**Strathglass Community Council** (SCC)

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 24th June 2015, approx. 7.45pm, Cannich Village Hall**

Present: Molly Doyle, Donald Fraser, James Seatter, Edward Redmond, Heather Redmond, Robin Sproull, and approx. thirteen members of the public.

In Attendance: Carol Masheter (Soirbheas); PC Graham Prentice; Kyla Donaldson (wpd); Iona McLaggan & Richard Drover (Co-Hydrover)

Apologies: Cllrs. Helen Carmichael, Margaret Davidson, Drew Hendry (MP), Hamish Wood

Molly Doyle, welcomed all those in attendance.

1. Following the recent AGM of Soirbheas, Carol Masheter attended the meeting to update the community. In the last year, £25,000 of grants have been made. A large piece of research has been undertaken to assess the needs of the elderly, vulnerable or young people and families in our communities. Some issues raised include: transport, access to broadband, safety of children using the internet, local volunteers. A 5 year delivery plan is being prepared with annual targets. The Strathglass Shinty Club have been successful in being awarded a grant of £4000 for mobile dugouts and new posts.
2. Police Beat Report: Another hill walker rescued from Loch Mullardoch area; FCS sign at entrance to Tomich damaged. Aird & Loch Ness Policing Team Multi Member Ward Plan for 2015 available from the Police Scotland website.PC William Jones has taken up his post at Fort Augustus and the final vacancy has been filled with the officer expected to be in place within two months.
3. Kyla Donaldson from wpd attended to update the community on the appeal process for the Beinn Mhor wind farm. It is hoped that the DPEA will make their decision by July 22nd. Wpd believe that the Reporter has received all the information he needs. The UK Government’s change in policy regarding subsidies needs to be considered by wpd but they expect the scheme to go ahead if planning permission is granted.
4. Iona Mclaggan and Richard Drover from Co-Hydrover Developments attended to inform the community of their interest in developing a micro hydro scheme at Allt a Ghlais Choire in Glen Cannich on FCS land. They have successfully bid for some of the residual hydro schemes on FCS land as they are smaller than schemes of interest to Green Highland Renewables. They are a very small company who do the entire project themselves. The consortium has been together for about 18 months but the constituent parts have existed long before they got together. They hope to submit a planning application in the spring of 2016. They need more work prior to circulation. Community benefit payments or some community ownership is possible.
5. Minutes of Previous Meeting : Donald Fraser proposed the adoption of the minutes, seconded by James Seatter and approved by the council.
6. Matters Arising from the Minutes:
* Damaged Noticeboard at Struy: still ongoing
* Public Access Defibrillators: The people who attended the Emergency life Support Training have received their certificates. The defibrillator for Cannich is in position at the GP surgery thanks to NHS Highland. If anyone knows of an electrician available to install the kit at Tomich and Struy please let us know.
* Inverness West District Partnership meeting held on 19th June in Beauly. Most of this meeting discussed the Merkinch Community Development, Glen Urquhart Care Project, Beauly Cares, and Boleskine Cares.
1. Planning Applications: six new applications: creation of and upgrading of turning points in Upper Guisachan Forest; various alterations to 15 Tomich; conversion of steading at Balmore into two attached houses; GHR to erect switchroom 7km NE of Keeper’s Cottage, Cannich; GHR to create hard standing 325m SW of The White House Cannich; extension to office at Eagle Brae.

One application has been granted: the staff accommodation behind the Cannich Village shop.

1. Local Empowerment: Approx. 9 reports have been filed for the road and verges from Fasnakyle up to and beyond Tomich. The road to Plodda has not been adopted by HC so I will contact FCS. I intend to report of the road from Cannich towards Beauly and also from Struy to Mauld bridge.
2. Community Emergency Plan: A start has been made to drafting a Community Emergency Plan, consideration is also being given to making a bid for monies available from SSE. A further workshop for two representatives is scheduled for 9th July all afternoon.
3. Newsletter: There has been some delay with the next edition due to illness. Alan Hood is now dealing with this and hopes that it will be printed within the next two weeks or so. Additional submissions can still be made……. but soon please.
4. Treasurer’s Report: No monies have been received or paid out since the last meeting. Uncommitted funds remain at £ 202.76. Still awaiting determination of a grant request for plants etc.
5. Correspondence:
* Letter from Highland Archaeology Services Ltd, 20th May, offering a range of services, for a fee, and help to seek funding. This has been forwarded to the Strathglass Heritage Association (SHA).
* E-mail 22nd May from HC exhibition of River Ness Public Art Project on 28th May.
* E-mail 26th May from HC Communities Panel: HC survey of performance & attitudes, due date 7th July.
* E-mail 27th May a chap from Coupar Angus has set up a Facebook page for CC’s to chat.
* E-mail 28th May from HC. They have been updating their records with regards to CC contact details and meeting venue & frequency etc. They suggest a ‘generic’ e-mail address which can be made available to external bodies. This has now been done and it is: strathglasscc@gmail.com
* E-mail 4th June from HC Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan - modified
* E-mail 7th June – minutes of IACCF held on 19th May. Next meeting 15th September
* Letter 8th June notice of Beauly District Fishery Board AGM 30th June. Mr. F. Spencer-Nairn spoke in support of this as it would discuss how healthy local rivers are.
* E-mails 8th June, two consultations: Scottish Govt. Wild Fisheries Reform – Article on the Highland Biodiversity and HC Aquaculture Supplementary Guidance
* E-mail 10th June from HC. Timetable for run-up to Community Council Elections on 18th November. Nominations can be made from 22nd September until 6th October. Timetables will be posted on all noticeboards.
* E-mail 11th June from HC. Temporary Road Closure for the Highland Cross.
* E-mail 17th June from HC. Community Services (Inverness) Information Briefing. Feedback is requested, HC will then decide whether to produce it again. Mainly covers Housing, Operational Maintenance, Roads, and Community Works. Available from Highland Council.
* E-mail 22nd June from Scottish Civic trust seeking nominations for ‘Scottish Heritage Angel awards’. Forwarded to the SHA, but a very short timescale until 30th June.
1. A.O.C.B. Trees to west of Fasnakyle cemetery, to be reported to HC
2. Questions or Contributions from the Public present. Today is the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Jimmy & Cicely Ross of Tomich. A card of congratulations will be sent from the SCC.
* The question of how long the Kerrow road will be closed was raised, especially with the Orienteering Championships approaching. This will be passed to HC.
1. Dates of next meetings: subject to confirmation of Hall Booking

Wednesday 12th August 2015

Wednesday 16th September

Wednesday 28th October

Wednesday 9th December – for the new Community Council to elect Office Bearers and hold its first meeting

 HLR 4th July 2015