**STRATHGLASS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (SCC**)

**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 9th May 2018 at 7:30 pm in Cannich Village Hall**

**Present:** Ian Campbell, Kay Graham, Alan Hood, Paul Stirling and Annette Sutherland.

**Apologies:** Nigel Ellis

**In Attendance:** Cllr Margaret Davidson,Samantha Seeds (Scottish Fire and Rescue Service) and nine members of the public.

1. In the absence of Mr Ellis, the Secretary proposed that Alan Hood should take the Chair. This was seconded and unanimously agreed. Mr Hood took the Chair, noted that there was a quorum, welcomed all those in attendance and declared the meeting open. No conflicts of interest were declared.
2. Minutes: The minutes of the SCC meeting held on March 28 2018 were proposed for adoption, unanimously approved and signed by Mr Hood.
3. Police Report: There was no police representative attending the meeting. The last Beat Report received had covered the period to 17th April and the theft of heating oil from a premises on Mullardoch Road (Glen Cannich) was noted.
4. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) Update: (This item was a late addition to the agenda). Samantha Seeds (recently appointed Station Manager for Cannich and the area) advised the meeting that SFRS was in transition and was inviting individual and organisational input to its ‘Your Service, Your Voice’ consultation to inform the transition direction and process. The consultation was scheduled to close on Monday May 14th and Samantha handed out and left a supply of Consultation Response Forms. SFRS was aiming to be an organisation equipped with the latest technology that could respond to all types of emergencies and actively contribute to the well-being of people throughout Scotland through its prevention and protection activities. This would be a four year transition programme with staff being trained, equipped and rewarded for meeting new and emerging roles and risks. During a short question and answer session Samantha confirmed the recruitment and retention of retained firefighters in rural areas was an on-going challenge for SFRS.
5. Livestock in Cannich Village: Uncontrolled cattle wandering in Cannich Village had caused damage and pollution to gardens and public areas and this matter had been brought to the Community Council by a number of concerned residents. It was noted that the matter had been reported to the police and the owner of the cattle was known. The Secretary had been advised that the problem arose because cattle were crossing the river when the water was low and that a fence was being erected along the river bank to prevent recurrence. Following some discussion and debate it was agreed that, with fencing work underway, this was not really a matter for the Community Council. Individuals whose property had been damaged or who had properties where clean-up was needed should contact the cattle’s owners at Kerrow Farm.
6. SACC Projects and Activities Update:

*Local Action Plan:* Mr Hood advised that a similar initiative was underway in the Glen Urquhart Community Council area and that funding may be available from Soirbheas to help get the two projects underway.

*Cannich Hall:* Nothing new to report.

*Land Use (formerly Rewilding)*: The prospectus outlining the group’s aims and plans had been distributed to local households.

*Former Nurses House Cannich:* Quotes had been received for feasibility study work (including project management, survey and architectural services) and funding applications were due to go out in the next two weeks.

*Gala Day:* The 2018 Cannich Gala Day was scheduled for Sunday August 12th

1. Matters Arising from the SCC meeting on March 28 2018:

*Trees at Fasnakyle Burial Ground:* Marjory McCarthy advised the meeting that she had contacted the landowner, Mr Kwint, and he had instructed his local representatives to initiate or undertake appropriate remedial work.

*Actions for THC Roads Department:* It was noted that the damaged lamppost in Cannich had been replaced and the Secretary was asked to check on the status of the other items reported to THC.

Other matters arising had been satisfactorily dealt with and closed.

1. Accounts for the Year Ended March 31 2018:

The draft accounts had previously been circulated for review and the accounts as drafted were unanimously approved. The Secretary noted that two substantial and unusual grants had been received in the year. One had been distributed to fund some appropriate local organisations and events and the other was specifically for planned defibrillator maintenance costs. He noted that the very substantial reduction in funding for Community councils from THC meant that any future funding of community maintenance costs, events or projects by SCC would have to be fully met from fund raising activities.

1. On-going SCC Activity Updates:

*Proposed First Responders Programme:* The Secretary had spoken to Carolyn Wilson at the Drumnadrochit First Responders and she had asked that the two Cannich volunteers get in touch with her regarding possible affiliation to the Drum’ programme.

*Public Access Defibrillators (PADs) and the Strathglass Shinty Club Defibrillator:* Mr Stirling advised that the SCC defibrillators were being checked monthly. In the absence of Mr Ellis there was no update on the repair and relocation of the Shinty Club unit.

1. Treasurer’s Report and Financial Matters:

Mr Hood reported on recent receipts and payments and advised that the funds currently available totalled £1905.60 including £920.00 that was specifically earmarked for defibrillator maintenance costs.

1. Correspondence: The Secretary reviewed the correspondence since the previous meeting and noted that the SSEN Flood Protection Fund and the Calor Rural Community Fund could offer grant opportunities for local organisations.
2. Planning Update: Mr Hood advised that there had been one significant new planning application in the SCC area and that was for the demolition of the Glen Affric Bar and the erection of a single story micro-brewery and public bar. After discussion and input from the members of the public in attendance it was agreed that SCC should put in a letter of support for this application. There were no other significant, unusual or potentially contentious items to be noted.
3. Any Other Business: A member of the public raised concern about traffic speeding through Cannich village and it was suggested that perhaps the speed limit should be reduced to 30 mph where currently 40 mph and to 20 mph where currently 30 mph. Councillor Davidson undertook to look into this. It was noted that speed limits in themselves were of limited value without enforcement and the Secretary was asked to contact the police to see if some speed checks in the village could be done.

There being no other business Mr Hood advised that the AGM and the next SCC meeting would be held consecutively on Wednesday June 20th 2018 starting at 7:30 pm and declared the meeting closed at 8:35 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Chair