241 of whom are local.

Molly then read a statement on behalf of the SCC. Due to the important nature of this item it is recorded in full.

Immediately after the last meeting of the Community Council on 3rd April we discovered a couple of **procedural errors**. I would like to point out that we are all volunteers and although we know now that they were wrong, we were well intentioned.

1. The pre-meeting to discuss correspondence before the last meeting was a mistake as the Community Council should not meet in private.

Instead we shall move through the correspondence more quickly in future, only elaborating when a Community Councillor wishes to do so or the Chair allows a member of the Public to request this.

1. We acknowledge para 5.4 of the Standing Orders i.e. “A motion or amendment which is contrary to a previous decision of the Community Council shall not be competent within six months of that decision.”

For example: agreeing to accept 200 names from the GAFSN in February could not be overturned in April.

However

1. It is not competent for a member of the public to propose a motion … they need to get elected to do that. Only elected representatives on the Community Council can propose and/or second a motion. Therefore, any decision taken on that basis is incompetent and not effective. It is prima facie, not a decision.

Therefore the decision to accept 200 names from the GAFSN proposed by Paul Stirling was not valid.

All six Community Councillors gave universal agreement to pursue a ballot run for us by the Electoral Reform Services. The quote to run this is approx. £1200 (exact costs are not known until the final numbers of voters are known). If funds cannot be sourced elsewhere, it was suggested that the SCC would contribute £600 and Heather Redmond would pay the balance with the Secretary Honoraria previously received over the last 2 ½ years. The ballot papers should be posted out Friday 23rd May, to be returned by Monday 9th June. SCC has requested and been granted an extension until 18th June to feed comments back to HC Planning Department. SCC will run a couple of drop-in sessions of two hours each on different days and times of day to try to allow as many people as possible to view the planning application.

1. FCS Deer Control Contract: The Community Council were asked whether they would support a community bid for a local deer control contract. This was agreed and Donald Fraser would pass on our support.
2. Treasurer’s Report: No receipts or payments since last meeting. The funds available remain £724.20
3. Correspondence:

Molly Doyle accepted with regret Ian Campbell’s resignation from the SCC on 3rd April 2014

Letter from Ian Campbell on behalf of GAFSN 7th April complaining about conduct at meeting of 3rd April.

Letter from John Dalziel Chair of GAFSN 12th April complaining about conduct at meeting of 3rd April

e-mail from John Dalziel 24th April complaining about the minutes of the meeting of 3rd April.

e-mails from Ian Campbell 25th & 26th April raising concerns about meeting procedure.

e-mails from Mathieu Oosterwijk 19th & 28th April complaining about the minutes of the meeting of 3rd April.

e-mail from Ian Campbell 1st May complaining about conduct at, and minutes of the meeting of 3rd April.

e-mail from Mathieu Oosterwijk 1st May complaining about the replacement minutes of the meeting of 3rd April.

e-mail from Jenny Stirling 8th May complaining that she had not had a response to a letter written on 20th April but never received by the SCC.

Undated letter from Highland Skate parks

e-mail from Richard Crawford (IACCF) 4th April City Centre Development project.

e-mail Scottish Govt. 9 April Planning Survey

e-mail HC 11 April Review of Polling Districts & Polling Places – no changes for SCC

e-mail HC 1 May Cold Call Control Zone Project

e-mail HC 1 May ‘Celebrate’ funding opportunities.

e-mail 2 May Scottish Rural Parliament Website is live.

e-mail 5 May IACCF reminder for meeting 20th May

e-mail 6 May Scottish Rural Parliament update and Newsletter

e-mail 7 May HC Letter from Police Scotland 12 month review

1. A.O.C.B.

SCC website not working – Heather Redmond to look into the matter, thanks for the information.

SCC to put in joint bid with Alan Hood to Soirbheas for funding for hanging baskets and tubs of flowers.

1. Dates and times of future meetings :

Wednesday 25th June & AGM

N.B. extra meeting arranged for Wednesday 11th June 7.30pm to 8.30pm to discuss results of wind farm ballot.