**Strathglass Community Council** (SCC)

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 16th September 2015, 7.30pm, Cannich Village Hall**

Present: Molly Doyle, James Seatter, Edward Redmond, Heather Redmond, Robin Sproull, Donald Fraser Cllrs. Helen Carmichael & Margaret Davidson and approx. six members of the public.

Apologies: member of Police Scotland

Molly Doyle, welcomed all those in attendance.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting (12th August): James Seatter proposed the adoption of the minutes, seconded by Edward Redmond and approved by the council.
2. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

* Damaged Noticeboard at Struy/new Bus Shelter: The new bus shelter is in place in Struy, approx.20th August and the SCC is making use of the integral noticeboard. Thanks to HC for this.
* Public Access Defibrillators: A quote has been received from an electrician and we have sufficient funds to cover it, we had expected the work to be done by the end of August but that did not happen. The matter is ongoing.
* Nominations to become a Community Councillor need to be received by HC between Tues 22nd Sept. Friday 2nd October. Details are available from HC website, nomination forms are available here.
* Croyard Medical Practice had intended to change the day and time of surgery in Cannich but have changed back to the status quo.
* The SCC is now registered with the Information Commissioner’s Office for Data Protection.

1. Police Beat Report: No report available. Leaflets on Bogus Tradesmen available. Concerns were raised that a helicopter spent 20-30 minutes searching in Glen Cannich rather than Glen Affric for overdue hill walkers mentioned in previous report. Concern to be fed back to Police.
2. Planning Applications: three new planning applications: erection of a fishing hut 1125m NE of Strawberry Cottage, Glen Affric; erection of spa facility east of Affric Lodge; erection of house 65m east of The Old Brewery, Tomich.

Two applications were approved: EagleBrae extension to office and some external works; Erection of a switchroom building 7090m NE of Keepers Cottage Cannich for GHR.

Two applications were withdrawn both relating to work at 15 Tomich.

1. Tomich Street Light Trial: Survey and information about the trial received from HC. Switching the lights off saved approx. £340 in 12 months. HC is in the process of converting all existing lighting to LED. Survey has been amended with agreement to distribute in Tomich for return to the P.O. by Friday 16th October.
2. Local Empowerment: Recent work done includes: potholes in Tomich; grass verges on some bends on A831 Cannich to Beauly; trees and overflowing bin at Fasnakyle cemetery.
3. Community Emergency Plan: Draft of the plan has been typed up by SSE and returned for further work. A decision on the bid submitted by SACC is due in September with the awards to be made in October.
4. Soirbheas: Carol Masheter not able to be here in person due to a prior engagement, however she sent through a report. Next Newsletter due out next week. Next deadline for Tier 2 grants is 25th October, still funding available for Tier 1 applications. There is still an opportunity for groups to book a place at the Club and Volunteer Fair on 6th Oct. in Drumnadrochit. Posters have been displayed across the SCC area. Dates for next meetings are 8th October at Craigmonie and 19th November at Balnain. Votes for the M&S grant for Shenval Project still required as per posters. Edward announced that he has resigned from the Soirbheas Board.
5. Treasurer’s Report: Grant of £958.30 received from Highland Council. Payments made and cleared £76.43 for plants; £48.00 for Hall Bookings. It was agreed to pay the Chair and Secretary 7/12 of their expenses from 1st April until the CC’s are stood down i.e. £29.00 to Chair; £145 Secretarial Honorarium; £70.00 Secretarial Expenses. It was agreed to refund the Secretary £35.00 for Data Protection registration. Uncommitted funds stand at £839.06

Grant Application for Pensioner’s Lunch: We have learned today that Soirbheas has agreed to fund this project. No payment to be made until after the CC elections, SACC have agreed to run this project if there is no SCC after the elections. Transport will be offered thanks to Beauly Cares and it is planned to ask the schoolchildren to entertain the diners.

1. Correspondence:

* E-mail 17th Aug. HC seeking Quality Award Nominations from CC’s. It was agreed to nominate Alan Johnstone and the Community Work Team.
* e-mail 19th Aug. Highland LEADER Programme is expected to launch in late Autumn 2015.
* E-mail 19th Aug. Invitation to SCC members to attend Shieling Project Open Day on 12th Sept.
* Inverness Courier 21st Aug. Notice of Election of Councillor to Ward 13 – Aird & Loch Ness on 8th Oct.
* Conference on 25th Sept. Smithton Church “Community Empowerment Act, How do we Harness the Opportunity?”
* E-mail 24th Aug. Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters Marine Spatial Plan – Consultation, until 6th Sept.
* E-mail 24th Aug. NHS & HC “Adult Support and Protection – Financial Harm Leaflet”
* Letter 28th Aug. Festival Lighting – trying to sell Christmas lights etc.
* E-mails 26th  to 28th Aug. Matthew Oosterwijk unhappy with a decision taken by SCC at last meeting.
* E-mail 1st Sept. Scot. Govt.”Community Council Fairer Scotland Event” today in Glasgow.
* E-mail 1st Sept. HSCHT Open Day and AGM Fri. 25th Sept.at the Town House, highlighting Community Empowerment and Land Reform.
* E-mails & letters 2nd and 3rd Sept. Various posters etc. relating to the CC elections.
* E-mail 4th Sept. HC updating Winter Resilience Community Aid Programme for 2015. Additional volunteers welcome, named volunteers will be covered by HC Insurance. Press reports of reduced filling of grit bins etc. more negative than need be. Some roads may be downgraded for gritting priority.
* E-mail 7th Sept. SSE consultation on need to bury submarine cables. Various events over next few weeks, none local. SCC wish to respond that we are not happy to pay increased costs to bury cables.
* E-mail 9th Sept. HC Three consultations: Highland-wide Local Development Plan, Main Issues Report; draft Onshore Wind Energy Supplementary Guidance; Local Housing Strategy. Public event Inverness at Town House on Mon 9th Nov. drop-in 2 – 5.30pm and workshop starts at 6.30pm. On-line consultation portal from 25th Sept. [www.consult.highland.gov.uk](http://www.consult.highland.gov.uk)
* E-mail 15th Sept Soirbheas “British Red Cross – Community Resilience Project”. Very similar to the SSE Community Emergency plan we are already working on. Poster in the Hall
* E-mail 15th Sept. meeting in Hall Monday 21st Sept 7.30pm to discuss the future of the Glen Affric Hotel.

1. A.O.C.B.: Edward updated the community about the Glenurquhart Care Project. As well as providing Home Care and Day Care they are considering building Amenity Housing, some of which may be used for Respite Care. They are working on a bid to the Scottish Land Fund to purchase the land. The bid will do much better with evidence of good local support as evidenced by public membership. Forms are available here and now.
2. Questions or Contributions from the Public present. Nothing raised
3. Dates of next meetings:

Wednesday 28th October

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

HLR 25th September 2015