**Strathglass Community Council** (SCC)

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 6th August 2014, at 7.30pm, Cannich Village Hall**

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

Apologies: Cllrs. Helen Carmichael & Drew Hendry

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

1. Ms. Robin Duval of wpd attended to update the SCC on the planning application for the Beinn Mhor Wind Farm and to introduce Ms. Kyla Donaldson who is the new Project Manager for Beinn Mhor. SCC has been supplied with a hard copy of “Environmental Statement Additional Information” which will be available to members of the Public at the Coffee morning in the Hall on Saturday 16th August 10.30 am until noon. Discussion, questions and answers ensued. Indicative consideration of the Planning Application is hoped to be in October 2014.
2. Minutes of Previous Meetings: Mr. Campbell had sent two e-mails requesting changes to the minutes. These had been forwarded to members of the SCC and were read at the meeting. No member of the SCC agreed to the changes. Edward Redmond proposed the adoption of the minutes of the meeting of 25th June, seconded by James Seatter and approved by the council.
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

* Public Access Defibrillators (PAD): A Coffee Morning is to be held in the Cannich Village Hall on Saturday 16th August from 10.30am until noon with Raffle, Home Baking and Sales Table to raise funds.
* Protection of Mac Coll Road square: Ballot to be carried out soon.
* Cats: Nineteen of the 45 cats have been re-homed. The rate limiting step now is to identify homes. It is estimated that approx. £ 2,200 has been spent on this project to date. Letters of thanks to be sent to Kate Morgan and the Cat Protection League. Thank you to all who have helped.

1. Planning Applications: New application: Mauld Estate to construct a new bell mouth access connecting an existing estate track to the A831 1km east of Postman’s Cottage; Mr. Ian Reynard to convert part of agricultural building for use as deer larder at Black Parks Tomich; Mr. Norman Bruce for proposed new house 40m west of Strathglass View Cannich; Mrs. Julie MacDonald to erect dwelling on land east of Park House, Glen Affric Chalet Park Cannich; Green Highland 500kW run-of-river hydro scheme Shenval. Approved applications: Raymond Wallace to erect 1½ storey house on land NE of Lodge Cottage Fasnakyle; Andrew Castell to erect self-contained 1 bedroom dwelling and garage at The Old Stables Tomich.
2. Police Beat Report: No report for this period. Report for June meeting received after meeting was read.
3. Local Empowerment: Light is still on at old Public Toilet block which are sometimes used by visitors. A sign to direct people to the Hall toilets was considered as was the demolition of the block. SACC to discuss any possible use for the toilet block before we request demolition.

Mac Coll Road has been re-tarred and chipped. Some faults with this have been reported.

Glen Cannich Road: 36 ‘faults’ were reported – 16 Passing Place signs – nothing will be done about these due to light traffic usage and expense of buying and installing signs and poles; 18 pot holes/surface problems all dealt with over three days in week commencing 21st July; verges – now cut and one report of water flowing over road.

Flooding at Beinn Achairen View: dealt with but then more flooding after more rain. Residents contacted HC directly.

Flooding at Mac Coll Road: dealt with

Hole (potentially 60cm cube) in Beauly road approx. 3.4 miles from Cannich – telephoned through as urgent and dealt with next day.

1. Beinn Mhor Wind Farm proposal: see item 1 above.
2. Treasurer’s Report: Prepared by Heather Redmond as still waiting for the bank to update records to include Joyce Stirling as Treasurer. Hall bookings for next 12 months £ 108, and Coffee morning £ 47.50 have been invoiced but not paid yet. Grant from Highland Council not received yet. Two receipts since last meeting:

£ 424.15 from Soirbheas for the Hanging Baskets and plantings; £ 62.00 from cake sales for Public Access Defibrillators. Payments made since last meeting: £50.00 for Eleanor Glennie’s Retiral gift; £ 600.00 for Electoral Reform Services as approx. 50% of Ballot costs; £ 62.98 to Alan Hood for plants and compost; £ 57.35 to Molly Doyle for plants and compost.

Receipts for plants etc from Tomich and Struy still awaited.

General Funds available to SCC are minus £ 63.80 until HC grant received.

1. Correspondence:

* Letter of complaint from Mr. I. Campbell for Glen Affric-Friends Say No. Donald Fraser (Carrie) read a personal statement covering many of the points raised in the letter. It was agreed that Heather Redmond would draft a response to the letter and circulate it to members of the council for approval.
* e-mail from Alan Hood on behalf of the Strathglass & Affric Community Company with regards to a Community Newsletter. Quite a variety of newsletter options exist in other communities. Whilst the idea is a positive development, costs and workload are of concern. SCC to give further consideration to the matter.
* Letter from wpd dated 22 July 2014 to all owner/occupiers: “Update on the proposed Beinn Mhor wind farm near Tomich, Strathglass.”
* E-mail 24th June re - National Planning Framework 3/Scottish Planning Policy – publication of finalised documents.
* Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill, e-mails 26 & 30 June calling for evidence. HC will be responding, so SCC will await this and consider a response then.
* SCC and members of the Public were invited to attend a WWI Commemoration Ceremony on Monday 4th August. Two members of SCC attended the service at Inverness Cathedral.
* Series of June e-mails between Mr. Oosterwijk and myself, where he complains about my competence or lack of it as a Community Councillor. My offer to resign was not accepted.
* Letter from UHI about an EU funded project called ‘Remote’ – aimed at delivering renewable energy training and demonstrations for remote communities in Northern Europe. E-mail from Mr. Oosterwijk requesting a copy of the SCC Constitution. Referred him to HC website.
* E-mail requesting completion of survey on LEADER funding.
* Updated Patient Transport Service Information
* Letter from ABO Wind 10th July update on Allt Carach Wind Farm Proposal.
* Customer Forum for Water News Update
* Key Themes for the Scottish Rural Parliament
* Inverness Area Community Councils Forum: next meeting 9th September.
* Community Resilience Open Day/Fun day Black Isle Showground 30th August
* HC requesting updated contact information for Community Councillors.

1. A.O.C.B. It was agreed to defer posting of minutes of SCC meetings to the public until after they are approved at the next meeting of the Council.
2. Questions or Contributions from the Public present.

* Branches of tree on LH side of Mac Coll Road hitting buses as they drive in. SCC to try to contact land owner.
* Traffic Lights at Bridge: set to red on leaving village since Highland Cross. Molly to follow up.
* Request for views on Police carrying side arms: opinion was split.
* Letter of congratulations to be sent to the Strathglass under-12s Shinty team on retaining the Allan Fraser Cup.
* Some residents of neighbouring communities have received OBE’s etc after being nominated by their Community. Cllr. Margaret Davidson would be able to assist if we wish to nominate someone.
* Unwanted Recorded telephone messages can be eliminated by pressing ‘8’.

1. Dates of next meetings :

Wednesday 17th September 2014 Wednesday 29th October

Wednesday 3rd December Wednesday 14th January 2015

Wednesday 25th February Wednesday 1st April